



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

23 Coombe Terrace, Waikerie, SA, 5330

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Term 4

Wednesday December 13th 2023

Week 9

DATES TO REMEMBER

Last day of Term 2.20pm Dismissal	Fri 15 th Dec
First Day Term 1 2024	Mon Jan 29 th



Principal

It is hard to believe that the 2023 school year is drawing to a close. I would like to thank the amazing efforts and support of our staff, families and school community throughout the year. We have a wonderful school community who truly support our students to be their best. Thank you for volunteering time, acknowledging achievements at assembly, joining in events, and supporting your children and our school in so many ways. We really value the positive culture at Waikerie Primary School and that is strengthened by our community.



Congratulations to our Visible Learning
and Values Award recipients
From Week 7



Room 10	Ryder, Riley, Savannah, Ekamveer	Room 3	Izzabella, Sierra, Cooper
Room 12	Immi, Matilda, Bella, Rory, Finley, Kaitlyn	Room 4	Jessica, Scarlett, Jack W, Archie
Room 11	Marcus, Bentley, Casey, Layla, Hugh, Logan	Room 7	Ella, Mitchell, Rylan, Shelley
Room 5	Eva, Jayden, Oliver, Luke	Room 8	Lilly F, Lilly A, Angus, Haylee
Room 6	Tas, Ethan, Owen		

I would to congratulate our **Year 6 students**, who celebrate their **graduation** on Thursday I wish them all the very best for their next steps in their schooling and for them to embrace the challenges that lie ahead in high school and beyond.

I acknowledge and thank our **School Leaders**, Haylee and Ben, for their efforts as school leaders and also thank all of our Student Voice members and House Captains for taking on the extra responsibilities as leaders and representatives of our students and the school.

An enormous thank you to Alison Pietsch as she steps away from her role as Student Wellbeing Leader and into some new and exciting challenges. Mrs Pietsch has been a dedicated leader over 7 years and has done so much in leading the well-being support of our students, showing care, making connections and building such positive relationships with our school community. We wish her all the very best in her future roles.

This year we farewell Miss B from our staff. Miss B joined our staff with energy and commitment and has developed positive relationships with staff and students in her time here, working hard to ensure her learners strive to do their best. We wish Miss B all the very best in her future at her new school. Thank you Miss B for being such a wonderful part of the Waikerie Primary School team.

Your child's End of Year Report will be given out today. Please take the time to look at your child's semester two report and discuss their progress, efforts and achievements with them. If you have any questions or need anything clarified please contact the class teacher.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Our classes and teachers for 2024 are as follows and your child will receive a class placement slip with their room number and teacher. They will have a visit to their new room on Friday.

- Reception* Room 10 with Mrs Sarah Kipling
- Reception/ Year 1* Room 12 with Mrs Lorraine Fechner
- Year 1/2* Room 11 with Miss Hayley Sincock
- Year 2/3* Room 6 with Mrs Connie Valentine
- Year 3/4* Room 5 with Miss Samantha Schubert
- Year 4* Room 3 with Mrs Nina Rayner
- Year 5* Room 4 with Miss Hannah Marks (Tues- Fri) and Mrs Alison Pietsch (Mon)
- Year 5/6* Room 7 with Miss Sharna Linke
- Year 6* Room 8 with Mrs Natasha Wall (Mon/Thurs/Fri) and Mrs Sarah Schiller (Tues-Wed)

- Deputy Principal* Leanne Jones (Monday – Thursday)
- Student Wellbeing Leader* Sarah Schiller (Monday, Thursday, Friday)
- Autism Inclusion Teacher* Natasha Wall
- Aboriginal Education Teacher and Learning Support* Julia Golding
- Specialist Teachers** Mrs Lawson - Spanish Mrs Winter - Science/ PE Mr Mibus - The Arts

Well done to every one of our students. I am so proud of your efforts this year, the learning and progress you have made, and the kindness you have shown to others.

I would like to wish all staff, students and families a wonderful festive season and holiday break and look forward to seeing you for the beginning of the 2024 school year.

Megan ☺



Deputy Principal

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the families and carers for their support over the year. We truly value all your support. We'd also like to thank the many volunteers who come to WPS to support the learning and well-being of our students. Your contribution is invaluable. Take care of yourselves and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.



As you are aware the weather has not been kind to us this year when it came to our Splash Carnival events. As a result of both carnivals being cancelled, staff and students were involved in an 'on land' carnival which turned out to be lots of fun. Thank you to our staff for their flexibility and quick planning to make these events such a fun experience for all the students.





As part of the economics component of the curriculum, the Year 6 class has been planning, designing, creating and producing items that they were able to sell to students during recess and lunch time. Students selected a charity of choice that all the funds raised will be donated to. Students did an amazing job at trying to target their items or activities to the buyers to make the most amount of money possible for their chosen charity. Well done on your successful business enterprise.

Leanne Jones ☺

Aboriginal Christmas End of Year Celebration

On Monday 11th the Aboriginal students made Banana and Strawberry Santas and Reindeer biscuits as a way of celebrating their hard work throughout the year. A procedure was followed and the tasty treats were enjoyed at the end.

I wish all the school community a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Julia Golding



Student Wellbeing Leader – Alison Pietsch

This is my final newsletter contribution as Student Wellbeing Leader! What a wonderful seven years it has been for me in this role, working with many children and families from across all year levels. I think it's a fitting time to be closing this chapter as my first year in this role was 2017 – when this year's Year 6s were in reception! I've been privileged to see them grow, and grow as a leader alongside them. Aside from working closely with many students, the highlight of my role was introducing and leading our schools journey of implementing the Berry Street Education Model from 2018 onwards. This has seen a shift in how staff are connecting with students and supporting them to be actively engaged and ready to learn in the classroom. Morning Circles, Brain Breaks, using consistent language, self-regulation and de-escalation strategies are the main parts of the Berry Street Education Model that our site has embraced. Many of you may know that I have been studying this year to add Early Childhood teacher to my qualifications, I look forward to seeing where this takes me in the future as well as returning as a classroom teacher in 2024.

I wish all of our students and families a very safe and happy holidays, and look forward to seeing you all again next year
☺ All the best, Alison Pietsch.



On Sunday evening it was wonderful to see so many of our students involved in singing at **Carols by Candlelight**. It was a great opportunity to be involved in our community and join with Ramco and WLPS. Our students did an awesome job!


Children's University

A couple of weeks ago, ten of our students attended the Children's University graduation at the Riverland Youth Theatre, recognising all of the learning that they have achieved in their own time! All up, this year we had 18 children

achieve the required hours for graduating, so the 8 children who couldn't attend the graduation ceremony will receive their certificates at this week's assembly. Well done to our little graduates and their families for supporting their learning!



Rain Moth Gallery
Presents
Student Art Exhibition
Featuring students across the Riverland.
18th Dec 2023 - 30th Jan 2024
Rain Moth Gallery
4 Peak Terrace
Waikerie



We have several students who have art in the upcoming Rainmoth Gallery Exhibition. If you get the opportunity please head in a take a look.

Thank you to Karen Richardson for helping the students with their art. They look fabulous!



Government
of South Australia

Hon Blair Boyer MP
Member for Wright

Dear parent/caregiver

Every child deserves access to a great education – one that supports them to learn and thrive.

To achieve this, we need to remove barriers for students with a disability so they receive appropriate support, and we need to give schools extra funding to ensure they have the resources they need.

We've heard from parents, families, teachers and principals, that the application process to receive funding for children with additional needs can be a barrier to effective inclusion.

As such, we are implementing new arrangements from term 1, 2024, to give schools greater autonomy to respond to the needs of their students quickly.

Schools will no longer need to apply for funding to support individual students at Levels 1 to 3. These levels will be abolished, and schools will now automatically receive a grant based on the number of students with a disability.

The changes will mean schools will have access to funding from the start of the year to help plan for staffing, programs and resources that respond to the needs of their students.

It means better, more targeted support to the students who need it the most.

It will see an additional investment of more than \$50m over the next four years to strengthen support for students with disability.

The Inclusive Education Support Program (IESP) changes will reduce the workload for our staff while giving teachers and leaders greater autonomy and flexibility over how they use those funds – working with families to get the supports right.

For those children and young people who require intensive support, schools can still apply for additional funding above the grant.

Minister for Education, Training and Skills
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Rain Moth Gallery

Presents

Student Art Exhibition

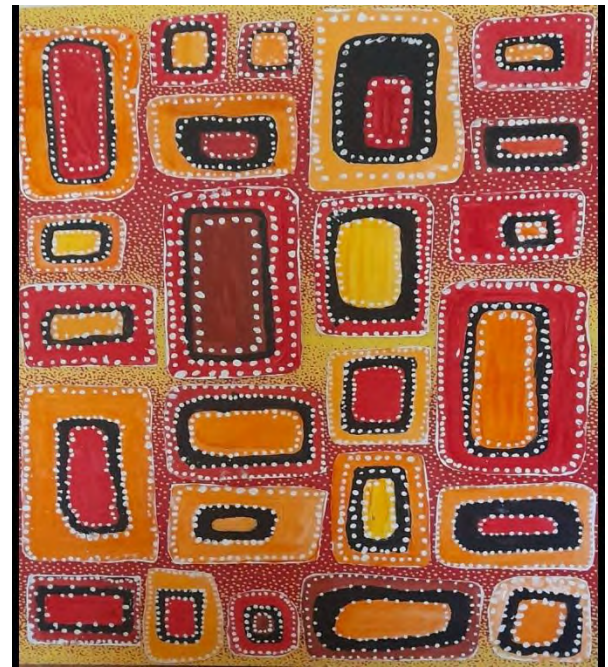
Featuring students across the Riverland.

18th Dec 2023 - 30th Jan 2024

Rain Moth Gallery

4 Peak Terrace

Waikerie



Waikerie Library
School Holiday Program

FREE Story & Craft for all ages

OUT OF AFRICA

January 10-18 | 9:30am-10:00am

Wed 10	African Drum
Thurs 11	Hippo Hop Game
Wed 17	Meerkat Door Hanger
Thurs 18	African Animal Puzzle

Bookings Essential Ph: 8541 0720

The Waikerie Public Library is a Children's University (CU) Adelaide Learning Destination For Passports to Learning. If you have a passport please see library staff to get your stamp when you attend. For more information on CUA visit: www.childrensuniversity.com.au

Waikerie Library

OUT OF AFRICA

Register your child today!

Every time your child attends a craft session, borrows or uses the library staff will clip their 'Out of Africa Club' Card

5 visits gives them an entry in the draw to win a prize!

Prize drawn Monday 5 February at 9:00am
1st entry drawn will receive
\$25 Riverland West Gift Card to be redeemed at Redemption Stores