



Kaurna Plains School R-12

Strength Through Learning • Taingiwilta Tirkanthi-arra

NEWSLETTER #1 Term 1, Week 4 2025



Diary Dates

Friday 21st February

Pupil Free Day

Monday 10 March

Public Holiday

Wednesday 12 – Monday 24 March

NAPLAN testing window

Friday 28 March

Pupil Free Day

Monday 31 March – Thursday 3 April

One Plan Parent Meetings

Monday 7 – Friday 11 April

Kids on Country Camp

Thursday 10 April

Community Breakfast Assembly and AGM

Friday 11 April

Last day of Term 1



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Facebook

f Kaurna Plains School

Niina Marni

What a great start to the term.

Welcome to all the new students and families who have started with us this year. We also welcome some new staff to Kaurna Plains. In Secondary, we welcome Aunty Joleen our ASETO working alongside Uncle Kieran. In Teaching staff, we welcome Uncle Sean, Aunty Stacey, Uncle Nicholas and Uncle Ross. These teachers will be covering the subjects of English, Tailored Learning, Maths, CPC, Activate and Hospitality. Our Senior Secondary students and staff will also be working in partnership with Playford International College's Aboriginal Education Team for SAASTA and Aboriginal Studies. This will support the students to completed their SACE. Uncle Nick will now also teach PE with Secondary this year. Aunty Sharna and Aunty Jyoti will continue teaching STEM, HASS and Art. Aunty Erin also continues in her role as our Career Pathways Leader.

In Primary, we welcome Aunty Sheryn who is our Special Options Class Teacher. She is working alongside Jazmin, a co-educator. Aunty Bahera and Aunty Zena also join us in the Primary team. We also welcome Aunty Ruhi who will be stepping into Intervention for Aunty Lauren who is on maternity leave. We wish Aunty Lauren all the best and we will share the news when her beautiful baby arrives. Uncle Michael G is our Primary ACEO, Aunty Kellie and Aunty Natasha continue to be our Junior Primary teachers, while Aunty Leanne has a new role as a Numeracy Specialist. Aunty Tina, Aunty Fotina and Aunty Candace continue to be our Primary teachers. Uncle Michael C is with us again, working across Primary and Secondary in his continued role.

The Lattes for Learning evening was a great success again. Many families wanted to chat which was fantastic. Remember, we don't need to wait for events like this - I am happy to chat with families anytime. Come visit, book a time or catch me on duty Tuesday mornings out the front. We also have an AGM coming up and if parents would like to sit on our Governing Council please watch this space as we will be voting in new representatives.

This term we have 2 pupil free days. These days are to support staff with additional training in areas we believe are important to our site.

(continued over)

83 Ridley Rd, Elizabeth SA 5112 Ph: 8252 4419

Email: dl.1792.info@schools.sa.edu.au

www.kaurnaas.sa.edu.au **f** Kaurna Plains School

Cooperation Organisation Respect Kindness Acceptance



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Principal's Message (continued)

This **Friday 21 February** we will continue our work on behaviour education, speech and language and consistent predictable routines. On the following pupil free day on **Friday 28 March**, we will be working with Uncle Antony, Aunty Alison and Uncle Gary on Aboriginal Perspectives in our curriculum. Later in the year, our final two pupil free days will see a focus on closing the gap for our students in Literacy and then again working with Aunty Alison on our Cultural Framework ensuring Language, Culture and Wellbeing are at the forefront.



Aunty Ange, Principal

Deputy Principal's Update

Welcome back to 2025! We have so many exciting things planned for the year and can't wait for students and families to see.

Attendance

As always, attendance is one the most important things to ensure students are engaged and learning at school. Teachers have so many exciting and cultural learning experiences planned and we look forward to sharing them with you.

Current R – 12 Attendance Rate 66%

Current Primary Attendance Rate 70%

Current Secondary Attendance Rate 62%

Keep up the great work – our aim is to increase our overall attendance rate to over 73%.

Congratulations to the below students who have made a strong and positive start to the year with 90% and over attendance! Please see Aunty Natalea for a prize from the CORKA cabinet.

Rahiem C	Indya R	Jamie S
Jumani C	Keah M	Jordan B
Khai M	Nikky G	Aaron N
Harry N	Ben H	Malee Y
Dallas R	Jordan K	Harlequinn B
Mia C	Desmond S-E	Lexi K-H
Brock R	Shayana VDS	Camron B
Rosie M	Liam R	Kairo C
Khayde R	Nullah P	Ryder M
Mady K-H	Deshaun R	Malcolm M
Jai R	Loki R	Mayleah R
Yindii P	Ariyana H	Darius D
Conner B	Kaleaha G	Alison C
Darcy B	Harper R	Anthony B
Melinda-May L	Imogen R	

Uniform

We are delighted that students are consistently representing Kurna Plains Pride by wearing their school tops. It is great to see such high engagement from all students. Our next focus is shorts/pants and shoes.

What are appropriate bottoms?

School shorts/skirts/pants are to be in school colours. This does not include denim or any type of ripped

bottom. Skirts and shorts should be sunsafe and appropriate length. Students R – 12 will be reminded and supported to wear the appropriate bottoms. As a site we will focus on improving the uniform, particularly bottoms with Student Voice.

What are safe shoes?

Enclosed and supportive shoes that allow students to run on the playground, jump on the ninja playground, build in the wetlands, shoot hoops, cook in the kitchen – overall they are safe!

We will take all clarifications to the Uniform Policy to Student Voice this term and then to Governing Council to ratify.

Planning and Site Works Update

Kurna Plains School is GROWING!



Admin Upgrade

We have plans ready and cannot wait to see our admin building BIGGER. Our hope is to create a larger, more welcoming space with room for families, students and visitors. We are also excited about more meeting rooms to meet with you all and for outside therapists to work with students. This does have an impact on the functionality of the admin space in Term 2. Watch this space.

Additional Classrooms

Shortly our Modular build will start. We have 4 classes with lockers, open deck space, toilets, offices and break out spaces. This will be placed along the fence line behind the Library building. From Term 3, we should be able to reclaim those learning spaces back and have a library and intervention spaces again.

Planning Study

As a whole Birth – Year 12 site, we are advocating for more purpose built spaces to benefits our Aboriginal students to improve outcomes. There is a consultation process and we want your voice. We will be conducting surveys in person, online and across the site and can't wait to hear what you want to see at Kurna Plain School.



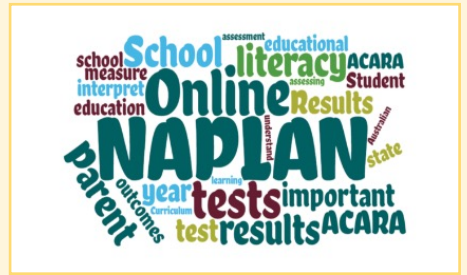
**Aunty Natalea
Deputy Principal**

Aunty Leayshia

As your children journey through their school years, it's important to check their development in key areas such as reading, writing, and maths.

NAPLAN, the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, offers a snapshot of your child's progress in these fundamental areas compared to national standards. It provides valuable insights for both you and their teachers to gauge your child's growth.

This year, students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 will be taking the online NAPLAN tests from March 12th to 24th (Week 7 and 8 of this term). If you have any questions or concerns about your child's participation, please feel free to reach out to Leayshia at 8252 4419.



Literacy Intervention at Kurna Plains School

Our amazing co-educators have started literacy interventions this week, supporting students from Reception to Year 9. These programs focus on phonological awareness, phonics, speech, language, and reading to help students build strong literacy skills.

Thanks to the Closing the Gap initiative, we're working with the MultiLit company to run targeted programs like MiniLit Sage, MacqLit. We are also incredibly lucky to have our speech pathologist, Claire French, work closely with us to create tailored support for students.

As we said goodbye to our wonderful Lauren Dutschke, who has left to have a baby, we are excited to welcome Ruhi Aiden to our intervention team! Ruhi brings strong literacy intervention skills and experience and is currently completing a Speech Pathology (Honours) degree at the University of South Australia. We're very excited to have her on board.

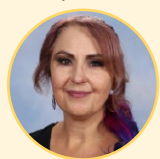
If you have any questions or want to learn more about how we're supporting your child, please contact Leayshia on **8252 4419**.



Lattes and Learning – A Fantastic Start to 2025!

A huge thank you to all the families who joined us for our first assembly of the year and our Lattes and Learning Open Night. It was great to see so many of you exploring our classrooms, yarning with teachers, and getting a glimpse into the learning happening at Kurna Plains School.

Also if you participated in the scavenger hunt and submitted your form, keep an eye on our Facebook page, where we'll be announcing the lucky winners soon!



Aunty Leayshia



Engagement and Wellbeing Leader

Welcome to 2025! We have had a very busy start to the year, as expected, as learning never stops. As learning is our core business, and our school is rapidly growing - the staff and students initiated a document to display our expectations, values and consistent approaches so that all stakeholders are well informed.

The document was published after hearing the voices of our students, staff, leaders, families and wider community. Please read through the KPS Expectations and Consistency document. It's like a 'cheat sheet' if you will, that will put the focus on maximising learning and experiences for our students.



As always, please ask if you have any questions or need any further clarification. This document supports our Engagement process and will be later complimented with visuals for our younger learners and clear signage around the school.

Uncle Tom



Kaurana Plains School R-12

Strength Through Learning • Taingiwilta Tirkanthi-arra

Expectations and Consistency at KPS

Before School:

- Green benches and classrooms are the designated spots before school - please stay off the playground area.
- Once you arrive at school, stay on the premises until it's time to leave.

During School:

Learning Time:

- We have Circle Time to begin and end each day.
- When we need attention, we'll use the "Waterfalls" signal to help everyone focus.
- When someone is speaking, please "Track the Speaker" so we can listen respectfully.
- Healthy snacks are best to keep our energy up!
- We stay in class until 3pm, ready to learn.
- One person at a time for toilet and drink breaks.
- Lanyards must be worn by all students outside the classroom when not supervised.

Classroom Time:

- Students are expected to be in their own class and following the teacher's instructions.
- If you need to visit the office, teachers will help by calling ahead.

Break Times:

- Primary students wear hats in Term 1 and 4.
- R-6 students: Play in the Quadrangle or enjoy Basketball.
- 7-12 students: Basketball in the gym.
- R-4 students: Play on the playground.
- 5-12 students: Ninja playground is open.
- Please don't kick balls in the Quadrangle—let's keep it safe!
- The Secondary kitchen is open from 12:50-1:10 (students, please check in with the Ab Ed team after this).
- The Courtyard is a quiet place, free from running and eating.

Lining Up:

- Be ready to line up before the bell rings so we can transition smoothly to class.

Eating Time:

- We have 10 minutes after the bell for quiet time in class. Let's enjoy this moment of calm together.
- We love to see you hydrate with water. We can't have caffeine, energy or soft drinks – they don't help us learn!

General Expectations:

- Co-operation** We cooperate with laws - phones and devices stay off and in the office during school time.
- Organisation** Uniform is organised to match our school colours, and clothes should be sun safe and appropriate.
- Respect** Respectful language is key - let's keep swearing out of our conversations.
- Kindness** Hands off means we kindly respect personal space.
- Acceptance** We are accepting of everyone – racism, homophobia, ableist, sexual harassment has no place here.

Aunty Kelsey

What a great start it has been to 2025! For those that are new to KPS I am Aunty Kelsey and I support students across the school with interoception and engagement needs.

As we've welcomed Aunty Sheryn and our delightful little frogs, the interoception room has moved over to our wellbeing space. You can find me over in the Wellbeing Hub with Uncle Tom this year for all your regulation needs!

The pictured diagram helps describe interoception and how we use it to regulate at school to be ready to learn.



Aunty Kelsey

5 Stages of Interoceptive Awareness



AbEd Team

Michael Gollan will continue working as our ACEO for the Primary classes in 2025. Michael has been a dedicated member of our team, and we are so grateful for the support and guidance he provides to our younger students and their families.

Kieran Walker will be working as our ASETO working with our high school. Kieran has experience in supporting high school education, and we're confident he will make a positive impact as he helps guide and support our older students throughout the year.

We're excited to welcome Joleen Dudley to our ASETO team on Thursdays, who will be working alongside ASETO Kieran to support our students and families. Joleen comes with a wealth of experience in educational support, and we're sure she'll be a great asset to our community.

Dental Notes for Schools - Reminder

A quick reminder for all families to return the dental notes to Michael before Week 6. If you haven't received a form or need a replacement, please feel free to see Michael or visit the office for a new form.

Immunisation Notes for High School Students

Immunisation notes for high school students have already been distributed. Please ensure that you return the signed forms as soon as possible to help us maintain up-to-date records.

Witchelina Camp for Years 9-12

Exciting news for our Year 9-12 students – the Witchelina Camp is coming up in Week 11! This camp is a fantastic opportunity for our students to connect with nature, build team spirit, and take part in a range of outdoor activities. More information will be provided closer to the date.

Looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and thank you for your ongoing support! Pop in anytime if you want to have a yarn with the AbEd team.

AbEd Team

Aunty Kellie

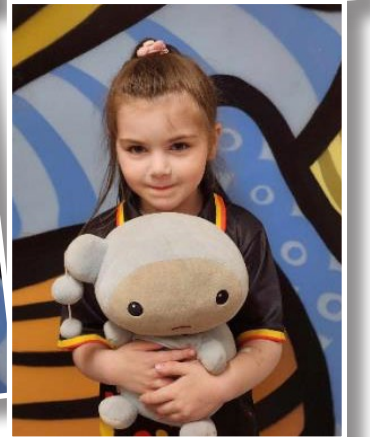
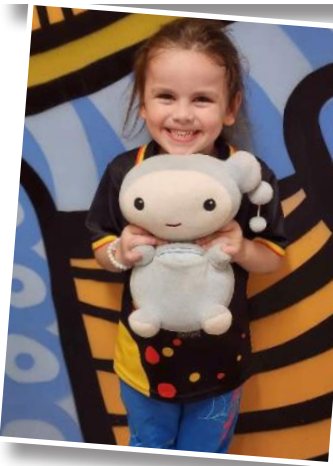
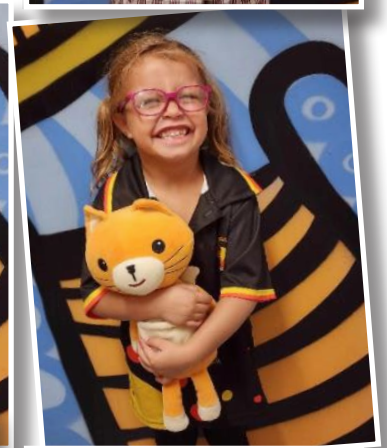
Aunty Kellie's Bilby Receptions

"My favourite Kimochi"

Kimochis are soft toys that give children the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need to recognise and manage their emotions, demonstrate care and concern for others, establish positive relationships, make responsible decisions, and handle challenging situations constructively.



Aunty Kellie



Kimochis
Fun toys with feelings inside

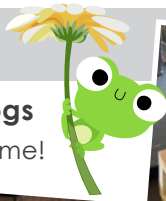
HAPPY	SAD	MAD	BRAVE	EMBARRASSED	FRIENDLY	SORRY
DISAPPOINTED	FRUSTRATED	SILLY	HOPEFUL	LEFT OUT	EXCITED	JEALOUS
CURIOUS	GRUMPY	SENSITIVE	PROUD	INSECURE	GRATEFUL	LOVED
GUILTY	UNCOMFORTABLE	SHY	HURT	SURPRISED	SCARED	KIND

©2013 Puffy Paws Corp. www.kimochis.com

Aunty Sheryn

Welcome Aunty Sheryn's Frogs

This is my new school and this is me!



Aunty Sheryn



Aunty Natasha

Wombats Reception/Year 1 Class

Welcome to 2025 in the Wombats room! We have gotten straight into the learning focusing on our numbers 1-20, using the story *Rosie's Walk* to help with our reading and writing and developing our Literacy skills through Initialit. We are excited to be starting the Kitchen/Garden Program soon with Uncle Phil. We have also been learning about what the CORKA values mean and how we can show them in class and the yard. We have been tracking our

CORKA points as a class and the students are very excited to share their points and earn points for their house team. It has been great to see such good attendance in the Wombats Class – keep it up!



Aunty Natasha



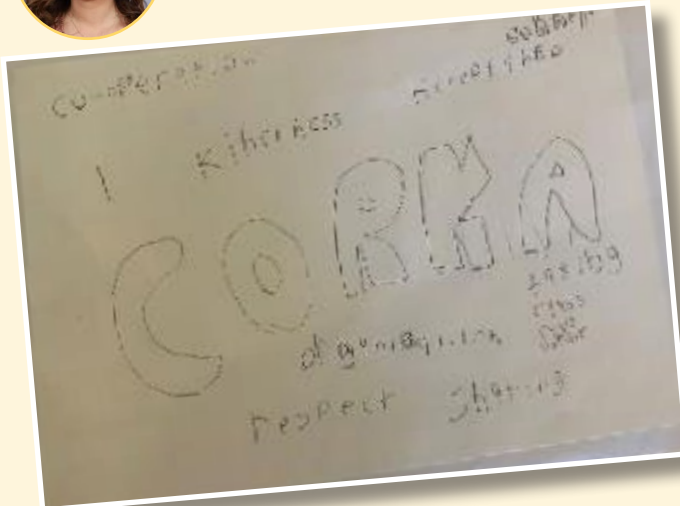
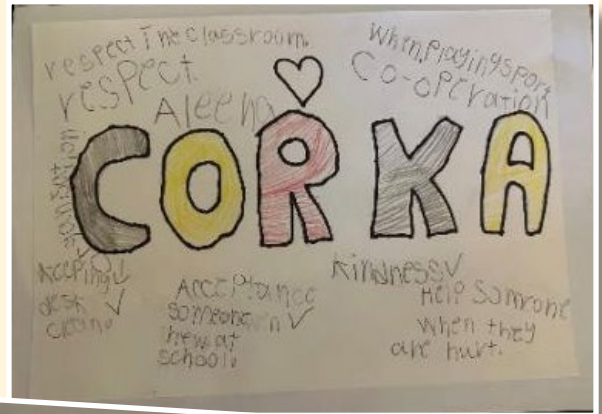
Aunty Fotina

What a great start to the term we have had in our Platypus classroom. We have shared lots of experiences in the first few weeks of the year. We have spent some time getting to know each other, the classroom and the spaces around the school. We have had a large focus on our CORKA values to start off our year and discussed what this looks like at school. If you have any questions, feel free to come into class in the morning or catch me

after school.



Ngaityalya
Aunty Fotina



Aunty Candace and Aunty Bahera

To begin our STEM unit about Space our class visited the Australian Space Discovery Centre, in Adelaide. We arrived a little early so went to the Botanical Gardens to have our recess and a run around. Then we were welcomed into the Discovery Centre by a real rocket scientist!! She gave a talk about the importance of rocket design before we were challenged with a mission to create our own rocket out of paper, that we then needed to test and redesign to achieve three important goals - take off, fly straight, and travel as far as possible. Check out the photos below of all our great designs!

After creating and testing our rockets we had a chance to explore the centre and all the interactive displays. Kayden and John used a rover on Mars to collect samples! Keah had her photo with a REAL astronaut suit and we got to see a geo sensor and hear what Earth sounds like!! This was a fantastic experience for all of us and a place we hope to visit again soon!!



We even came home with our very own class mascot – Purra the Kanganaut!

Aunty Candace and Aunty Bahera



Aunty Tina

We have had a really busy and happy start to our school year together.

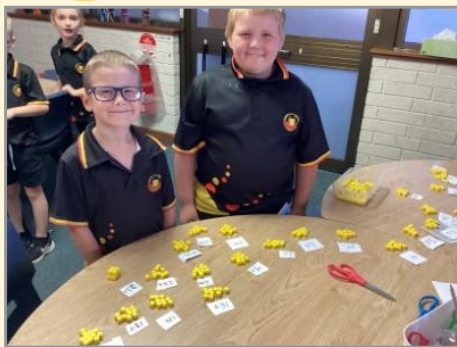
We've been remembering the many ways we can show we are CORKA kids to each other and to the adults in our school.

We've also had fun experimenting and finding all sorts of different ways to count big amounts in different ways.

We have started thinking about the history of our school and of Kaurua Country - traditional tools and ways that the ancestors and elders used to care for country and for each other. We are looking forward to finding out more from the elders of our community.

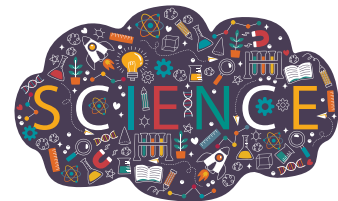


Aunty Tina



Science

Lots of Science fun has been going on around school over the last few weeks! Starting off with some collaboration through creating spaghetti bridges and getting our imaginative skills running. In Reception, we have looked at our five senses and the parts of our body that help us to use them, conducting experiments with marshmallows and listening to Australian animal sounds. Year R/1 have looked at what we need to stay alive and compared things we want with what we need, as well as what we might need to take on a camping trip to help us. Year 2/3 have enjoyed experimenting with materials, observing reversible and irreversible changes and making observational drawings. Year 3/4 have started a topic on heat energy by conducting an experiment with water, drawing links to Goldilocks to make the water temperature 'just right'. Year 5/6 have also enjoyed linking their Science learning to the 'Makers Empire - Kids in Space' Program that we have started in Design and Technology.



Aunty Bahera



Health and PE with Uncle Nick

This term, students have been exploring healthy eating and teamwork through engaging lessons in Health and Physical Education. In Health, they have learnt the benefits of nutritious food choices, from building a balanced lunchbox to understanding food labels and the impact of diet on overall well-being. Meanwhile, in PE, students have developed teamwork and communication skills through cooperative games like Capture the Flag and relays, fostering resilience and sportsmanship. By combining these lessons, our students are building lifelong habits that support their physical and social well-being. Families can reinforce these lessons by encouraging healthy meals and playing teamwork games together.



Uncle Nick



Community Notices





term 1 | wednesdays 5:30-7:30pm
register at linktr.ee/northernsoundsystem





LOW STAKES
event management · marketing · technical production

5-Week Live Events Program
Tuesdays 6pm-8pm
4th March - 1st April
Ages 16-21

73 Elizabeth Way, Elizabeth
Register at linktr.ee/northernsoundsystem





STUDIOLAB

mondays 4pm-7pm
free 1-hour studio sessions
learn to record and produce

more info at
northernsoundsystem.com.au




THERAPEUTIC YOUTH MENTORING

WHAT IS IT?

Our skilled Aboriginal Youth Mentors work 1:1 or in small groups with young people to support them towards their goals.

Our mentoring program includes:

- Culturally safe spaces
- Traditional healing practices
- A focus on goals and personal growth
- Support with emotions, resilience and wellbeing
- Positive Aboriginal role models

HOW DOES IT LOOK?

Yara Family Connections Youth Mentors will work with your young person to find out what they like, we don't sit in clinical rooms - we are out in nature, on a basketball court or engaging in a fun, youth friendly ways to build connection and safety.

Sessions are often delivered weekly for an hour, however when engaging in on-country activities sessions can run for 3 hours or more.

We provide services in schools, at our site in Smithfield Plains or on-country.

The program can be accessed by:
Free Yara Yarning's Program | NDIS | Brokerage | Direct funding via Schools | Self-funded

Address: Located in the John McVeity Centre, 182 Peachey Rd, Smithfield Plains

Phone: 0403 630 123

Email: info@yarafamilyconnections.com

Website: yarafamilyconnections.com



Community Notices





**STRONG Kids,
STRONG Future**

The Playford/Salisbury Connected Beginnings Team are excited to be able to offer ASQ-Track screenings for children 0-5 years in the Playford and Salisbury area.


The ASQ-TRAK is a developmental screening tool for observing and monitoring the developmental progress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. In 2023, the ASQ-TRAK2 was developed and now includes all 21 age intervals between two months and 5 1/2 years

The ASQ-TRAK is an easy-to-use, family centred tool which highlights a child's strengths as well as catching delays early. It is designed to be administered by interview, making caregivers co-observers in the process while supporting and teaching them about child development and their own child's skills

Contact our team on 8209 3840 if you would like to book a screening for your child with one of our Connected Beginnings Cultural Mentors

An Australian Government Initiative




Ngangkita/Yarlita and Wakwaku

FOR MUMS/DADS AND BUBS 0-3 YEARS

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

10am - 12pm
Thursday mornings at Kaurna Plains Children's Centre
Free to attend, transport available

Facilitated by:
Thurza Buckskin (Connected Beginnings)
Di Nelson (Speech Pathologist, Department for Education)
Contact Kaurna Plains Children's centre on 8209 3840




Bagster Road Community Centre



NGANKITA YARLITA WAKWAKU

NUNGA PLAYGROUP

TUESDAY | 10am to 12pm

During School Term
Bagster Road 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






An Australian Government Initiative



Connected Beginnings Playford/Salisbury

Visit our Facebook page:



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.



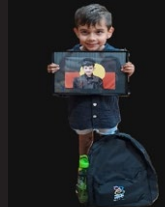
WHO CAN WE SUPPORT?

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

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

Phone: 8209 3840

Visit our Facebook page:



Community Notices

INTERESTED IN LET'S READ IN 2025?

Playford Training Details

Session 1: Tuesday 18th March 2025 – 10.00am to 2.00pm

WHERE: AnglicareSA—The Platform—73 Elizabeth Way, Elizabeth

Scan the QR Code below to REGISTER!



CONTACT:
hayley.wilmer@thesmithfamily.com.au
FOR ANY ENQUIRIES



INTERESTED IN LET'S COUNT IN 2025?

Playford Training Details

Session 1: Wednesday 9th April 2025 – 9.30am to 3.30pm

WHERE: AnglicareSA—The Platform—73 Elizabeth Way, Elizabeth

Session 2: Wednesday 14th May 2025 – 3hr Interactive Online (9.30am – 12.30pm)

Scan the QR Code below to REGISTER!



CONTACT:
hayley.wilmer@thesmithfamily.com.au
FOR ANY ENQUIRIES



tennis

FIRST NATIONS *Tennis Program*

The First Nations Tennis Program is designed to give primary school age students an opportunity to play tennis in a fun and environment.

Tennis SA will provide qualified tennis coaches that will deliver the national program, Hot Shots Tennis.

Venue Playford Tennis Centre
50 Spruance Rd, Elizabeth East

Date Wednesday 19 February

Cost FREE

Delivered for 8 weeks, limited spots available. Register now!

Contact ldoughty@tennis.com.au

REGISTER TODAY!

Playford - First Nations Tennis Program

The First Nations Tennis Program is designed to give primary school age students an opportunity to play tennis in a safe, fun environment.

Tennis SA will provide qualified tennis coaches that will deliver the national program – Hot Shots Tennis.

Venue: Playford Tennis Centre - 50 Spruance Rd, Elizabeth East

From Wednesday 19 February
Sessions: Delivered for 8 weeks

4:00pm to 4:30pm (5-8 year olds)

4:30pm to 5:15pm (9-10 year olds)

5:15pm to 6:00pm (11-17 year olds)

Cost: FREE

Contact: Luke Doughty

Email: ldoughty@tennis.com.au