



**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 2**

**Wednesday April 30<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Week 1**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 12 <sup>th</sup> - May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Parent-Teacher Discussions
Friday May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day Stall
Friday May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Presentation – STOMP Dance
Friday June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Student Free Day
Monday June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Public Holiday



### Principal

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you had a refreshing break and that students are eager to return to classroom learning.



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This term, we are excited to hold our Parent Teacher Discussions. These discussions provide an excellent opportunity to talk about your child's strengths, progress, and needs for the year. We will be offering 15-minute discussion slots throughout weeks 3 and 4. You can book a time through our online booking system at [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au). Further information and booking instructions will be posted on Seesaw and sent home soon. If you need help with booking or have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher or myself at the school.



On April 25th, our School Leaders, Tas and Sierra, proudly represented Waikerie Primary School at the ANZAC Day service, laying a wreath on behalf of our students, staff, and families. It was wonderful to see the involvement of our school community and several other families on this special and important day.

Many of you will have noticed the work on the Stanley Street footpath over the last few weeks, with paving and upgrades along the school side of the road. This has been associated with the Way2Go program, and we thank the Loxton Waikerie Council for their contribution and efforts to ensure we have safe pathways to school. This is also a timely reminder for students to make sure they are crossing the road using our school crossings. For those driving along the roads around the school, please adhere to speed limits to ensure everyone's safety. We appreciate your patience while this work has been undertaken.



Reminder, with the cooler weather coming, of our school uniform expectations.

- WPS or plain navy-blue polo shirt (short or long sleeved) or long sleeved t-shirt
- WPS navy blue windcheater (full and half zip option) or plain navy jumper or jacket
- Navy blue or dark grey pants, track pants or leggings

Jumpers are available for purchase at the front office, plain options from stores such as Big W or Kmart are also acceptable and we have second hand supplies available for a gold coin donation.

Year 6 transition to high school process begins soon! Year 6 families please ensure the school has your current email addresses. Transition packs will be sent home this week. Please contact the school if you are unsure about your current details with us.



Megan ☺



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education



## Deputy Principal

In the school holidays, I attended the Literacy Guarantee Unit (LGU) conference with guest speaker Pamela Snow. Pamela Snow is a Professor of Cognitive Psychology and Co-Director of the Science of Language and Reading Lab in the School of Education La Trobe University. Professor Snow's keynote address was based around; Reading Instruction Challenges and the Metaphor of Climbing Mount Knowledge and the Quest for Stronger Reading Instruction. Over the past three years we have had 'Reading' as a focus in our site and the concept 'decoding' has played a huge part in being a non-negotiable skill in learning to read and comprehend. The Phonics Instructional Routine and use of decodable texts is the way our school is supporting students in this systematic process.

***Decoding** is the process of translating written words into sounds. It's a key skill in learning to read, where children learn to recognise letters and understand how they combine to form words. This helps them read aloud and understand the meaning of the text.*



Congratulations to the **YET Members for 2025**. These students were presented at the last Assembly in Term 1. We would like to wish them all the best for the year ahead.

On Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>, Sarah Schiller and Rachel Kratopoulos took an enthusiastic group of Hockey players to Glassey Park to compete in the **SAPSASA Hockey** event. We had three

teams on the day with a group of volunteers, many from the Waikerie Hockey club, who supported by coaching and guiding the students on the day. Students all played well, learnt new skills, demonstrated team skills and represented the school well. Mrs Schiller's team made it to the Grand Final coming away with second place for the event. Congratulations to all the players for a great day out and for many their first experience in playing Hockey. We would like to thank Sarah, Rachel and all the helpers who contributed to getting students there and supporting on the day.



## SAPSASA Riverland Athletics

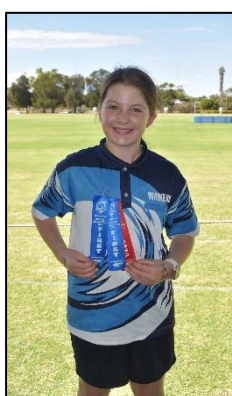
On Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 27 enthusiastic Waikerie Primary students competed in the Riverland SAPSASA Track and Field Athletics carnival held on our home soil at the Waikerie Rec Centre Oval. In the lead up to this event all students showed dedication by attending multiple trainings so that our school could bring their best on the day, to match the talent up river, and that we certainly did! Overall, we came in third for the day, an amazing effort by our athletes. The students displayed such determination, giving it their absolute best and leaving nothing left in their tank, as well as showing great sportsmanship throughout the whole day.

This year we brought home an incredible 29 placings! (11 Firsts, 10 Seconds, 8 thirds and a record) 4 more placings than last year. With many students proudly returning to school wearing multiple ribbons. A special mention to Chloe who, for the second consecutive year, broke the 1500m record. This year in the 11-year-old girls by an amazing 11 seconds. She ran a time of 5:44:45. Congratulations Chloe what a sensational achievement.

Many thanks for all the parent support on the day. How fantastic it was to have so many of you there cheering on our fabulous students. Thank you to Mrs Winter for all the work behind the scenes and to Mrs Kratopoulos and Mrs Bayha for marshalling events on the day and to all the other staff that contributed. Your help is much appreciated.



I am so proud of all our students. Watching your performances and seeing you provide encouragement to one another is an absolute win in my eyes. Once again it was a pleasure coaching you all. Mrs Julia Golding



## PREMIER'S READING Challenge

**Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)** – Just a reminder that the PRC continues this term and finishes in Week 7 of Term 3. Children are required to read 12 books across the year. Eight of these books need to be part of the recommended texts listed on their website and then four free choice texts. Students will be presented with a certificate and/or medal at the end of the challenge. Once students complete the challenge, they can hand their completed sheets up to Mrs Seabrook in the front office. Both the school library and the town library identify the recommended texts with stickers identifying them. Please see the classroom teacher if you need any support.

"Get ready for a fantastic adventure in reading! To support the Premier's Reading Challenge and nurture a love of books, we're hosting a **'Readathon'** at school. This exciting event will take place after school hours and is open to everyone who wants to join in the fun. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect through stories and enjoy a great community gathering. Stay tuned for more details on Seesaw and in our next Newsletter. We can't wait to see you there!"



This term, we are excited to welcome Kira Mader back from the dance company STOMP. Every Friday, for the first five weeks, Kira will teach a dance program that is highly energetic, engaging and fun. She will prepare the students for a parent presentation to showcase their moves from the five week block which will be held in the gym at 2.30pm on Friday May 30<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to demonstrating our dance moves for the families during this time.

Leanne ☺



### Student Wellbeing Leader

Congratulations to the boys selected for the Riverland SAPSASA District Football team. The boys will play in Adelaide on May 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. We wish them all the best.

**Student Voice:** With our fundraising money from Student Voice, we have recently been able to purchase an outdoor Bluetooth speaker so that we can play music and have some dance fun at recess and lunchtimes. Lots of fun to be had!



**Mother's Day Stall:** Our Mother's Day Stall will be held on Friday May 9<sup>th</sup> in the school hall. Students will be able to purchase gifts from 50c- \$10.00. We are always on the hunt for volunteers on this day to help with the running of the stall. If you are keen to help out, please let us know.



**Assembly:** It has been fantastic to see so many members of our school community joining us for each assembly, we love your support. Assemblies will continue to be held on Thursdays in Week 3, 6 and 9 starting at 1.45pm. Just a reminder that students need to head back to their classroom when assembly finishes and not just leave early unless they are being signed out. Our classes in the spotlight this term are: **Week 3**-Room 11, **Week 6**- Room 10 and **Week 9**- Room 4.

Sarah ☺

### WAIKERIE OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE



In November and December 2024, families were informed regarding our ongoing efforts to attract and retain qualified educators for our outside school hours care (OSHC) service. Despite our continued efforts, Waikerie Primary School OSHC has been unable to offer a before or after school care program since the end of Term 4, 2024.

Thanks to some dedicated staff, we were able to open Monday to Thursday of the first week of the holidays. However, we have been unable to secure the minimum number of qualified staff to comply with the national requirements for educational quality and care in an ongoing capacity. This means that at this stage we will be unable to offer a before and after school care program in Term 2, 2025.

We understand that this news comes as a disappointment for many families. We are continuing to seek qualified educators and working closely with the Department for Education to find an alternative and are reviewing continuation of the OSHC service in Term 2 and beyond. We will keep you informed with any updates as they become available.

Families can contact Education.OSHC@sa.gov.edu or 8226 6427 with any enquiries related to OSHC services. Please ensure your contact details are up to date at so that we can contact you if anything changes.



Now in its 26th year, **National Walk Safely to School Day** is an annual campaign and event which encourages all primary school children, their parents and carers, to walk safely and regularly to school. It is important for children and young people to be active every day. Physical activity has many social, emotional, physical and mental health benefits. Walking to school is a great way to incorporate physical activity into a daily routine to support healthy development. Regular physical activity, especially walking, can improve self-esteem and confidence, help concentration and improve overall fitness. Encouraging kids to be active each day establishes good habits that can stay with them throughout their lives.



Inclusive Teaching & Learning  
**SIES**

 Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

**CARE PLANS AND NDIS PROVIDERS IN SCHOOLS  
INFORMATION SESSION**

The Department's Statewide Inclusive Education Services (SIES) will be hosting an information session about care plans and NDIS providers in schools presented by Nicolel Rich, Manager, Disability, Policy & Legislation via Microsoft Teams (scan the code below).

If you're a parent or carer of a student with disability at a Department School, you are invited to the session where SIES staff will also be available to discuss resources and supports.

 THURSDAY  
22nd MAY 2025

 1pm - 2:30pm

 Join the meeting here

 8235 2871

 [sies.admin@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:sies.admin@schools.sa.edu.au)

 [www.SIES.sa.edu.au](http://www.SIES.sa.edu.au)

### School Uniform Orders – Long Sleeve Polos

If you would like to place an order for a long sleeve polo, please complete and return order form below. Samples can be viewed at the office. Form and payment will need to be returned by **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May**.

Parent/ Caregiver name:.....

Phone number.....:

Student.....

Room number.....



	Size	Quantity	Price	Total Owng
Long Sleeve Polo			\$40.00 each	

**Total amount paid:**    \$.....



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