



# NARACOORTE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Principal – Paul Harmer, Deputy Principal – Andrea Lawrie, Wellbeing Leader – Samantha Gale, Chairperson – Anna Thring

Term 1 ~ Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

## Coming Events

### FEBRUARY

- 5<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> – Swimming Lessons Year 1 – 6
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> – Bike Ed Year 5/6
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Information Night
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Governing Council AGM @ 7:30pm

### MARCH

- 11<sup>th</sup> – PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Adelaide Cup
- 13<sup>th</sup> – NAPLAN commences
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Harmony Day
- 28<sup>th</sup> – EARLY DISMISSAL at 2:25pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Good Friday

### APRIL

- 1<sup>st</sup> – PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Easter Monday
- 12<sup>th</sup> – END OF TERM 1 at 2:25pm



Welcome to the 2024 school year. I am privileged and excited to be given the opportunity to be Principal here at Naracoorte Primary School for the next 12 months. I wish Rob all the best for his leave and hope he is enjoying a relaxed start to the year. I thank him and the previous leadership team including Andrea, Lucy and Sam for their efforts in navigating the school through a busy but successful year. It is indeed a great place to work. Already, the staff, students and parents have been incredibly friendly and made my transition here as smooth as possible. There has been a lot of new learning for me as I work my way into the world of Naracoorte PS. I am doing my best to try and learn students and parent's names as quick as I can! Fortunately, my few years at Padthaway and round the South East has given me a starting point. Please feel free to come and say hello, introduce yourself as I am out and about in the mornings.

Naracoorte Primary School is an exciting place to be, where we are a team working together to achieve everyone's potential. My observation is that everyone has great pride in our school. This can be shown in a multiple of ways, including trying our very best in all areas of our learning, treating each other with respect, proudly wearing our uniform and taking care of our property, which includes our books, our classrooms and the yard.

The year has started smoothly with minimal disruptions in the first week. It was great to see the confidence in the new receptions starting school and settling quickly into their comfort zone and routines. It is a credit to the teachers and parents for their efforts in transition and preparing the children for school.

We are excited by the year ahead and look forward to the new challenges and opportunities that will come our way.

We welcome the following new students and their families:

**Edward Agnew, Lily Beggs, Ollie Bittner, Sophia Borg, Scout Childs, Reign Cosmos, Wade Crozier, Emily Drusko, Alby Finch, Benji Finch, Saxxon Godfrey, Max Hilton, Darcy Hurrell, Riley Hurrell, Haru Kanehara, Tilly Langeluddecke, Cleo Makoare, Axel Malone, Ellie Manser, Rylan Maywald, Connor McInnes, Keira McPhail, Danielle Mtemeri, Keanu Naylor, Axle Owen, Arthur Paech, Prue Parsons, Suravatee Phin, Liam Rivett, Steele Sayers, Hattie Schinckel, Lucy Schinckel, Brady Shuard, Olivia Stoner, Inji Temel, Lyra Terry, Ella Winslow and Lexi Wright.**

We hope you enjoy your time at Naracoorte Primary School.

## TERM 1 Canteen Roster

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**  
Pam Meynell, Meredith Burge  
**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**  
Emma Rasheed, Belinda Manser

## ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is away, it is important that you notify the school, either by a written note, Audiri e-form or phone call, explaining their absence. It is a legal requirement that we contact you if your child is away for three days in a row and we haven't heard from you.

We are delighted to welcome Catherine Flint, Emma Gill and Pip Schinckel to our staff team. Catherine will be teaching a Year 3/4 class where she has had many years' experience. Emma Gill will be working with the team in the Pond before taking the mid-year reception class. Pip Schinckel is working one day a week sharing with Mandy Fox's class.

Sam Turci also returns to a Yr 5/6 class three days per week. Other returning contract teachers are Dani Mahoney, Hayley McCarthy, Kath Mott and Fiona McInnes.

We are excited to also welcome Kristin Donnelly and Chloe Dix to our SSO student support team. Welcome back to all staff.

There are some changes in time, changes in roles and locations amongst our staff. Below is a list for 2024:

<b>Leadership Team</b>	
Paul Harmer	Principal
Andrea Lawrie	Deputy Principal
Samantha Gale	Wellbeing Leader
<b>The Pond</b>	
Hannah Grundy / Ashlea Owen	Reception
Hayley McCarthy	Reception
Emma Gill	Reception (T3/4)
<b>The Garden</b>	
Daniel Wallis	Yr 1/2
Stacey Wirper / Bron Andrews	Yr 1/2
Mandy Fox / Pip Schinckel	Yr 1/2
<b>The Hive</b>	
Catherine Flint	Yr 3/4
Caryn McConnell	Yr 3/4
Ursula Smith	Yr 3/4
<b>The Island</b>	
Liz Schroder / Kath Mott	Yr 5/6
Sam Turci / Michelle Burrows	Yr 5/6
<b>The Avenue</b>	
Daniel Hallett	Yr 5/6
Dani Mahoney	Yr 5/6
<b>Specialist Teachers</b>	
Ange Donnelly	Year R-6 PE & 3-6 RBL
Bronwyn Andrews	Years R-6 Indo/EALD
Fiona McInnes	Teacher Librarian
Natasha James	Year R-6 Science
Michelle Burrows	R-2 Performing Arts / HASS
Tracy Hahn	JP NIT / teacher release
<b>Admin Staff</b>	
Tim Durik	Finance
Sonya Bates	Administration Officer
Belinda Boston	Administration Officer
Carly Pettman	Administration Officer
Kym McRostie	Groundsman
Suman Bhatta	ICT Technician
<b>SSO Student support</b>	
Trudie Stewart	SSO
Melissa Assen	SSO
Mel Pretlove	SSO

Annabelle Peterse	SSO
Lucy Henschke	SSO
Romi Eckermann	SSO
Kristen Donnelly	SSO
Chloe Dix	SSO
Ghi Ghi Kenny	Pastoral Care Worker

### INFORMATION EVENING

Next Monday evening, February 12<sup>th</sup>, is our Information Evening so please put that date in your diary. The session will begin with the Leadership team, specialist teachers and Governing Council Chairperson giving a quick introduction and an opportunity to ask questions and find out more about the school.

A separate note with times was sent as a message on Audiri and EdSmart.

### GOVERNING COUNCIL AGM

We welcome parents and staff to attend the Governing Council AGM following the Parent Information Night on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm. The AGM will consist of brief reports, presenting of the 2023 Annual Report and election of the 2024 Governing Council. A light supper will be provided. A nomination form is attached to this newsletter.

### CLASSROOM COMMUNICATION

After reviewing the apps to communicate with parents, it was agreed that we needed to use one app only. In 2024 we have decided that Dojo was the preferred option due to ease of use. Teachers will send out instructions and links, if they haven't already, supporting your use of the app.

Our school will continue to use Audiri for important reminders, as well as Edsmart for bulk email communication for messages and departmental information.

### SWIMMING

All students from Year 1 to Year 6 are participating in this great program and we have been blessed with reasonable weather for swimming with even better weather as the week progresses! Lindy Brooksby and her band of instructors have provided this essential program and we thank them for their efforts. We are extremely fortunate to have such a wonderful facility on our doorstep. Many other schools are required to pay for pool entry and buses to be able to access this program. We cannot underestimate the importance of teaching our children how to be safe in and around water.

### PEDAL PRIX

We are hoping to continue with Pedal Prix in 2024. We will send a note home in the next week with information for interested students who want to commit to Pedal Prix for 2024. As we have limited staff support we are hoping that a parent or parents might be interested in supporting the program. If you are interested please speak to Paul or Andrea.

We are all looking forward to another exciting year of Pedal Prix racing, providing rider numbers allow. To participate this year we would need a minimum of 10 riders. We will look at having a come and try day to gauge the interest of students.

I highly recommend Pedal Prix to all students and families as it is a fun, dynamic event that provides excitement and wonderful memories for all involved. Further information will follow for those that indicate interest via the notes home.

We are in partnership with you to ensure that your child's unique needs are met. We are here to assist and positively guide their academic, physical, social and emotional development. Communication is an essential element of your child's education so if you have any concerns or questions speak firstly to your child's teacher. Myself, Andrea and Sam are also available if you would like any further follow up.

It is often preferable for you to make an appointment to ensure that the teacher or a leader is available and that there is adequate uninterrupted time for the discussion.

I look forward to the year ahead and supporting your child to reach their maximum potential.

Paul



## Meet our new Principal.....Paul Harmer

I have been asked to share a little about myself. I was born and raised in Adelaide before venturing out into the country for my first teaching placement at Hawker AS in the Flinders Ranges. From there I have continued to live and work in the country having stints in Padthaway, Penola, Glencoe and Mt Gambier North before arriving at Naracoorte. I continue to live in Penola but am committed to supporting both the school and local community.

Outside of school I enjoy anything to do with sports, either playing or watching. I have an unhealthy passion for golf and am quite involved in the Penola Golf Club and Golf South East. When not on the course, I enjoy cooking, fishing and pottering around the backyard, thinking I am a way better handyman than reality.

I would like to think I have a positive outlook on life, enjoy a good laugh and meeting and getting to know new people. One of the greatest joys you can have is when you make a difference for someone, which feeds my passion to work in education. I look forward to my time at Naracoorte PS and hopefully making a difference in the lives of our young people.

### REMINDER

Our **SCHOOL TIMES** are as follows:

9.00am	School Start
10.50am - 11.20am	Recess
1.00pm - 1.45pm	Lunch (including 10 minutes eating time in the classroom)
3.25pm	School Dismissal



**Students need to be ready to commence school at 9.00 a.m.**

Please note **students should not be on the school grounds before 8.30am as there is no supervision.**

It is important that students are at school on time. If there is a reason that your child is late or needs to leave early they must sign in or out at the front office. This is an Occupational Health and Safety requirement.



### Drink Bottle Reminder

Please remind your child to pack their named drink bottle each day. Children are unable to drink directly from the water fountains. The fountains have been modified so that only drink bottles can be filled from them. Thank you.





## LAP - Enabling your students to develop resilience and wellbeing through positive mentoring

LAP assists school to:

- ✓ **Develop positive relationships between students/mentors in a safe, one-to-one environment**
- ✓ **Build confidence and self-esteem in students**
- ✓ **Support the successful learning of students**
- ✓ **Promote, encourage and value parent/caregiver and community commitment and participation**
- ✓ **Foster and strengthen parent/caregiver and teacher relationships to benefit students**
- ✓ **Create a genuine, supportive and positive school community**

We have had a wonderful and busy start to the year at NPS with lots of excited students returning after the long holiday break! I am excited and grateful to have the opportunity to return to the role of Student Wellbeing Leader for 2024. I have enjoyed having lots of catch ups with students about their holidays and the year ahead.



*Samantha Gale ☺*

### LAP – Learning Assistance Program

This is a program that I have used previously and have seen the wonderful benefits of having volunteers work with students. I would love to hear from anyone in our community who would like to work with a student once a week for an hour (times will be negotiable to suit both the volunteer and student).

I look forward to matching lots of our students with a LAP (Learning Assistance Program) partner. Please contact the school to let me know if you are interested and we will sort out the paperwork for you.

We aim to match your skills with a student with similar interests where possible so please don't be shy as it is a very rewarding experience! This could be craft, sport, art or another skill you could share with a student. Please take a look at the website <http://lap.org.au/> for more information.

### ART COMPETITION



Please check out the annual non-themed Ibis Rising Competition, run by the Naracoorte Art Gallery.

There is a student section to enter, or perhaps you would like to enter a piece of Art. Your work must be original.

We have some great talent in our school community and this is an ideal opportunity to participate. Check out the terms and conditions online. Alternatively, you could visit the Art Gallery on Wednesday to Sunday. Have fun!

Ursula Smith

Year 3/4 Class Teacher





### LATE LUNCH ORDER ONLINE

We have set up a limited item lunch menu which can be ordered up until 10:30am on the day.

### HELP PLEASE

We would love a few more helpers on a Friday once a term please! If you can help, please let the Canteen know.

Thank you,  
*Helen*

### STICKYBEAK RE-USABLE CANTEEN BAGS/LUNCH WALLETS

We still have canteen bags available for purchase from the Front Office. **Cost is \$10 each.**

The bag is black with a pink, blue, red, green, yellow or purple trim.

Also available – Orange which is an alert for a **FOOD ALLERGY**



### **EXEMPTIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR ABSENCES OF MORE THAN 3 DAYS.**

Often we have parents/guardians approach teachers during the year regarding taking their children out of school for a period of time, examples being: family holiday or family commitments. For all of these requests there is an Exemption Form to be filled out that is available from the front office. This is **not** done through an Audiri absence e-form.

# NPS Playground Progress

The summer holidays didn't put a stop to the NPS Playground project thanks to Naracoorte Rotary Club, Troy Kelly and Kym McRostie.

The NPS old playground has been repurposed by the Naracoorte Rotary Clubs Overseas Recycled Playgrounds Program. This initiative involves collecting unwanted playgrounds and relocating it to disadvantaged overseas communities to be rebuilt. We look forward to tracking its relocation with Rotary.

### **New Playground:**

Site works for the new playground is underway with the erection of temporary fencing in Week 1.

The Adventure and installation team are on site this week (wk2) for 2-3 weeks.

This activity has already generated lots of excitement and viewing for all. We are also pleased to let you know; due to popular demand the beloved wooden hut will remain (YAY)!

Thank you to all NPS parents and students involved with fundraising, feedback, grant submissions, planning and site preparations to date.

Regards,

NPS Governing Council



# WELCOME TO SCHOOL









## COMMUNITY NEWS

### RECYCLED FASHION POP-UP

FRIDAY FEB 16TH, 4-8PM  
SATURDAY 17TH, 9-12AM



**AMAZING PRELOVED  
& NEW CLOTHING**



Mary McKillop Memorial School Hall,  
Penola

SWINGING WITH THE STARS FUNDRAISER

## GET YOUR DISCO ON

3-5 yrs (kindy) 3:30pm-4:30pm  
5-7 yrs (junior primary) 4:45pm-6:15pm  
8+ yrs 6:30pm-8:30pm

**TICKET \$13 PER CHILD**  
**DATE: 2ND MARCH**

**WHERE: MJ NARACOORTE, 36 CEDAR AVENUE**

LOLLY BAG, FRUIT BOX, GLOW STICK PROVIDED ON ENTRY

For further enquiries contact Ella  
on 0474838355 or DM via  
Facebook or Instagram

## Give life. Give blood in Naracoorte.

Naracoorte Town Hall Function Centre  
February 19 to February 22

Monday 19 February	2.30 pm – 6 pm
Tuesday 20 February	9.30 am – 6 pm
Wednesday 21 February	9.30 am – 6 pm
Thursday 22 February	7.30 am – 12 pm

give blood

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING  
WITH DIETICIAN, JULIE ROWNTREE

## THE LUNCHBOX AN OPPORTUNITY?

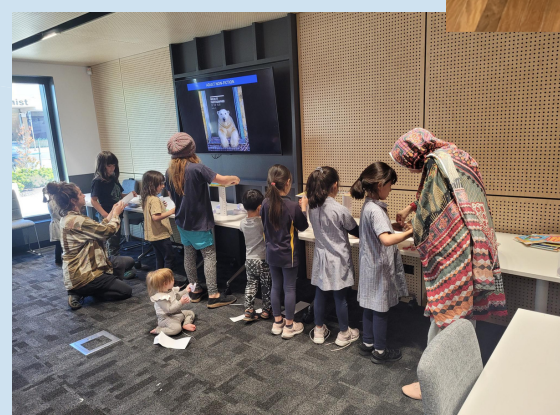
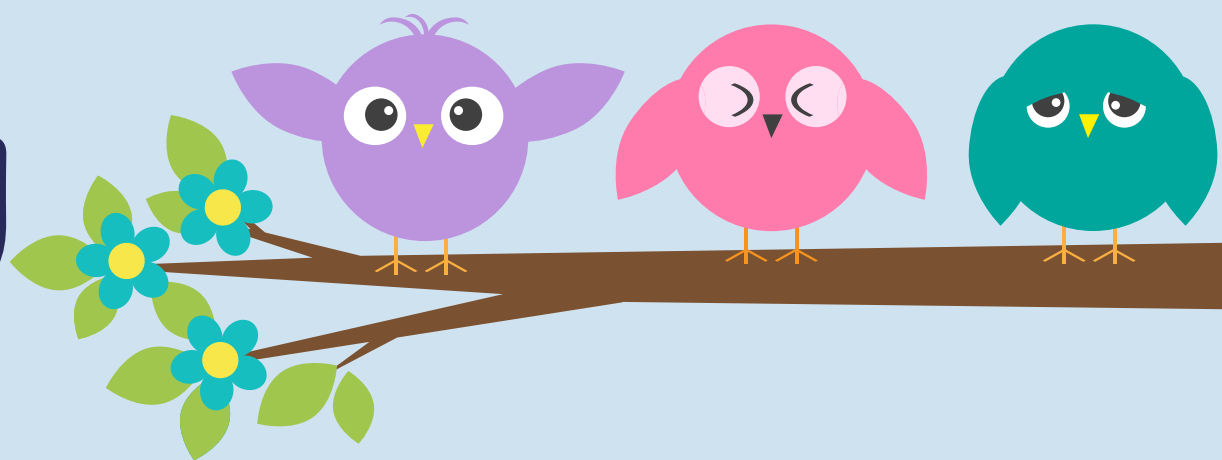
PACKING SIMPLE, HEALTHY, NUTRITIONALLY  
BALANCED LUNCHBOXES

WEDNESDAY, 13TH MARCH  
7PM  
NARACOORTE CHILD DAY CARE CENTRE

RSVP 11TH MARCH TO:  
DIRECTOR@NARACC.NET.AU  
ATTENDANCE IS FREE



# Term I 2024 Naracoorte Library Children's program



**Monday  
3.45pm**

## **JP Craft Crew**

Weekly

Come along and create and make with our Junior Primary Craft Crew. All welcome

**Tuesday  
9.30 - 10.30am**

## **Active Storytime Naracoorte Hall**

Tuesday Fortnightly

Jan 30th, Feb 13th, Feb 27th, Mar 12th, Mar 26th, April 9th.

Aimed at ages 3-5 but all welcome, carer supervision required, fruit snack provided

**Tuesday  
10 - 11am**

## **Active Storytime Lucindale Hall**

Once a month

Feb 6th, Mar 5th, April 2nd.

Aimed at ages 3-5 but all welcome, carer supervision required, fruit snack provided

**Tuesdays  
3.45pm**

## **STEM club**

Weekly

6-12 years. Get hands on with different STEM activities. Carer supervision required. Limited places available

**Wednesday  
3.45pm**

## **Teen Art Club**

Weekly

A weekly gathering for High school age students interested in drawing, creating and art

**Thursday  
9.30am**

## **Bat Cave Babies**

Weekly

A gentle sessions that combine songs, movement and actions for babies up to 18 months. All welcome

**Friday  
3.45pm**

## **LEGO club**

Weekly

Free after school sessions for children of all ages. Weekly tasks to challenge your LEGO building skills

**More Info Call  
8762 2338**

**Naracoorte  
Library + Town Hall**







## **NOMINATION FOR GOVERNING COUNCIL 2024**

I \_\_\_\_\_ *(full name)*

of \_\_\_\_\_ *(address)*

### ***Nominate***

\_\_\_\_\_ *(full name)*

of \_\_\_\_\_ *(address)*

### **To be elected as a member of Naracoorte Primary School Governing Council.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ *(full name)*

of \_\_\_\_\_ *(address)*

accept the nomination and hereby declare that:

- I have not been declared bankrupt and do not receive a benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors
- I have not been convicted of any offence of dishonesty, or of a sexual nature involving a minor, or of violence against a person

I understand that should I be declared bankrupt, receive a benefit of law for the relief of insolvent debtors or be convicted of any of the offences listed my membership of Naracoorte Primary School Governing Council will cease.

*Signed* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

