



**WAIKERIE**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A SCHOOL OF VISIBLE LEARNERS  
CURIOSITY PROBLEM SOLVING RESILIENCE

Principal: Megan Higgins

Governing Council Chairperson: Deb Schutz

Respect Responsibility Persistence  
Confidence Care Honesty

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Term 1

Wednesday

Week 1

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 27th	Family Night
Mar 1st	AGM
March 10th	Choir
March 13th	Public Holiday
March 6th	Student Leader Conference



### Principal

It's unbelievable to think it is already Week 4! It was so wonderful to see families attending our first assembly where we proudly introduced our 2023 school leaders, Haylee and Ben, our House Captains and our Student Voice leaders.



We look forward to seeing lots of you at our Family Night next Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. This will be an opportunity to have a look in classrooms and chat with staff and other parents.

Classes have been working on developing their class expectations based on our school values and it has been wonderful to see the students engaged in a variety of learning experiences so far this year. Several students received awards last week at our assembly for demonstrating values and learner dispositions of Problem solving, Resilience and Curiosity.



Congratulations to our Visible Learning and Values Award recipients



Room 10  
Room 12  
Room 11  
Room 5  
Room 6



Skylar, Torin, Ethan, Freya  
Jacob, Bella  
Cody, Harry M, Aria, Alby  
Zac, Eva, Maddi, Ben  
Grace, Jacob

Room 3  
Room 4  
Room 7  
Room 8

Paige, Jarryd, Adele, Eli  
Abby, Jack W, Skye, Lucas Z  
Billie-Lee, Travis, Liam, Abbey  
Thomas, Haylee, Indy, Isabelle

Our **School Improvement Plan** work is well underway with continued goals in Maths, Reading and Phonics. We want every child to be successful in reading! Our reading goal has a focus on fluency and comprehension. **Fluency** is the ease with which children read. When reading aloud, fluency is affected by accuracy, rate and expression. Reading fluently gives readers confidence in their own ability as readers and helps them to be interested and motivated, and to enjoy reading. We are learning more about what research says about how children learn to read including **The Reading Rope**. The Reading Rope represents the various skills that children need to master to become proficient readers. The strands weave tightly together as students become skilled readers.

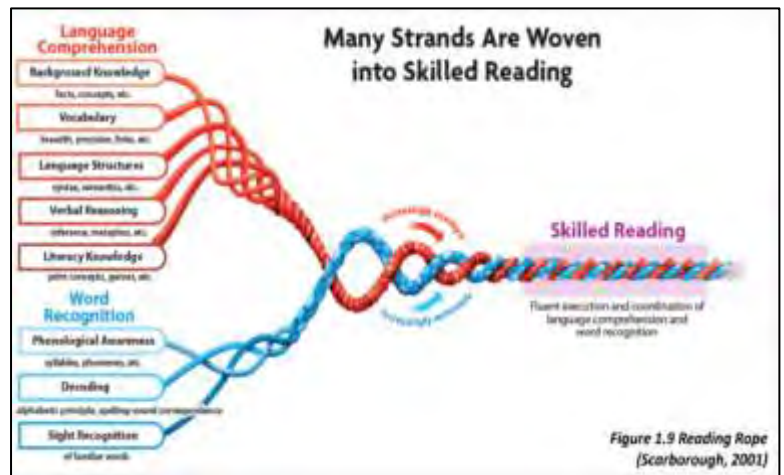


Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## The Reading Rope

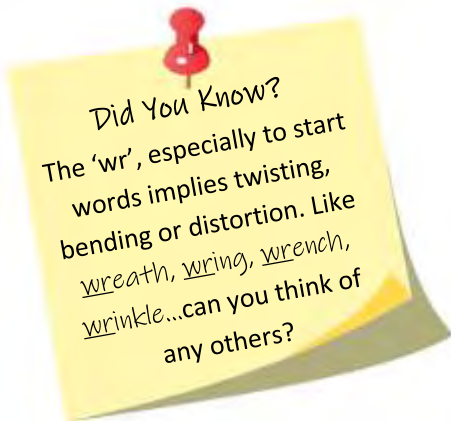
The **red strands** represent Language Comprehension – skills that we continue to learn and build on throughout our lives. We learn new words (vocabulary) we gain more background knowledge, we understand and connect.

The **blue strands** represent Word Recognition – skills that are acquired at concrete stages of development, usually taught explicitly and systematically. This includes phonics, counting out words (decoding) and recognising words.



More information about fluency can be found here

<https://www.literacyhub.edu.au/for-families/the-big-six-of-literacy-a-guide-for-families/fluency/>



Our school **Annual General Meeting** is coming up next week, with a change of date to Wednesday March 1st at 7pm in the Library, followed by the first Governing Council General Meeting. Governing Council meet twice a term and parents can also be involved in sub-committees including Grounds, Finance, Fundraising and Out of School Hours Care without being a Governing Council member. If you are interested in joining our School Governing Council or a sub-committee, please return the nomination form attached, contact me at the school or speak to our Governing Chairperson, Deb Schutz.



### Deputy Principal

**Premiers Reading Challenge** – This year students will have the opportunity to again participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC). You may have noticed the recording sheet has been sent home ready to fill out each time your child reads a book.

Students are required to read 12 books from the beginning of the year to September with 8 being from the PRC list and 4 books of their choice. This list can be found on the PRC website and our school library has orange and green stickers indicating if they are part of the list. Reception students are completing this as a class. This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Premier’s Reading Challenge. To celebrate, students are offered an extra challenge of reading 20 books to receive an additional certificate.

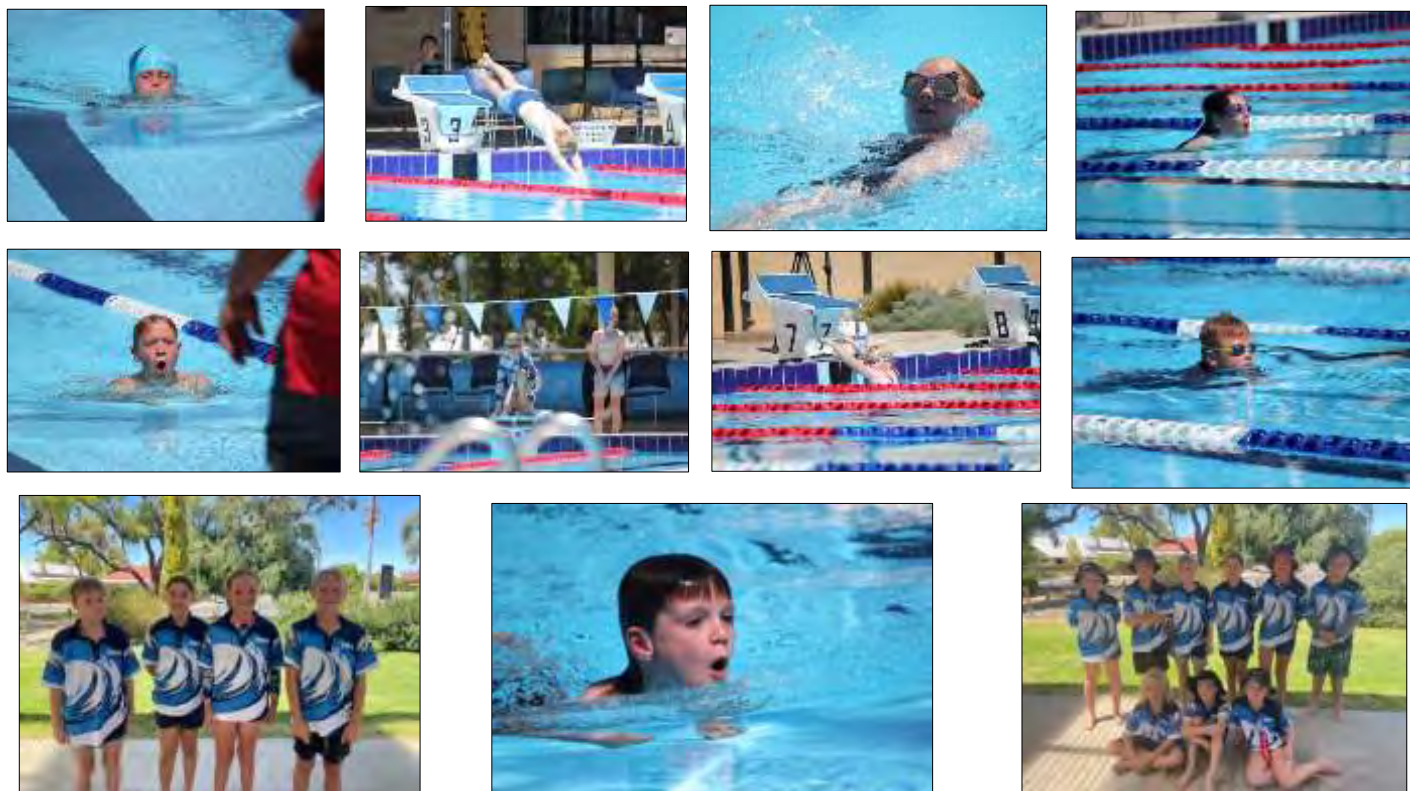


NAPLAN will take place beginning week 7 Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> March and concludes on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> March for the year 3 and 5 students. Year 3 students will complete the writing component on paper and all other areas will be conducted online using the NAP platform. Students will complete four components. Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. These tests are snapshot in time and are in no way meant to place pressure on your child but are used to help provide information on how your child is progressing against national standards over time. Naplan is just one aspect of the schools assessment and reporting process. Anyone can access the Public Demonstration Site on the NAP website to support your child at home in helping to prepare them.



This link can support you with further information <https://nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support> . Next week on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> February, all year 3 and 5 students will participate in a non-assessed practice test to confirm the ICT infrastructure of the NAPLAN platform nationally. This is an opportunity to familiarise students with the online platform providing them with the opportunity to ask questions and navigate the technical side of the test. Please see your child's class teacher if you have questions or I am happy to support you with any questions you may have.

**Interschool Swimming:** On Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February Natasha Wall had the pleasure of taking a small group of Waikerie Primary School Students to the Interschool Swimming. All students participated well with three of our students bringing home ribbons for placing in the top 3 in their age groups. Congratulations to Beau, Georgette, Indy and Hayden who came third in the 50m freestyle relay. Congratulations to Hayden, Beau and Sophie on their top three positions and well done to everyone for representing our school with pride.



### Information for parents and legal guardians about EpiPens

All Department for Education preschools and schools must have a general use adrenaline autoinjector so they can provide emergency medication to treat anaphylaxis. The department specifies that preschools will keep an EpiPen<sup>®</sup>Jr (0.15mg adrenaline) and schools will keep an EpiPen<sup>®</sup> (0.3mg adrenaline).

The 'general use' adrenaline autoinjector is not a substitute for children and young people who are at high risk of anaphylaxis, and who have been prescribed an adrenaline autoinjector. In these cases, you need to notify the preschool or school that your child is at risk of anaphylaxis and provide an Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI) action plan.

General use EpiPens<sup>®</sup>

Adrenaline autoinjectors for *general use* are most likely to be used when:

- an individual who is known to be at risk of anaphylaxis does not have their own device immediately accessible or the device is out of date
- a second dose of adrenaline is required before an ambulance has arrived
- an individual's device has misfired or accidentally been discharged
- a previously diagnosed individual with mild allergy who was not prescribed an adrenaline autoinjector has their first episode of anaphylaxis
- less commonly, an undiagnosed individual has a first episode of anaphylaxis and was not previously known to be at risk (eg a child having their first reaction at school).

### Keeping your child safe

Our preschools and schools must have sufficient staff on site with:

- current first aid training (that includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to administer emergency asthma and anaphylaxis medication)
- training through the ASCIA anaphylaxis e-training course for schools and childcare
- practical training in how to use an EpiPen®

In an emergency, if there is no other person nearby who has had basic training in the use of an adrenaline autoinjector, it is reasonable that someone without specific training will administer adrenaline by following instructions on the device. Where there are reasonable grounds for believing an individual is having an acute allergic reaction, adrenaline will be administered.

### Taking precautions

An ambulance will be called in all cases where adrenaline is administered and care for the person will be transferred to the ambulance officer. The patient will be taken to hospital to remain under observation until symptoms have resolved. No serious or permanent harm is likely to occur from mistakenly administering adrenaline to an individual who is not experiencing anaphylaxis. Temporary side effects of adrenaline may include increased heart rate, trembling and paleness.

Leanne Jones ☺



### Student Wellbeing Leader

#### Student Voice

Student Voice Representatives (aka SRC) are chosen to represent their class at Student Voice meetings, by bringing ideas and feedback on behalf of students in their class. The representatives were selected through an expression of interest process. Students that have not been an SV representative before were encouraged to apply; this is to build leadership capacity and foster opportunities for a wider variety of students. Students were nominated based on consistent demonstration of school values and learner dispositions. They will be presented with a certificate at the week 6 Assembly. Well done to the following students who are the Student Voice reps for their class for semester one:

**Room 10:** Aurora & Tate

**Room 12:** Regan & Ben

**Room 11:** Cody & Eleanor

**Room 5:** Harley & Eva

**Room 6:** Grace & Vincent

**Room 3:** Sierra & Oscar

**Room 4:** Zucas & Jessica

**Room 7:** Constance & Jesse

Student Voice Leaders – **Room 8:** Allira & Isabelle

### Mother's Day Stall –Donations and Helpers

It may only be February, but we're getting the word out early about seeking donations for our Mother's Day Stall which will be held early term 2. We would love to fill up our stall with small handmade gifts (jewelry, key chains, pot plants, macramé, candles, soaps...anything!) Or perhaps you have a great idea for little packages containing non-perishable goodies like tea & coffee sachets (things that kids won't buy to eat themselves!). Unfortunately we are no longer able to accept baked goods for our stall.

We will also be looking for volunteer helpers for setting up and working on the stall, so please keep this in mind and look out for more details in newsletters later in the term.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



### Extraordinary Parents and Carer Support Group

The Extraordinary Parents and Carer Support Group is a peer-led support group for parents and/or those in a caring role for children with additional needs.

The support group meets monthly and is a chance to connect with other parents and caregivers going through a similar experience. Speaking with others in a similar boat can offer a better understanding and help us feel less alone.

Tea, coffee and cake are provided.

**When:** Once a month on a Sunday | 10.30am - 12.00pm

**Where:** Renmark Tintra Lawn Tennis Club | Paringa Street Renmark 5341

For more information please call Emma at Relationships Australia SA Berri on (08) 8582 4122

#### Nomination for Governing Council or Committee

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student/s Name \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle Governing Council and / or the committee of interest**

Governing Council      Finance      Fundraising      Grounds      Out of Hours Care (WOOSHC)

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#### Interest to attend AGM –Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

I am interested in attending the Waikerie Primary School AGM      Name \_\_\_\_\_

