

BALAKLAVA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Ber 1 learning Tennis skills



Balaklava Primary School acknowledges that we are meeting on the Traditional Land of the Kurna people we recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs, and relationship with Country. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the continued importance of the relationship of country to the Kurna people living today. We promise to look after all the living creatures and plant life whose survival depends on the water, air and environment of Kurna Country.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

27th Student Free Day
TOMORROW

APRIL

2nd Performance: Animals Anonymous

3rd Public Holiday: Good Friday



6th Public Holiday: Easter Monday

7th FOM Assesment Bus Meeting | 5pm

10th Last Day of Term 1
2:10pm Early Dismissal

27th Term 2 Begins

End of Term 1
Friday 10th April

2:10pm Early Dismissal

Term 2 Begins:
Monday 27th April



From the Acting Principal Jo Michalanney



NAPLAN

A big congratulations to Mr Kym Palka for his leadership in organising NAPLAN this year. There was only a minor hiccup at the start, when students were required to shut down their laptops and restart them to proceed with the testing. Mr Palka worked hard to ensure everything ran smoothly and was ably supported by Mrs Willett when she came on board. I would also like to commend our Year 3 and 5 students for their resilience and growth mindset during the tests.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Thank you to all the families who have participated in parent-teacher interviews this week, or who will do so by the end of the week. It's been wonderful to see so many of you engaging in these important conversations. If you haven't yet had an interview, please contact your child's teacher ASAP.

They will also be following up with parents who haven't scheduled an interview as interviews offer several key benefits such as: Communication and Collaboration: A chance for parents and teachers to engage in meaningful discussions, ensuring that everyone is on the same page in supporting your child's learning.

Student Progress and Feedback: Teachers can provide valuable insights into a student's academic progress, social behaviour, and emotional development.

Goal Setting: Together, parents and teachers can set realistic goals to help students grow and succeed.

Early Intervention: Identifying potential concerns early allows us to address them before they become bigger issues, ensuring a positive learning environment.

Empowering Parents: These interviews give you a deeper understanding of your child's needs and how you can support their learning at home. It also provides you an opportunity to share with the teacher information about your child.

Pre-Sports Day Events

A big thank you to everyone who assisted with the pre-Sports Day events: the 200m, 800m and 1500m races. Thank you too BHS for allowing us to use their oval. A special thank you to all the BPS competitors for their sportsmanship and enthusiasm. We look forward to the remaining events on **Sports Day - Wednesday 27th May.**



SAPSASA Events

Thank you to the staff, students and families involved in SAPSASA events so far this year. These events require a great deal of organisation, and we appreciate everyone who has contributed. We look forward to your continued support as we move through the remaining SAPSASA events this year.

Well done to Archer, Sage, Wyatt and Afie, who swam in Adelaide on Tuesday night. Good luck to Rosie Moulds, who has three days of softball coming up.

Football and netball trials are currently being held, with the final session on Monday, 30 March at the Balaklava Town Courts/Oval from 4-5 pm.

Garage Sale

A big thank you to everyone who supported our garage sale. It was great to clear out our storage spaces and pass on furniture that was no longer being used. A special thank you to Chris Bennett for clearing the remaining items.

Student Free Day

On Friday, 27 March (**TOMORROW**), staff will be working on our Site Learning Plan. The current plan focuses on daily maths reviews in all classes. We will be evaluating our progress and analysing whether the data and evidence indicate that we can move to a new cycle of learning within the Site Learning Plan.

We have already begun some preliminary work using the Areas of Impact Cards, where staff and students responded to a range of questions on topics such as wellbeing, learner agency, equity and excellence, and effective learners. This will support our work on Friday as we plan our focus for the remainder of 2026.





If you are interested in joining the 2026 Children's University program please sign up now! Any questions please contact Cherie Cleary.



LAST DAY TO SIGN UP IS FRIDAY 2ND APRIL 2026!

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Georgia who has successfully auditioned for the South Australian Public Primary Schools (SAPPS) Choir. Georgia successfully auditioned for this choir, which is comprised of talented students from years 5, 6 and 7. The choir performs on 10 - 12 occasions each year, including two concerts for parents, families and friends. The first performance will be the Anzac Day Dawn Service at the Adelaide War Memorial, during the school holidays.

Congratulations once again Georgia, what a huge effort!



Hi, my name is Beth, I am the new Aboriginal Community Education Officer for Balaklava Primary School.

I'm a proud Aboriginal woman with ties to the Ngarrindjeri, Nukunu and Banggarla people. I am still on my own journey of discovery and I am excited to meet new people on their journeys.

I am excited to get to know the children, their families, and also the staff at Balaklava Primary. Connecting with you all and the wider community is my goal.

I will be organising a meet and greet early next term, so please be on the lookout for that.

Please feel free to reach out at any time.

Ngaityalya Beth

TENNIS



4

Over the past few weeks the R - 3 students have participated in the Sporting Schools Tennis activities. Students have been having lots of fun with Tennis coach Sam!



SAPSASA Swimming Adelaide



Congratulations to Alfie, Wyatt, Archer & Sage who went to Adelaide for SAPSASA Swimming on the 2nd of March.

I participated in the Freestyle relay and I swam 2nd. We came 5th but due to a disqualification our team came 4th. - **Alfie**



REMINDER
STUDENT FREE DAY
FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

TOMORROW



Room 2 Newsletter Item:

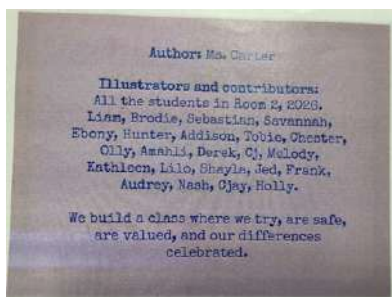
WE ALL HAVE DIFFERENT BRAINS AND THAT IS OK.

Room 2 – We all have different brains and that is ok.

Students in Room 2 have been spending time working on a folio of their brain. They created brain pictures that show what they are thinking about, how fast or slow they think, and what kind of sunglasses their brain would wear. Students then focused on what do they need to learn. Some need quiet, some need noise, some need movement, some need step by step, and some need learning visuals. They then focused on what they need to regulate when they have big emotions like disappointment, struggle and worry. Some need time alone, some need to talk it out, some need to do colouring, and some need time to process.



We wrote and illustrated a book about our brains. Students added to colour to the illustrations and connected their brain to some of the brains in the book. Now we have our very own class book for 2026 that everyone contributed to.



Ber 3 Newsletter Item:

COLLECTING DATA

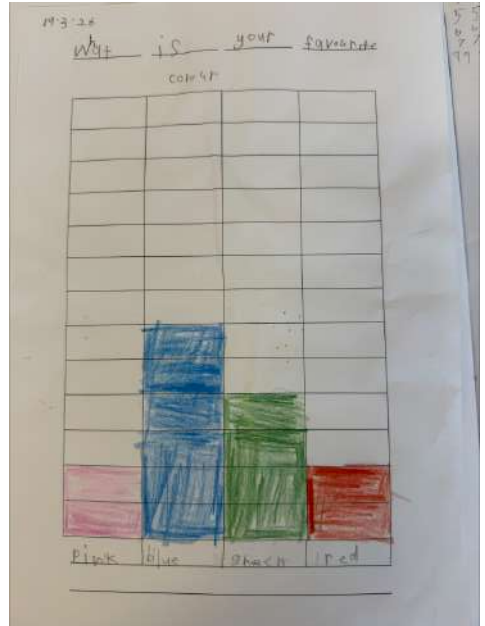
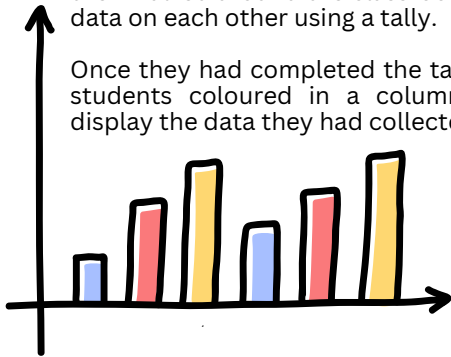
In Ber 3 we have been learning about tallies and collecting data.

We had a how class practice on our favourite colour.

Students then had to choose to collect data on favourite animal, colour or food.

They wrote these in their maths books and then walked around the classroom gathering data on each other using a tally.

Once they had completed the tally data the students coloured in a column graph to display the data they had collected.



STUDENT FREE DAYS 2026

TERM 1 - WEEK 9 FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

TERM 2 - WEEK 7, TUESDAY 9TH JUNE

TERM 3 - WEEK 1, MONDAY 20TH JULY

TERM 4 - WEEK 5, 13TH NOVEMBER

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

TERM 3 - MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

Eat a Rainbow of Vegetables and Fruits Every Day!

The Root Cause
Standing for Children's Health



The Root Cause

Standing for Children's Health

On Tuesday we had an incursion called the Root Cause. Some of the hands on activities were getting to watching water absorb food colouring, and trying a smoothy that contained banana, strawberries and spinach. -Pip

The smallest cup that had blue colouring, filled more with colour than the other larger cups, because the cup had less water making the colour more dominant in the cup. -Tim

I liked the smoothies the most because it was delicious and the ingredients were banana, spinach, strawberries and water. -Jacob



I would definitely recommend this incursion for other schools because everything was fun, hands on, and a good life lesson to learn. -Lans

I learnt that teenagers should only have five teaspoons of sugar per day. -Jessica





BALAKLAVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

CASUAL

CLOTHES DAY

WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO WEAR CASUAL CLOTHES ON WEDNESDAY 1ST OF APRIL FOR A GOLD COIN DONATION.

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN, OUR OPTIONAL THEME IS "EASTER WITH A TWIST"—THINK EASTER COLOURS OR ACCESSORIES WITH A FUN TWIST (BUNNY EARS, MISMATCHED OUTFITS, CRAZY SOCKS, ETC.).

PLEASE ENSURE OUTFITS REMAIN SUN-SAFE AND APPROPRIATE FOR SCHOOL.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE'S EGG-CELLENT EFFORTS!



WEEK 8 ASSEMBLY AWARDS



Room 6
Claire, Loxley & Westyn



Room 7
Octavian, Mayson & Riley



Ber 1
Billy, Blade, Hunter & Jace



Ber 3
Zara, Jasper, Reuben. Kate (*Auslan*) & Olivia (*Performing Arts*)



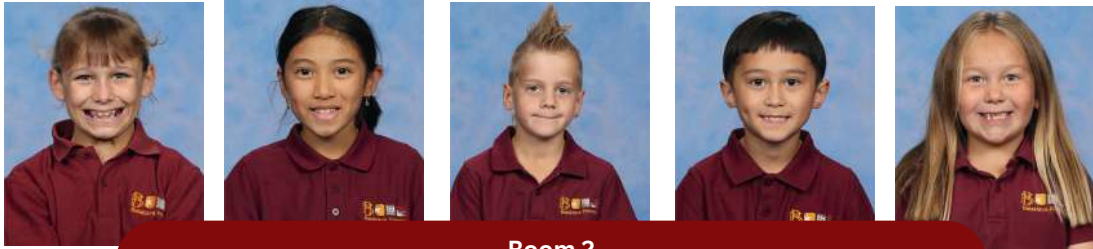
WEEK 8 ASSEMBLY AWARDS



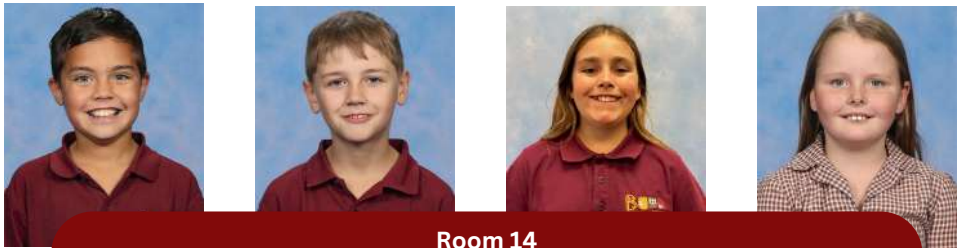
Ber 4
Osiris & Charlie



Room 1
Sam, Matilda, Jackson & Ocean



Room 2
Kathleen, Lilo, Jed, Derek & Shayla



Room 14
Monty, Ryder, Lilly & Philippa

WEEK 8 ASSEMBLY AWARDS



Room 18
Levi & Nellie



Room 20
Eloise, Rhys & Millah

WEEK 8 LEXILE AWARDS

BLUE



Zara, Emma, Nate, Derek, Rosie



Tim, Nash, Audrey, Lilo, Ocean

WEEK 8 LEXILE AWARDS

BLUE



Arlo, Kaleah, Charlie, Fergus & Casey

RED



Matilda, Derek, Nate, Emma, Zara



Chester & Holly

BRONZE



Derek, Madison, Matilda & Herc

WEEK 8 READING AWARDS

25 NIGHTS



Deakon, Adelyne, Ethan, Stephen, Gabriel, Hunter



Remme, Fletcher, Mack, Henry, Angus & Herc

WEEK 8 PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE AWARDS



Nash

THE 2026 PRC

STEM Reading and Design Challenge

Our Sustainable Future

Starts 23 March and finishes 19 June

Announcement of winners in National Science Week, August 2026



THE COMPETITION

The Premier's Reading Challenge and partners are teaming up again to challenge students to read about Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) in the lead up to National Science Week. The reading and design competition started in 2016 and last year over 3000 entries were received!

HOW TO ENTER

Read a book about one of the 4 themes (from the Premier's Reading Challenge booklist):

- **STEM** (any Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths book from the list).
- **NATURE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA** (such as plants, animals, bushland, rivers, beaches, parks and gardens).
- **SPACE** (such as human spaceflight, the planets and universe, satellites, space travel and astronomy).
- **RENEWABLE ENERGY** (a book about renewable energy - from our sun and wind - that can be used to create power).

Complete the task, according to your year level project.

Send entries to the Premier's Reading Challenge team.

Entries should include student name, student year level, school name, school contact details, teacher name, book read from Premier's Reading Challenge (include title and author) and the theme of the project.

Schools should keep a record of students who enter.

YEAR LEVEL CATEGORY PROJECTS

**R to 2:
Create**

Draw a picture in response to the book read.

**3 to 5:
Invent**

Plan an invention (description, drawing) inspired by the book read.

**6 to 9:
Design**

Design a STEM poster, related to the book read, to inspire interest in science-related fields.

**Mature:
Innovate**

Plan an invention (model, drawing) to solve a problem related to the book read.

THE PRIZES

All students will receive a certificate of participation.

A selection of prizes including passes to the Adelaide Zoo, Cleland Wildlife Park, 19ASF Space Passport Program and Science Alive! and books, book vouchers, vouchers for the South Australian Museum gift shop will be awarded to:

- best individual entry and runner up for each age group
- the school with the most entries.



SEND ENTRIES TO

Mail: STEM Reading and Design Challenge
C/O Premier's Reading Challenge
GPO Box 1152, Adelaide, SA 5001

Or email:

education.PremiersReadingChallenge@sa.gov.au

Please note that the PRC Team will not be able to return any entries.



CONTACT

Mark Williams Manager Premier's Challenges
8226 2006 | Marka.williams@sa.gov.au



More about the Premier's Reading Challenge:

www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au



**CUT THIS PAGE OUT
AND
STICK ON THE FRIDGE**

STUDENT ABSENT FORM

If a student is absent from school (planned or unplanned) **PLEASE** scan the QR code and fill out the form to notify the school why the student(s) are away.

If you have trouble with the form please contact the Front Office on (08) 8862 1660

Absence Notification Form



Community News



JUNIOR FOOTBALL TRAINING

AUSKICK	TERM 2
UNDER 8'S	THURSDAY MARCH 19 4:30PM
UNDER 11'S	THURSDAY MARCH 19 4:30PM
JUNIOR COLTS	THURSDAY MARCH 12 4:30PM
SENIOR COLTS	THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26 5:30PM

JUNIOR FOOTBALL MANAGER: LES PEARSON



JUNIOR NETBALL TRAINING

NET SET	TERM 2
9 & UNDER	THURSDAY MARCH 26 4:15 PM
11 & UNDER	THURSDAY MARCH 26 4:15 PM
13 & UNDER	THURSDAY MARCH 26 4:15 PM
15 & UNDER	THURSDAY MARCH 26 4:15 PM
17 & UNDER	THURSDAY MARCH 26 4:15 PM

JUNIOR NETBALL MANAGER: CARLY FRIEDRICH

HUMMOCKS WATCHMAN EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB



2026

AusKick

FOOTBALL PROGRAM

For 5 year olds & above




STARTS WEDNESDAY APRIL 29

Port Wakefield Oval @ 5.15PM

10 weeks... EVERY WED DURING TERM 2!



HUMMOCKS NETBALL CLUB



2026

Net Set Go

NETBALL PROGRAM


For 5 year olds & above



STARTS WEDNESDAY APRIL 29

Port Wakefield Courts @ 5.15PM

10 weeks... EVERY WED DURING TERM 2!





EAGLES
WOODVILLE WEST TORRENS
FOOTBALL CLUB SANFL

TERM 1

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC

WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL
CLARE OVAL

10am - 11:30am **BOYS & GIRLS** ages 5-14

EAGLES MEN & WOMEN PLAYERS IN ATTENDANCE
• FREE CLINIC & GIVEAWAYS •

Registration: Scan QR Code





TERM 1 PLANNER

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	26/1 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Australia Day	27/1 Term 1 Begins	28/1	29/1	30/1
2	2/2 <i>Newsletter</i>	3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2 Community Assembly - 2:20pm
3	9/2	10/2 WELCOME NIGHT	11/2	12/2 <i>Newsletter</i>	13/2
4	16/2	17/2	18/2	19/2	20/2 Community Assembly - 2:20pm
<div style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">MONDAY TO FRIDAY SWIMMING LESSONS</div> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 20px;">MONDAY TO THURSDAY YR6 AQUATICS CAMP</div>					
5	23/2	24/2	25/2	26/2 <i>Newsletter</i>	27/2
<div style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">MONDAY TO FRIDAY SWIMMING LESSONS</div>					
6	2/3 SAPSASA Swimming Year 1 Numeracy Check begins	3/3 GOV COUNCIL AGM	4/3	5/3	6/3 Community Assembly - 2:20pm
7	9/3 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Adelaide Cup	10/3 Pre Sports Day Events 200m, 800m & 1500m	11/3 NAPLAN Writing & Reading	12/3 R-3 Tennis NAPLAN Language Interviews open 6:30pm <i>Newsletter</i>	13/3 NAPLAN Numeracy
8	16/3	17/3 SCHOOL PHOTOS Finance - 6:30pm GC - 7pm	18/3	19/3 R-3 Tennis Harmony Day - wear a splash of orange!	20/3 Community Assembly - 2:20pm
9	23/3 <div style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Interview Week</div>	24/3 Food Performance	25/3	26/3 R-3 Tennis <i>Newsletter</i>	27/3 STUDENT FREE DAY
10	30/3	31/3	1/4 Casual Clothes Day - Gold coin donation	2/4 (BHS - SFD) Performance: Animals Anonymous	3/4 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Good Friday
11	6/4 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Easter Monday	7/4 FOM Asses 1pm Bus Mtg - 5pm	8/4	9/4 R-3 Tennis <i>Newsletter</i>	10/4 End of Term 1 Early Dismissal of 2:10pm

	Assemblies		Student Free Days
	Meetings		Excursions/Camps
	SAPSASA		Cultural Dates