



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 4

Wednesday December 11th 2024

Week 9

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, 12 th December	Year 6 Graduation
Friday, 13 th December	Colour Fun Run and last day of Term 4, 2.20pm dismissal
28 th January 2025	2025 Back to School



Principal

It's hard to believe the 2024 school year is already coming to a close. I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for the incredible efforts and support of our staff, families, and school community throughout the year. Our staff are truly dedicated people and our school community continues working together to help our students thrive and achieve their best. Thank you all, however you may be involved; volunteering your time, celebrating achievements at assemblies, participating in our events, and supporting both your children and our school in many ways. Thank you to the Governing Council members for representing our families, helping with events and avidly supporting our school. We are incredibly proud of Waikerie Primary and thank you for all the ways you contribute to making our school such a wonderful place.



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 as I encourage them to embrace the challenges that lie ahead in high school and beyond. **Congratulations!**

I acknowledge and thank our **School Leaders**, Skye and Nick, for their efforts as leaders of our school 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.



This year, we say farewell to **Miss Samantha Schubert** from our staff. Miss Schubert joined Waikerie Primary School in 2023 and has built positive relationships with both staff and students. She has been an energetic and collaborative part of our staff and has always worked hard in supporting her students and providing valuable learning opportunities. We wish her all the very best as she begins her next chapter at her new school and thank her for being such a wonderful part of the Waikerie Primary School team.

We also farewell **Mrs Alison Pietsch** as she takes on new ventures at the Waikerie Children's Centre. During her 12 years at Waikerie Primary, Mrs Pietsch has been both a classroom teacher and Student Wellbeing Leader, leaving such a positive impact on so many students. She has dedicated herself to her roles with care, commitment, and a strong focus on fostering positive relationship connections within our school community. We wish Mrs Pietsch all the very best in her future endeavours and know she will continue to make a difference in the lives of the young children she works with.

It was an absolute pleasure taking a group of students along to participate in the **Waikerie Community Christmas Pageant**. A fun time was had by us all and it was wonderful for Waikerie Primary School to be a part of this special community event. Thank you to the students and staff involved, the families who supported this and everyone who waved at us all along the way!



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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.

In 2025 we will have eight classes. Our classrooms and teachers for 2025 are as follows and your child will receive a class placement slip with their room number and teacher. They will also have visited their new room today to chat with their new teacher and classmates.

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 and Mrs Julia Golding

Year 3/4 – Room 3 with Mrs Nina Rayner

Year 4/5 – Room 4 with Miss Hannah Marks

Year 5/6 – Room 7 with Mrs Sharna Kay

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)

Specialist Teachers Mrs Rachel Lawson - Spanish Mrs Jeany Winter - Science/ PE Mr Chris Mibus - Performing Arts

Autism Inclusion Teacher – Mrs Natasha Wall

Aboriginal Education Teacher – Mrs Julia Golding



A huge congratulations to every one of our students. I am incredibly proud of the efforts you've put in this year, the learning and progress you've made, and the kindness you've shown to others. I would like to wish all staff, students, and families a wonderful festive season and an enjoyable holiday break. I look forward to seeing you all at the start of the 2025 school year.

Megan ☺



Deputy Principal

Children's University – Last Thursday evening, nineteen of our Waikerie Primary Students attended the Children's University Graduation Ceremony held at the Berri Town Hall. These students accumulated additional learning hours outside of school time to extend their knowledge in a variety of different ways. We would like to congratulate the students on this wonderful achievement.



Track and Field Nationals - Congratulations Chloe Golding on placing 9th in the whole of Australia. Chloe represented SA at Sydney Olympic Park in the 1500m and 800m 10 year old girls.

1500m - 9th with a cracking time of 5.17.24 and a massive 14 seconds PB and the first SA athlete over the finish line.

800m - 9th 2.34.79 clocking another 10 second personal best time and only 1 second and 1 place off of the nationals final.

Chloe ran her heart out, showing determination and guts, sticking with the leaders for 3 quarters of her races. She gave it everything she had. How proud we are of your dedication and achievements Chloe. Not bad for a little country kid from Waikerie!



Hot Shots Tennis On November 25th, eight year 4 students (Zac, Ben, Hunter, Fred, Chloe, Eva, Alex, Calvin) represented WPS at the Tennis Hot Shots School Carnival – Regional State Final in Adelaide. There were 12 teams from all over SA Country representing their respective regions competing in the competition. After the 6 minor rounds WPS were sitting in 3rd to be playing off for 3rd or 4th position. Despite the heat and playing with one less player, the team combined well to secure 3rd place. Not bad for a little Country town! All players skills improved out of sight as the day progressed, they displayed excellent tennis skills, versatility by playing with multiple partners, resilience to play through the heat, empathy for their injured

teammate and great sportsmanship on display throughout the day. Thank you to all the parents for their support on the day their generosity was much appreciated. Congratulations to our Hot Shots Legends, a day and result to be very proud of.

SAPSASA Tennis

Earlier this term, Nick and Archie represented the Riverland at SAPSASA Tennis at Seacliff in a week of tough competition and teamwork. Nick and Archie displayed excellent competitiveness and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. They connected well in doubles playing great team tennis. It was a wonderful experience for them both, with lengthier rallies and skilled opponents but they rose to this challenge and learnt a lot to take back to their local Saturday Tennis competition. It was evident that the twins have a love for the sport.

Day 1 Highlights

The team faced strong opponents, showing promising doubles play despite losses (7-11, 8-12). The day ended with a fun team dinner at Charlie's Diner.

Day 2 Achievements

Improving on their first day efforts, the team performed strongly against a top Adelaide side. Archie and Lawson paired well in doubles, while Nick secured a decisive 6-3 singles win. The team narrowly missed a win against Onkaparinga tying in sets but falling short by two games.

Day 3 Wrap Up

Riverland finished with a dominant 16-2 win, placing 5th overall. Coach John Pick praised the players teamwork, focus, and enthusiasm for the game, highlighting their growth and resilience throughout the carnival.

Congratulations boys and the Riverland Team, we are proud of the way you represented yourselves on and off the court.



Leanne ☺



Student Wellbeing Leader – Sarah Schiller

Bike Education Highlights





ARE YOU READY?

THE MUCH ANTICIPATED COLOUR FUN RUN TAKES PLACE THIS FRIDAY DEC 13TH



WHERE: SCHOOL OVAL

WHEN: 11:15AM- 1:00PM

**WHAT TO BRING: WHITE/ LIGHT SHIRT,
ENCLOSED SHOES AND A SPARE PAIR OF
CLOTHES TO CHANGE INTO**

**SUPPLIED: SUPER COOL HEADBANDS AND
SUNGLASSES**

YOU ARE WANTED!

Australian Fundraising specialists

Sarah ☺



Reflections by your Pastoral Care Worker Sara Bayha

Wow...I can't believe it's the last week of school and there's only 2 weeks until Christmas!

Once again, it has been a year full of all sorts of things, some good, some not so good, some mundane and some exciting. Some of the things that have kept me busy at Waikerie PS this year include:

- regular Library Lunchtime clubs for colouring in, games and Lego (the most common question I am asked at school is "is the library open at lunchtime today?" !!)
- accompanying students on excursions and to sports carnivals;
- helping out at breakfast club on Wednesday mornings;
- running the school playgroup while the lovely Anna was away in the middle of the year
- getting my Lifeguarding certificate so I could help out at the school pool
- and lots of time spent chatting with kids, staff and parents throughout the day.

It has been such a blessing to be a part of this school community... I love coming to school and being a part of the buzz that is Waikerie PS! I wish everyone a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and a safe and relaxing new year – and we'll see you all back at school in January!

Sara



Mozzies a problem? We have a supply of Bushman's roll-on personal insect repellent. If you would like some for over the summer, please pop into the office and ask our lovely office staff.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

THE RUMBLE ROADSHOW
THERUMBLE.COM.AU/ROADSHOW

LOXTON

FREE EVENT
GIVEAWAYS
SKATE DEMOS
SKATE LESSONS
BEST TRICK JAM

LOXTON SKATEPARK
SATURDAY JAN 11TH - 4PM

DISC GOLF
SILENT DISCO
GIANT GAMES
HEADSPACE TENT
FOOD & DRINK VANS
DECK PAINTING WORKSHOP WITH DARCY SAVAGE

District Council of
Loxton
Waikerie

headspace
kool

JOIN IN THE FUN WITH OUR HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

SECURE YOUR SPOT!

Renmark (Riverland), Age 5-10
Thurs 19 & Fri 20 Dec 2024
9:30am-12:00pm

SCAN TO REGISTER

Adelaide Strikers

**Waikerie Library
School Holiday Program**

FREE story and craft for all ages

Radical Reptiles

January 8 - 16 | 9:30am - 10:00am

WED 8	SNAKE IN A BOX
THUR 9	FRILLED NECK LIZARD
WED 15	CROCODILE FINGER PUPPET
THUR 16	WOODEN GECKO DOOR HANGER

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 is getting a Parkrun!

What is Parkrun?

*Parkrun is a free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, push a pram, or bring the dog on a lead, volunteer or spectate.

*Parkrun is 5 km and takes place every Saturday morning at 8am.

*Parkrun is positive, welcoming and inclusive, there is no time limit, and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along.

*Parkrun is free and you only need to register once whether walking, jogging, running, volunteering or a combination.

We'd love for you to join in with our parkrun event! It will be starting early in the new year so keep an eye out for more information!