



Kurna Plains School R-12

Strength Through Learning • Taingiwilta Tirkanthi-arra

NEWSLETTER #14 Term 4, Week 3 2024



Hats Off to Teachers! Celebrating World Teachers' Day at KPS

Diary Dates

TERM 4

Week 3	Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November Primary Swimming Week
Week 4	Wednesday 6th November Governing Council 5:30pm
	Friday 8th November Reception Transition Visit 1
Week 5	Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th November Camp
	Friday 15th November Reception Transition Visit 2
Week 7	Friday 29th November Governing Council 9:30am
Week 8	Thursday 5th December Christmas Concert Late start 12pm
	Friday 6th December School Closure
Week 9	Tuesday 10th December Year 6 Graduation
	Wednesday 11th December Community Breakfast & Final Assembly
	Friday 13th December CORKA Splash Day Last day of term Early finish 2pm

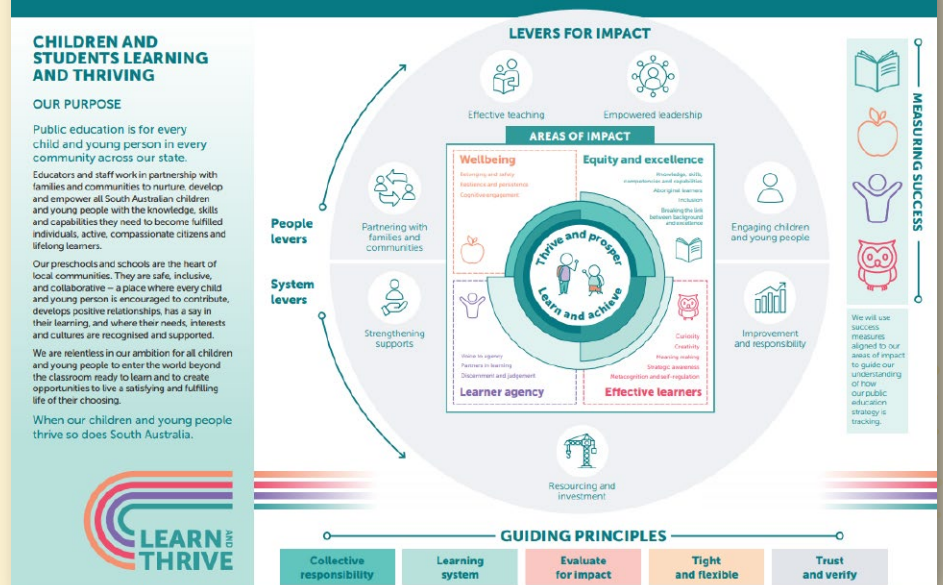
Niina Marni

Niina Marni,

This week we had an early finish for staff to participate in professional development. We spent over 2 hours contextualising the new strategy to Kurna Plains School. Working with the domains of Equity and Excellence, Wellbeing, Learner Agency and Effective Learners, we mapped out our current successes and started to make plans for 2025.



OUR STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION



Swimming week has arrived. It is fantastic to be at the new Salisbury Aquatic Centre, out in the sunshine and our students enjoying it as the weather warms up too.

(continued over)

Principals' Message continued

Freaky Friday will be a part of CORKA this week. We encourage everyone to bring dress up for the Halloween disco in the gym after swimming in Lesson 5/6. We will also have face painting available for this special occasion.

Just a reminder to senior secondary that SACE deadlines are approaching, thus attendance is essential, we also have an incredibly dedicated secondary team who are more than willing to support students to achieve their SACE.

Finally, just a reminder at the moment headlice is on the rise again in classrooms. Please check your child's hair and treat them.



Ngaityalya

Aunty Ange & Aunty Natalea
Principals

Attendance



Year to date **69%**. Well done!

Student Support Services Parent Forum Survey

Student Support Services at the Elizabeth South Education Office works with preschools and schools where there are children and young people who have particular educational support needs. To further support parents and families, we are planning a series of free, accessible parent forums to help inform and support parents and the local community on a range of topics including supporting children with a disability and complex behaviour.

To ensure we provide the most relevant and useful sessions we ask that you complete a short online survey by scanning the QR code.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey.

SSS Parent Forum Survey



Library News

This year students were given the chance to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Congratulations to all our primary students who completed this in their classes.



Students who were at the school during the challenge time will be receiving their medals or certificates soon.



Aunty Lisa

Uncle Marty

The seniors have been learning many new sports this semester. We have had the opportunity to try flag football which is a non-tackling hybrid version of American football or gridiron. Students have also continued their progression in badminton, with some seniors representing the school at a badminton carnival and showing great tactical and skill improvement.

In the countdown to the end of the year, students should be prioritising finishing their theoretical assignments which are reflective journals and coaching adaptations to foster maximal participation for the younger students at our school. When this is complete, we will have the opportunity



to return to learning more sports and activities in a practical manner.

Uncle Marty

Deputy Principal Update

Last Friday, we had a wonderful time celebrating all of our incredible teachers for World Teachers' Day! It was a day full of surprises to thank them for everything they do. Teachers were spoiled with treats, like personalised cards and even some much-needed kitchen utensils (because you can never have too many forks in the staffroom!). The highlight of the day though, was the special hats that each teacher received, featuring this year's theme: "Hats Off to Teachers". A huge thank you to our SSOs for organising these special gifts. We're so grateful for our teachers and all the dedication they put into making our school such an amazing place.

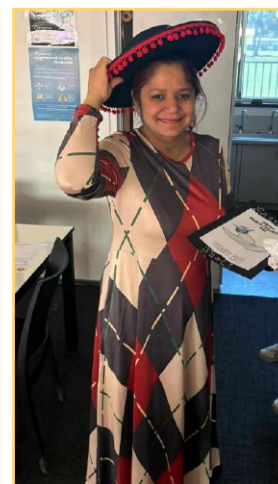


Also, its Christmas concert season and preparations for our Christmas concert are well underway. Students are working hard with their classes and the Ground Force team, learning dances and songs. Our teachers and staff are busy behind the scenes making sure everything comes together for a fantastic night. This year, the Christmas concert will start at 4pm. After the concert, families are invited to stay for a Family Fun Night, complete with a BBQ, jumping castles, and plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy.



The Family Fun Night will wrap up at 7:30pm, so there will be lots of time to celebrate together. We can't wait to share this event with our students and families!

Auntie Leayshia



Engagement and Wellbeing Leader

How is it Term 4 already? We have so much going on this term. Most excitingly for the students are all the events. Every year, the school goes to Water World in Ridgehaven for 'Picnic Week' or Splash. This year it will be held on the final day of term, Friday 13th December. As always, students need to earn 80 CORKA points to participate. If they don't make the 80 points an activity on site will be organised to celebrate the end of year. Students can earn CORKA points by being cooperative, organised, respectful, kind and accepting. Following adult instructions, strong attendance, trying their best and wearing uniform can also get students points.



To engage our learners at Karna Plains School we apply many Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) opportunities. CORKA rewards, positive play and school excursions are all examples of PBL experiences.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a framework that schools use to get everyone – students, staff, families and the school community – on the same page to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

PBL is an international evidence-based whole school process which can be implemented in any school setting to support students from pre-school through to Year 12.

What are the benefits of PBL?

When PBL is implemented well, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction. Students and staff benefit from:

- increased time focused on instruction
- improved social-emotional wellbeing
- positive and respectful relationships among students and staff
- reduced inappropriate behaviour
- better support for teachers to teach, model and

respond effectively to student needs

- a predictable learning environment where staff and students know what is expected.

PBL establishes a continuum of support that helps students with diverse academic and social needs. The continuum is aligned with Trauma and Neuroscience Informed Education practices. All students receive supports that are for everyone, some students need additional support with specifically designed strategies and a few students need intensive wrap-around support to help them to engage at school.

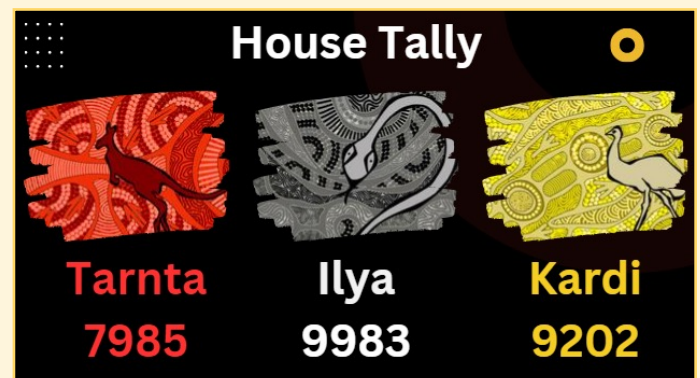
What is the evidence base for PBL?

PBL has a longitudinal research base in achieving positive outcomes for students and school (and system) improvement. Specific outcomes are:

- enhanced school climate
- increased student engagement in learning with improved learning outcomes
- lower rates of minor and major inappropriate behaviours
- increased attendance rates
- greater connection with key stakeholders (students, staff and community).

We always consider how we can create more PBL opportunities – it's an ongoing discussion and process. We love seeing KPS students reap the rewards of working hard, trying their best and being kind.

Here is our House Point CORKA update:



Uncle Tom

Rock and Water Update - Aunty Kelsey

Congratulations to the girls from Aunty Tina's who celebrated completing the Rock & Water program last term. We finished our last lesson off by making bracelets together and picking beads for each other that reminded us of a quality for each person. We also shared a cake to celebrate all we accomplished! The girls should all be very proud of themselves



The start of Term 4 has seen the boys from Aunty Tina's begin the program, hoping to fit as much as we can into a very busy and shorter term!

Aunty Kelsey



Senior Class

This school year our senior class embarked on a journey towards completing the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). SACE is an internationally-recognised secondary school qualification designed to prepare students with the skills, knowledge, and personal capabilities to successfully participate in life after school.

Last week, four of our senior class completed one of the compulsory subjects required for successful completion of the two-year SACE program. The Research Project is an onerous undertaking that requires students to use their creativity and initiative in choosing an engaging question to research. Successful completion of the Research Project requires the students to produce numerous essays. In total, the entire project will see each student produce approximately 6000 words. Next year the Research Project is being replaced by a new subject, Activating Identifies and Future, which next year's senior cohort will be required to complete.

Well done and congratulations to Camron, Harlequinn, Makayla and Shaun for completing the Research Project this year!



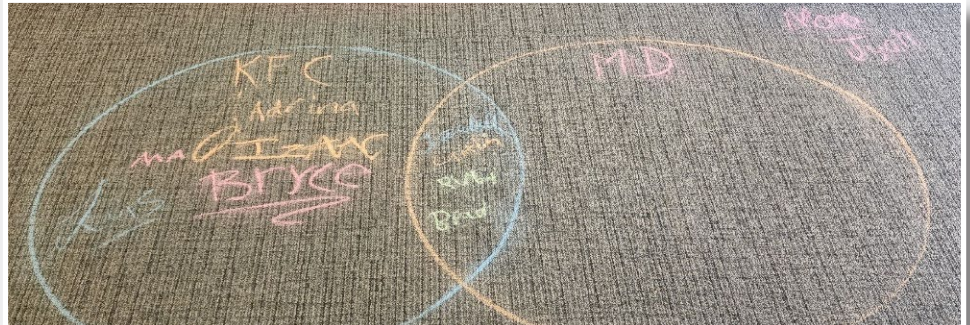
Aunty Jyoti

Nina Marni

This has been an exciting term so far time the STEM room. In Week 2 we had a special guest Christian Maskey who is the founder and director of the Space Bridge company. Christian presented a session on different dimensions to a mixed cohort of students. Students loved Christian's session, mainly the Sim game and discussion about how the fourth dimension interacts with other dimensions.

In Maths, we are learning about chance and probability. We are learning about Venn diagrams, two way tables which will lead to stem leaf plots.

In Science this term, we are focusing on chemistry. Year 8s are working on matter and Year 10s are studying atoms. We have looked at shapes, volume and compressibility of different matters and compared them. We also explored the concept of solute solvent and solutions which lead to us making home made lemonade. Students loved their lemonade.



Aunty Jyoti
8-12 STEM Teacher

Uncle Michael C

WOODEN RACE CAR

Together, Liam and I prepared materials, hypothesised and tested wooden car and track ideas. In the end, we came up with a wooden car that could turn corners by itself. We achieved this by using two pieces of dowel under the car, guiding the car down the track along a slot.
- Uncle Michael C



Aunty Jess

As the year begins to wrap up for our senior students they have begun dotting their 'i's and crossing their 't's. Our senior students are completing their Stage 1 English work by analysing two different songs about the Vietnam War. Students have then expanded on their understanding of theme and context by choosing one song to write their own narrative about. Some of our seniors are to be congratulated on an early finish, successfully wrapping up their English for the year.

In our other secondary classes students are completing their novel studies and improving their writing skills. Please keep an eye out for consent forms coming home for students to watch the film versions of their novels in class. Through reading novels this semester the students have learnt about worlds that are not their own. This has sparked brilliant conversations amongst students as they discuss different ways of living and try to see themselves in the characters' positions. It's been wonderful to hear some of our brave students read out-loud to their peers during our reading sessions and hear how their reading has improved.



Aunty Jess

Aunty Erin

Ni Marni,

Wow! How are we in Term 4 already? Some might say that Term 4 is the biggest one of the year for our senior students as the mad rush begins to finish off subject work in time for final submissions to the SACE board. You might notice that your senior is feeling a little more 'under the pump' than usual as they work with their teachers to finalise assessments for the year. All work needs to be finalised and submitted to teachers in Week 6 ready to be submitted to the SACE board.

A few things will be really important over the next few weeks to make sure every student is successful:

- Regular attendance will ensure that students get as much face-to-face support from their teachers as possible.
- Communicating with teachers about what still needs to be completed and when this needs to be done by.
- Asking for and accepting help from class teachers and SSOs.
- Being on task in learning time and using class time productively.

To all our senior students, we wish you the best of luck over the coming weeks and are here to support you.

In VET news, our Careers Hub VET courses are in full swing. Over Weeks 3 and 4 we have over 30 students from schools across the Northern suburbs coming together to participate in a Hair and Barbery course as well as a Barista and Food Safety course. These courses have already proven to support disengaged young people to increase their attendance and learn valuable and transferable skills in a culturally safe environment, and we are already planning for 2025 courses. We also have plans in the works for an official opening of our Careers Hub, including renaming the Trade Training Centre in Kurna... watch this space.

Two of our senior students are also at Warriappendi School this week, completing a VET unit with a Hospitality flavour which will award them 20 SACE credits. They are working with a chef who has worked in Michelin star restaurants all over the world and have been creating (and eating) exciting dishes while they learn about food preparation and handling. Our partnership with Warriappendi is so valuable as it creates wonderful opportunities for our students to complete small VET units, earn SACE credits, learn life-long skills, and have exposure to different careers and opportunities. We're proud of these students for stepping out of their comfort zone and taking risks with their learning.

We have two senior students who have now completed the enrolment process for Cert II VET courses next year which they will complete along side their SACE. Congratulations to these students. We know you will do great things!



Ngaityalya,

Aunty Erin

SACE / VET / CDP Leader

Ashton Bennett-Penrose

Ashton is a Year 10 student at Kurna Plains School. In 2023 he applied for the Tjindu AFL Academy for 2024 and was successful in obtaining a placement for 2024. Due to his outstanding performance in the program this year, he has been invited to participate in the academy again next year in 2025.

For many Aboriginal language groups across South Australia, Tjindu (pronounced Jin-Doo) is the word for the sun, or sunshine.

Tjindu encapsulates the intent of our foundation to help Aboriginal children and young people grow, develop and shine brightly as our future leaders.



Auntie Sharna



Youth Opportunities Elevate Program 2024

The Year 9 and 10 students are participating in the Youth Opportunities Elevate Program which is held off site. The program is run one day per week which is delivered by two trainers.

Students are engaged in one on one learning, groups activities and games.



Youth Opportunities mission is to create opportunities for young people to become personal leaders and to develop lifelong skills, habits and confidence to thrive.

Auntie Sharna





YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES



The Personal Leadership Programs students are participating in through Youth Opportunities

Youth Opportunities have evidence-based Personal Leadership Programs that have made a significant impact on 16,000 young people over the last 26 years. Students from Kurna Plains School have been participating in the programs in 2023 and 2024.

Program Outcomes

The Personal Leadership Programs demonstrate regular outcomes such as:

- ✓ Reducing truancy & increased engagement in learning, goal-setting and future aspirations
- ✓ Enhanced communication and relationship-building skills
- ✓ Improved academic outcomes and psychological health

The Program

Young people apply to the program because they want to learn skills and strategies that can equip them with positive communication skills, confidence, motivation, improved relationships, and goal planning.

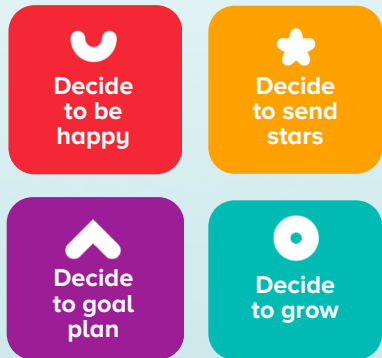
Underpinned by a range of psychological theories, our evidence-based tools make a real difference to students' well-being.

To start the program, young people are asked to:



personal success and happiness how to take leadership in life to use the four big decisions

Young people work through 40 tools categorised under these four big decisions:





Community 360 resources for parents, caregivers, and educators to help young people thrive.



Read this short the summary here:
<https://youthopportunities.com.au/what-is-personal-leadership-2/>

Register for our webinars below

Creating a Star-Filled Environment



When: Wednesday 6th November 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Develop your understanding of Youth Opportunities concepts and tools related to positive communication and relationship building. Discover strategies to reframe your own perceptions and create a positive (star-filled) home environment.



To register, scan the QR or go to: <https://bit.ly/3XiLt6u>

The Teenage Brain



When: Wednesday 20th November 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Are you baffled by things your teenager does? Understand the neuroscience behind some of their decisions. We discuss how to use the tools taught in the Personal Leadership Program to better understand your young person and build on the positive aspects of your relationship.



To register, scan the QR or go to: <https://bit.ly/4dH2HA6>



Community 360 - caregiver and educator support
Community 360 is your dedicated wraparound service designed for parents, caregivers and school staff. We provide valuable resources, opportunities to interact with other parents/caregivers, and share program tools to further your learning and awareness. As a support person in your young person's life, you can help them gain the most out of the program by learning alongside them.

Community Notices

supported by



**BAGSTER RD
COMMUNITY CENTRE**



NGANGKITA YARLITA WAKWAKU
NUNGA PLAYGROUP

TUESDAY | 10am to 12pm

During School Term
Bagster rd Community Centre 08 84871830





Spend time yarning with other mums/ dads and connect with your bub

Transport available

Cultural Mentor
Thurza Buckskin
ph: 0408 462 303
Thurza.Buckskin284@schools.sa.edu.au

Cultural Mentor
Jasmin Wilson
ph: 0456484051
Jasmin.wilson140@schools.sa.edu.au

Community Liaison Officer
Leonie Fuchs
ph: 0439785583
Leonie.fuchs298@schools.sa.edu.au

4th December Christmas Celebration Fremont Park 11-1pm

An Australian Government Initiative

supported by




NUNGA PLAYGROUP
Ngangkita Yarlita
Mother Father
Wakwaku
Child

When: Wednesday 10am to 12pm
During School Term
Who: Families with children 0 - 3yrs
Where: Ingle Farm Children's Centre 08 8260 3511



Come for a Yarn Meet and Play with your bubs

Culturally safe space



Helping your child get ready for kindy

Heathy Eating Ideas

Transport available contact

Cultural Mentor
Thurza Buckskin
ph: 0408 462 303
Thurza.Buckskin284@schools.sa.edu.au

Cultural Mentor
Jasmin Wilson
ph: 0456 484 051
Jasmin.wilson140@schools.sa.edu.au

4th December Christmas Celebration Fremont Park 11-1pm

An Australian Government Initiative



5 WEEK Bush Use Garden and Cooking program

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander WOMEN at Kurna Plains Children's Centre

Starts Wednesday 30 October 10-12pm

Wk 1 - 30 Oct
Learn about the Kurna Seasons Chart


Wk 2 - 6 Nov
Learn about Aboriginal native plant uses

Wk 3 - 13 Nov
Learn about Diabetes

Wk 4 - 20 Nov
Learn about Food labels and their health rating education

Wk 5 - 27 Nov
Learn about cooking with native ingredients

Contact
Misty Taylor at mistyt499@gmail.com or
Leonie Fuchs at leonie.fuchs298@schools.sa.edu.au
8406 8488

Ngangkita/Yarlita and Wakwaku
FOR MUMS/DADS AND BUBS 0-3 YEARS

Spend some time yarning with other Mums/Dads and connecting with your bub.

10am - 11.45am
Thursday mornings at Kurna Plains Children's Centre
Free to attend, transport available

Facilitated by:
Thurza Buckskin (Learning Together Communities)
Jo Lee (Cultural Mentor, Connected Beginnings)
Tina Sordillo (Occupational Therapist, Department for Education)
Di Nelson (Speech Pathologist, Department for Education)
Contact Kurna Plains Children's centre on 8209 3840



Government of South Australia
Department of Education

Community Notices

YARNING CIRCLE

Connecting those looking after our children 0-5 years

Come along, build your connection, practice self-care, enjoy guest speakers and share your experiences, while enjoying a cuppa a feed and pampering

KAURNA PLAINS CHILDREN CENTRE

Fridays
25th October
22nd November

69 Ridley Road,
Elizabeth South
8209 3840
12:30-2:00pm



An Australian Government Initiative



Supporting Aboriginal Families With Children 0-5 Years To Be Connected, Healthy, Strong and Ready For School



Connected Beginnings aims to support our families to know and connect with early childhood and health services that are available in Playford and Salisbury regions. Making sure our little ones are confident, healthy and ready for school.



WHO CAN WE SUPPORT?

Aboriginal Families with children 0-5 year living within the Playford and Salisbury area.

OUR ROLE:

Engaging families through community events, activities, cultural celebrations, and training opportunities.

Working from a collective impact framework with early childhood and health services sharing information with families about what is available in the community.

CULTURAL MENTORS:

We are here to help with the practical side of things walking alongside families connecting to playgroups, childcare, Kindy, school and health services.

LEADERSHIP GROUP:

The project is driven by a passionate group of Aboriginal community members.

CONTACT US

Kaurna Plains Children's Centre,
69 Ridley Road, Elizabeth South

Phone: 8209 3840

Visit our Facebook page:

