



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

Phone: 85412733

dl.0456.info@schools.sa.edu.au, www.waikerieps.sa.edu.au

Term 1

Wednesday January 31st 2024

Week 1

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 23 rd	Primary Splash Carnival
February 26 th	Junior Primary Splash Carnival
To be advised	Family Night
March 8 th	Student Free Day
March 11 th	Adelaide Cup public holiday



Principal

Welcome to the 2024 school year! A special welcome our new Reception students and newly enrolled families to the Waikerie Primary School community. We have nine classes this year and some staff working in different rooms and roles. Our 2024 **Leadership and Teaching staff** are:



Deputy Principal

Leanne Jones

(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)



Student Wellbeing Leader

Sarah Schiller

(Monday, Thursday, Friday)



Room 8

Natasha Wall Sarah Schiller



Room 7

Sharna Linke



Room 4

Hannah Marks Alison Pietsch



Room 3

Nina Rayner



Room 6

Connie Valentine



Room 5

Samantha Schubert



Science and PE

Jeany Winter



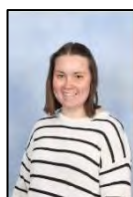
The Arts

Chris Mibus



Spanish

Rachel Lawson



Room 11

Hayley Sincock



Room 12

Lorraine Fechner



Room 10

Sarah Kipling



Early Years support/AET

Julia Golding



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

We also welcome back our dedicated team of School Support Staff; Di, Penny, Cheryl, Rachel, Michelle, Shane, Jenna, Tina, Maria, Renee and Tamara working in administration and classroom support across the school. Clive continues as our grounds person, Anna in playgroup and Sara Bayha as our Pastoral Care Worker.

Our 2024 *School Improvement Plan* Goals and Actions have been reviewed with a continued focus on Reading, Phonics and Maths. You will hear about some of our actions to support these goals throughout the year.



The first few weeks are packed with activities including Life Education SA, swimming and JAM Band. There are also some upcoming dates this term that are to be confirmed. Please keep an eye out via newsletters and Seesaw for details.

We are planning to hold a *Family Night* this term and provide an opportunity for families to come in to school, visit the classrooms and chat with the teachers. We will update you about details as soon as they are confirmed, and would love to see you there.



Our *School Governing Council* meet twice each term and work with Leadership to monitor the progress and direction of the school, including the School Improvement Plan, budget and reporting to the school community. Parents can also be involved in Sub-committees including Finance, Fundraising and Out of School Hours Care. If you are interested in joining School Governing Council or a sub-committee, please submit the nomination form or speak to one of our current Governing Council members: *Deb Schutz, Rachael Thomson, Denae Paschke, Phil Valentine, James Hodson, Rebekah Wallace, Tanya Starling, Maddi Gleed*. Please return the nomination form to a Council Member or school office by Friday 23rd February if you are interested in joining. Our *proposed date* for the **Annual General Meeting** is Monday February 26th at 7pm, followed by the first General Meeting.

Please let us know if there are any updates or changes to your **contact details**, child's home address, emergency contacts and or any other relevant information the school should be aware of.

We look forward to a great year 😊 *Megan*



Deputy Principal

Welcome to the 2024 school year. We are excited to be back and share in and support you with your child's schooling this year.

Mobile phones - The department's position is that primary aged students cannot use their mobile phones and personal devices at school during school hours. The department and the school recognise that there are legitimate reasons for students to bring a mobile phone or personal device to school. This may include:

- to ensure their safety while travelling
- so that parents can contact them outside of school hours.



During the school day students are not permitted to access or use their mobile phones or other personal devices. The Waikerie Primary School Policy states that student's phones are to be handed into the office at the beginning of the day and collected by the student at the end of the day. Phones are to remain turned off until the student is off school grounds.



We ask that students do not bring in food from home, such as cupcakes for birthdays etc. Although this is a lovely idea to celebrate something special, we do need to be mindful of what other children in the school are able to and permitted to eat. Please speak to your child's teacher about possible alternatives, such as bubbles if this is something you still wish to do.



Seesaw is a regular form of communication between school and home. We appreciate parent/carer involvement and love sharing your child's learning with you. It is a valuable platform to maintain regular contact with your child's teacher about their learning. We kindly remind you that teachers may reply to private messages between 8am and 5.30pm, however they won't be responding to messages outside these hours. Teachers will reply to your message within 48 hours. Please ensure that you phone the school for any urgent matters (for example if your child needs to catch the bus home). Furthermore, we kindly ask that any matters relating to a concern or grievance be discussed via phone or in person with the class teacher, not via a Seesaw message. Please let class teachers know as soon as possible if you do not give consent for your child to be pictured in group photos that will be shared to all families in the classroom. If you have any questions or issues accessing or connecting to Seesaw please see me for support.

NAPLAN is the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy that happens each year across the country. Students in Year 3 and 5 will take part in Naplan in Term 1 this year. In week 5, some of the students involved will sit the coordinated practise test on Tuesday the 28th February. This tests the platform to make sure the technology and system will run smoothly during the testing window. The Naplan tests will officially begin in week 7 Wednesday the 15th March through to Monday the 27th March. Students in year 3 will complete the writing test on paper and all other tests will be online using the NAP platform. Students will complete four components. Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. Please see your child's class teacher if you have questions. Attached to the Newsletter is the privacy collection notice for parents.



Swimming lessons are being held this term for all students in Reception to Year 5. Students in Reception to Year 2 will have five lessons across Week 3, which will be held in the School Pool. The JP SPLASH Carnival will be held on Monday 26th February which the House Captains will be involved with. The Year 3-5 students will participate in lessons in the Town Pool in Week 4 Monday – Thursday and the Primary SPLASH Carnival (year 3-6) will be held on Friday 23rd February. All students in Year 6 will attend Aquatics lessons in Term 4.

Leanne ☺



Student Wellbeing Leader – Sarah Schiller

Welcome to another busy and exciting school year! By now your students will have settled into their classrooms and are getting to know their teacher and the new routines. I too have been busy settling into my new role as Student Wellbeing Leader and I am learning as I go! I will be working in this role on Monday, Thursday and Friday as well as teaching in Room 8 on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was great to see so many smiling faces on Monday when I went to visit each class. Keeping those smiles on our student's faces is important to all of us at Waikerie Primary School, but at times we are faced with challenges. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your student's teacher or chat to me so that we can keep your child's schooling on track and successful.

Life ED- During Week 2 and 3 we are lucky enough to be hosting Life Ed and Healthy Harold the Giraffe. Each class will be visiting the Life Ed Dome twice and this will be located in the Gym. Topics will be about making decisions, friendships and feelings as well as keeping your body healthy. Class teachers have more detailed information on what session your student is attending.

School Leadership Positions- The process for our School Leaders and House Captains is about to start. Application forms will be coming home tomorrow and speeches will be in Week 2 and 3. If you are a parent of a Year 6, please keep your eye out for these and take note of the timeline that is set. This is a great opportunity for your student to gain some valuable leadership skills and be a good role model for their peers. Student Voice will be selected after these positions are established.

Sarah ☺

SCHOOL HATS HAVE ARRIVED...

We now have small/medium
and medium/large
available at the office.
\$8.00 each



Material and Services Charges (School fees)

Invoices for Material and Services Charges for 2024 are being sent home in an envelope today with your youngest child. Fees may be paid by cheque, cash or credit card at the office or they may be paid direct to our bank account. Our bank details are at the bottom of invoice or contact the school if needed. Fees may also be paid by instalments – please enquire at the office for an instalment application. Thank you to parents who have already submitted School Card applications.

2024 School Card

School Card forms are now available from the school office or you may apply online at www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard. To qualify for school card, your family's gross income must be below a certain limit. Income limits for this year are below.

Eligibility income limits for a student attending a government school

<u>No. of dependent children</u>	<u>Gross annual School Card income limit</u>
1 child	\$70,994
2 children	\$72,262
3 children	\$73,530
4 children	\$74,798
5 children	\$76,066
Each additional child	\$1,268



Waikerie Out of School Hours Care (WOOSHC)

Waikerie School Hours Care service (WOOSHC) is on site here at the school. The service provides safe, quality care and education, whilst supporting parents, caregivers and staff within our diverse community. It is a place for children to learn, have fun, be exposed to new experiences, enjoy playing together, and develop friendly relationships and life skills.

HOURS OF OPERATION

After school care - The service is open from 3.00pm to 6.00pm Monday to Friday and 2.30pm-6.00pm on Thursdays. The service is closed on Public Holidays.

End of Term Early Finish - The service will open from 2.15pm to 6.00pm.

Student Free Days - If more than eight children are booked in to attend at least one week before the student free day, the service will open between 7.00am to 6.00pm.

Vacation care - The service will be open between 7.00am to 6.00pm. Monday to Friday except for Public Holidays but may be closed for a brief time during the Christmas/New Year period.

For bookings or enquiries please contact Sandy - phone [0419 845 451](tel:0419845451) or email waikerieoshc@bigpond.com

Nomination for Governing Council or Committee

Name _____ Phone Number: _____

Child/s Name _____ Room _____

Please circle Governing Council and / or the committee of interest

Governing Council

Finance

Fundraising

Waikerie Out of School Hours Care (WOOSHC)

Interest to attend AGM – proposed date Monday, February 26th 2024

I am interested in attending the Waikerie Primary School AGM

Name _____



COMMUNITY NOTICES

★★★★★
"Deborah nails the cabaret holy trinity: great storytelling, fabulous music and a healthy dose of humour."
WPSIDE ADELAIDE

Deborah Caddy

GLAMOUR & SONG

The Songs of Pat Carroll & Olivia Newton-John

Featuring the music of John Farrar, including such favourites as
'HAVE YOU NEVER BEEN MELLOW?'
'I HONESTLY LOVE YOU'
'PHYSICAL'
and many more...

★★★★★
"The power Caddy had over that audience was palpable..."
GLAM ADELAIDE



WAIKERIE FRINGE

Fri 15 March @ 7.30pm
WAIKERIE BOWLING CLUB

FRINGETIX
adelaidefringe.com.au 1300 621 255

Presented with the support of Country Arts SA and the District Council of Waikerie Loxton



2024 RIVER FRINGE

THE SENSATRALS – A 60S & 70S MUSIC EVENT



Waikerie Institute - 7pm Friday 16 February

A '60s and '70s music experience from the award-winning Pulse band. Showcasing the best songs ever written with fun costume changes from the singers who rove and mingle with the crowd. Sing your heart out to all the well known classics. Dress up in your favourite party clothes and dance the night away.

Purchase your tickets:



FRINGE TIX
adelaidefringe.com.au
1300 621 255



LET'S PARTY

16TH FEBRUARY
4:00 PM
WAIKERIE INSTITUTE
WITH TONY GENOVESE
COOL 4 KIDS
MUSIC | FUN GAMES
DANCE | FREE ENTRY


FRINGETIX
adelaidefringe.com.au 1300 621 255



WAIKERIE NETBALL CLUB

2024

SEASON LAUNCH

Registration on PlayHq
Open Soon 



Ages 5 - 9
Commencing
Term 2

PRE-SEASON

Are you serious about getting your fitness and ball skills ready for trials and the up coming season? OR
Do you just want to see if netball is for you in 2024.
Join us at the Waikerie netball courts.

- Wed 7th of Feb
- Wed 14th of Feb
- Wed 21st of Feb

Weekly Times

Juniors 4pm - 5pm
Senior Players (U17 and above) 6-7pm

Save the dates

SEASON TRIALS

-Waikerie Netball Courts-

Sunday 25th Feb (with sausage sizzle)

U11's & U 13's 4pm - 5pm, # U15's & U17's 5:30 pm - 6:30pm
Seniors (including 17's wishing to trial for seniors) 7pm-8pm

Wednesday 28th Feb

Wed & Mon Times

U11's & 13s - 3:45pm - 5pm
U15's & 17's - 5pm - 6:30pm
Seniors (including 17's trialing for seniors) 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Monday 4th March



NAPLAN Information for parents and carers

2024

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive) which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), and our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests; however, it is not necessary for parents/carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [NAP - Public demonstration site](#).

How is my child's performance reported?

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected for the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly on what has been taught in previous years of schooling. Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA manages personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy.

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 13 March 2024 and finishes on Monday 25 March 2024. Schools will schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 students do the writing test on paper and on day 1 only. • Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations). 	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with an idea or topic called a "writing stimulus" or "prompt" and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be completed after the writing test 	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be completed after the reading test 	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be completed after the conventions of language test 	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.