



NARACOORTE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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

Term 4 ~ Wednesday 4th December, 2024



Coming Events



DECEMBER

- 4th & 5th – Kindy Transition
- 5th & 6th - NHS Transition
- 5th – Whole School Transition to 2025 Class
- 6th – Christmas Pageant
- 9th – Little Day Out, Yr 1/2s
- 9th – Christmas Raffle Books Due
- 10th – The Pond Learning Journal Sharing
- 11th – Year 6 Graduation
- 11th – The Pond Teddy Bears Picnic
- 12th – Christmas Raffle Drawn
- 12th – Volunteers Morning Tea, 10.50am
- 13th – Last day of Term 4, 2.25pm Dismissal

JANUARY 2025

- 22nd & 23rd – Book Collection
- 28th – Pupil Free Day (Tuesday)
- 29th – **Term 1 Commences, 9.00am** (Wednesday)

It is hard to believe this will be the final newsletter for the year. It has been an incredible first year for me at Naracoorte PS and I have come to know and respect how great this school and community are.

Reflecting back on the year, there have been many highlights with the students having lots of opportunities, both in their learning and extra-curricula pursuits. What does stand out for me is how willing the students are to participate in learning and just be genuinely happy to be here. It goes a long way to add to the enjoyment of working here.

As the year comes to an end, I would like to thank Andrea Lawrie for her tremendous contribution as Deputy Principal over the past four years. Andrea's tenure as Deputy finishes, but she will remain at NPS and will be returning to the classroom. Andrea's dedication and commitment to supporting students who require additional support cannot be understated.

Classes, transition and classroom moves

Today, your child will receive a letter with details of their class placement for 2025. There has been an incredible amount of effort gone into the class placement exercise and it is impossible to meet all teacher suggestions and student friendship requests. However, we have done the best we can to ensure the needs of all students are taken into account, with feedback from teachers an important part of the process. *If you didn't receive the letter for any reason, please contact the office and we will arrange a way for you to get an additional one.*

The transition day will enable them to spend the day on Thursday with their new teacher. This is an excellent opportunity to not only get to know each other better but to spend time with their peers.

Kindy Transition began today with their second day tomorrow. Naracoorte High School have their transition tomorrow and Friday. Students will need to start the day at High school just like they would in 2025.

As set out in the first newsletter for the term, we have restructured how the school will be set up. There will be a map of the new spaces in the placement letter sent home to assist.

Staff have already started cleaning and reducing resources as they prepare for the move. We will have a moving day next Thursday where boxes of resources and furniture will be moved. Setting up of rooms will continue in school holidays ready for next year.



BOOK COLLECTION 2025

Dates and times for the collection of books for 2025 are **9.30am - 3.00pm** on **Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd January.**

Your materials and services charges invoice for \$340 per student will be emailed to you. School Card funding applications for low-income earners can be completed online sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard from early January 2025.

Please note that school will be begin back on **Wednesday January 29th** for students at NPS as Tuesday will be a Pupil Free Day.



In 2025, we will be setting up our Targeted Learning Centre. The final parameters of how this space will work are still being investigated, but it will be a great opportunity for some of our students to get more time in a targeted intervention space. Ms Lawrie will be the lead teacher in this space.

Graduation

Next Wednesday night is graduation for your Year 6 students. This should be a great celebration of the completion of Primary school. Following dinner, there will be a short graduation ceremony back at school.

As well as the graduation itself, we will be presenting the end of year awards. As well as the usual MacKillop Award, we have decided to add an additional two awards. These being for:

- Academic excellence
- Continuous Improvement (Sponsored by Smiles All Round)

We believe this gives us a good balance of awards that recognise attributes that we feel are an important part of what we want to see in our graduating students.

NPS Fest

Last night's NPS Fest was a very enjoyable night. It was great to see so many parents, siblings, extended family and friends attend the event. It is a credit to the teachers for creating such diverse pieces and the students for their enthusiasm in performing.

Year 4 camp

Last week I was fortunate enough to attend the Year 4 Camp. It was a great experience for all who attended, and for many, it was their first experience away from their parents. They certainly learnt to work collaboratively in order to complete the many group tasks and challenges they had to undertake.

Reports

Reports will be sent home via the Community Portal and email next Friday. If you need assistance to set up the Community Portal, please contact the front office. Hard copies will be provided upon request.

Next year, books, dates etc

Next week you will get a final letter home with information about Booklists and what students will need. It will also have details about the students M&S charges, book pick up dates and beginning date for next year. The Governing Council have approved a Student Free Day for Tuesday 28th January so school will begin back on **Wednesday 29th January**.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and relaxing holiday break. I look forward to returning in 2025 and continuing on the good work from this year.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are asking all families for a donation towards our Christmas raffle please.

Items can be left at the Front Office.

Christmas raffle books

have been sent home and are due back on **Monday, 9th December**.

Raffle drawn Thursday, 12th December.

Thank you, we appreciate your support.



Volunteer's Morning Tea

To thank our volunteers, we will be hosting a morning tea on Thursday 12th December in the Staffroom at 10.50am.

We wish to thank all our volunteers for the help that they have given us over the past year and we look forward to celebrating the wonderful work you do in our school.



LOST PROPERTY

If you are missing any jumpers, hats, containers, water bottles etc, please check at lost property.

ALL ITEMS WILL BE CLEARED AT THE END OF THE TERM. Thank you



Thank you to all that have helped throughout the year and we look forward to seeing you all next year.

Wishing you all a safe and Merry Christmas with family and friends.

Helen



children about compassion and the importance of giving to others!

Resilience Project

We have now officially committed to implementing the Primary Wellbeing Program from The Resilience Project in 2025. This will replace some of the older wellbeing programs we have been using and ensure that we use the latest research and up to date resources and strategies to support our students and their wellbeing. This is an evidence-based program that is tailored to each year level. It is centered on The Resilience Project's core principles – Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy. A Resilience Project School Partnership Manager will be supporting staff and students with the program. If you would like to know more about The Resilience Project, please click on the link below and keep an eye out for more info about this exciting new program in 2025!

[The Resilience Project](#)



Inter Church Council

The Inter Church Council help to fund the PCW (Pastoral Care Worker) role at our school. We are very grateful for their help and appreciate the work that our lovely Ghi Ghi does to support our students. This year, instead of a Christmas performance, a small group of local members will be visiting classes to drop off a Christmas activity booklet (that talks about the traditional Christmas story) and a homemade gingerbread biscuit for each student. If you do not wish your child to receive this, please send their teacher a message before Friday the 6th of December. Year 6 students will get theirs when they return to school next Monday.

Samantha Gale 😊



The last newsletter of 2024 seems to have come around very quickly all of a sudden! What a year it has been with so many wonderful school events, meaningful learning and new connections made. As I reflect on the year, I certainly feel very grateful to be working in a school community that is so welcoming and inclusive for all and I really hope everyone has a lovely Christmas time and holiday break. I'm already looking forward to all that 2025 will bring.

Pageant

The Naracoorte community pageant is coming up this Friday night. If your child has returned their consent form, please make sure you are aware of which teacher/SSO they need to see on arrival and when you collect them afterwards. It is very important that each child is ticked off the list so we know that all children are returned safely to their families. If your child is riding their bike/scooter etc, please make sure you provide the correct safety equipment (helmets are still required by law) so that they are able to join in. We are still looking for a couple more people to walk with us. If you would like to join the school group, please let me know. A big thank you to all the staff who are giving up their time so that the children can be a part of this community event. A big thank you also to the staff who helped to paint the banner. It looks wonderful! We hope everyone has a 'Wheellie Good Christmas!'

Staff responsible for ticking off children on arrival and at the end of the pageant are:

Reception students – Ash Owen & Kristin Donnelly

Year 1 students – Pip Schinckel & Bron Andrews

Year 2 students – Samantha Gale

Year 3 students – Cat Flint

Year 4, 5 & 6 students – Andrea Lawrie

Christmas Appeal

I am totally blown away by the response to our NPS Christmas Appeal. THANK YOU to all the families that have donated to this. All donations go to our local Vinnies store which goes above and beyond to help and support local families throughout the year and especially at Christmas time. With the current cost of living crisis, research tell us that over 4 in 10 (42%) will have their Christmas negatively impacted this year. Further to this, almost half of Australians (48%) will buy less presents for their children and loved ones, and an alarming 11.9 million people (56%) will spend less on food this Christmas. This is a small way that we can give back to those who need it the most and bring some enjoyment for families who are struggling at Christmas time. With an added bonus of helping to teach our



2024 School Magazine

The magazine is a memorial keepsake of all the amazing things we have achieved in 2024 at Naracoorte Primary School. Our school is a vibrant and busy place with lots of opportunities for all and hopefully our magazine reflects this. The magazine is printed in full colour by a local business. It is a representation and record of the amazing experiences and learning that happens throughout the school year at NPS. There are limited copies available – so please place your order as soon as possible. Order forms were sent home with students and also emailed. We are endeavouring to get the magazine out to families as soon as possible and will ensure any not collected this year will be held and made available for collection at a later date.





Library News



Birthday Book Club

We have celebrated 5 more birthdays.

Eddie Fitzgerald and Maisie Miller turned 9; Sasha Donnelly celebrated her 8th birthday; Gracey Motteram and Nylah Thomson turned 7



Eddie Fitzgerald



Sasha Donnelly



Nylah Thomson



Gracey Motteram



Maisie Miller

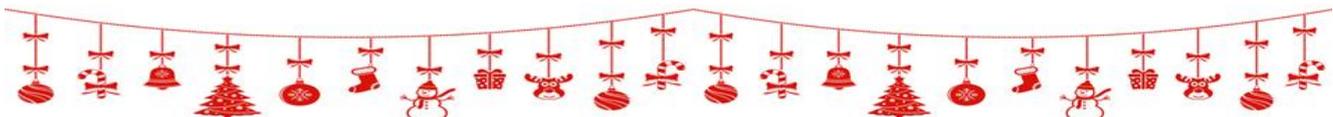
Happy birthday and happy reading everyone!



Sincere thanks to everyone who participated in our Birthday Book Club this year. Your support has enabled us to buy many brilliant books for the whole school to enjoy and benefit from.

To be a part of the Birthday Book Club in 2025, please fill in the BLUE form that goes home with book packs at the start of the year.

Thanks to everyone for supporting our amazing library this year. We look forward to seeing you in 2025 and supporting your child to develop their literacy skills and hopefully a love of reading. Merry Christmas and happy holidays everyone!



ASPIRE AWARDS 2024



Liam Millowick-Lacey

For persisting with all set tasks, completing work to a high level and being inclusive of your peers. Well done!
Mrs McConnell



Freddie Norcock

For your consistent efforts to apply yourself to all tasks and for being a positive role model to others.
Mrs Fox & Mrs Schinckel



Ollie Bennier

For being a helpful classmate and leading by example. Keep up the great effort Ollie!
Miss Gill



Anne Lapiz

For your creativity and humour when writing your poetry anthology. Very entertaining! Well done.
Mrs Flint



Ruby Kelly

For your happy, friendly nature, always being willing to help your classmates and teacher. Thank you!
Mrs McConnell



Maggie Legoe

For being an active listener during instruction times and working with dedication to complete tasks.
Mrs Smith



Anna Tu

For your thoughtful and mature participation in discussions during health lessons. Well done!
Mrs Wirper & Mrs Andrews



Ollie Bittner

For good progress with your reading, recognising Red Words and Special Friends with confidence. Well done!
Mrs McCarthy



Suravatee Phin

For wonderful persistence learning Red Words and being a friendly class member. Well done.
Mrs Owen & Mrs Grundy



Harvey Dowdy

For his improvement in word study and always trying his best.
Annabelle SSO



Ariya Choosilp

For your bravery in leading a class maths game. Awesome job!
Mrs Wirper & Mrs Andrews



Aliva Bull

For her dedication & hard work in Lego League & as a Media Officer. You are consistently pushing yourself to always achieve to the best of your abilities.
Mrs Schroder/Mott



Gareth Bruce

For huge improvements throughout the year in focus and self-management.
Mrs Mahoney



Ashleigh Hurrell

For her dedication in Maths lessons, leading to a very pleasing angles checkout result!
Mr Hallett



Aria Bull

Too Smart Certificate of Merit For completing facts of 9.
Trudie SSO

ASPIRE AWARDS 2024



Jack Walter

For your enthusiasm for learning and willingness to have a go. You actively listen, consider & respond to ideas & concepts being discussed. Awesome!
Mrs Flint



George Burns

For your consistent efforts with your learning and for being an enthusiastic and helpful member of our class.
Mrs Fox & Mrs Schinckel



Alby Finch

For being brave at swimming lessons, giving new things a go. Well done.
Mrs Owen & Mrs Grundy



Benji Finch

For showing persistence when things were challenging during swimming lessons. Well done.
Mrs Owen & Mrs Grundy



Jack Davies

For being a kind classmate and trying his best in all tasks.
Miss Gill



Maria Price

For your fantastic reading! It has been great to see your growth this term.
Mr Wallis



Max Dunkin

For improvement in your reading. It has been awesome to see. Fantastic effort!
Mrs Wirper & Mrs Andrews



Lyra Terry

For being brave and joining in during swimming lessons. Well done!
Mrs McCarthy



Arthur Zilm

For being brave and trying his best during swimming and showing resilience when trying new things.
Miss Gill



Lucas Watson

Quicksmart Certificate of Merit For completing multiplication facts of 8.
Trudie SSO



Lachie Bellman

Quicksmart Certificate of Merit For completing multiplication facts of 10.
Trudie SSO



Mitchell Gericke

For willingness to help with odd jobs around the class. You've been a constant aide all year!
Mr Hallett



Mia Walter

For striving to do her best EVERY SINGLE DAY!
Mrs Mahoney



Pippa Biggins

For an outstanding contribution to your group in both side-show alley and the Christmas tree challenge!
Mrs Mott & Mrs Schroder

ASPIRE AWARDS 2024



Hadleigh Haynes, Alivia Bull, Bailey Elkins, Mia Walter, Grace Doolan, Mimi Thomson, Matilda Doolan, Tamikah MacDermott, Spencer Motteram, Hamish Grist, Rylan Maywald, Thomas Bretag

Submerged
First Lego League Challenge
 For successful participation in the Mount Gambier Regional Competition



NARACOORTE LIBRARY PRESENTS

Kylie Tull

THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER 10AM

KYLIE WILL READ HER NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK HUXLEY'S HOME, FOLLOWED BY SOME PLAY DOUGH FUN WITH SEA CREATURE CUTTERS!

BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON THE DAY. A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!

Naracoorte Library + Town Hall

LIMESTONE COAST TOY LIBRARY

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday	2.00pm-4.30pm
Thursday	9.30am-12 noon
1st & 3rd Saturday of each month	9.30am - 12 noon

12 months \$60
6 months \$30
2 weeks \$15

48 Sandstone Avenue, Naracoorte
 0497 410 841
limestonecoasttoylibrary@gmail.com
limestonecoasttoylibrary.org

Summer Holiday Program
 Monday 6th - Friday 24th Jan

Summer inspired Craft
 available most days on the big table
10am - 4pm

Look out for our pop up story times!

Colour in & activity sheets available every day

Naracoorte Library + Town Hall

MRTENNIS

NARACOORTE TENNIS CLUB

HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINIC

MON 16 & TUES 17 DEC 2024

Red - \$20 per session

- Group 1: Mon 12-1pm, Tu 8-9am & 1-2pm
- Group 2: Mon 1-2pm, Tu 9-10am & 2-3pm

Orange - \$30 per session

- Group 1: Mon 12-1.30pm, Tu 8-9.30am & 1-2.30pm
- Group 2: Mon 2-3.30pm, Tu 10-11.30am & 3-4.30pm

Green & Yellow - \$40 per session

- Group 1: Mon 12-2pm, Tu 8-10am & 1-3pm
- Group 2: Mon 2-4pm, Tu 10am-12pm & 3-5pm

REGISTER VIA QR CODE BY 13 DEC

Please contact Rachel Mahney for any other queries or support 0427 564 029

SUN DEC 15

Carols IN THE SQUARE

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FEATURING CHRISTMAS CAROLS PERFORMED BY LOCAL ARTISTS AT THE NARACOORTE TOWN SQUARE

BYO CHAIRS & PICNIC RUGS. CANDLES & GLOWSTICKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Food Carts 6pm | Pre-show Entertainment 6:15pm | Carols Program 7:15pm

Hosted by Carols Committee on behalf of the Churches of Naracoorte
 Proceeds & Offering towards Christian Pastors, Support Workers in our Public Schools

The Naracoorte Library presents

Christmas Fun!

Listen to a Christmas Story 10am
 Tuesday 17th * Wednesday 18th

Craft to do:

- Decorate a Christmas Tree Ornament
- Make your own Wrapping Paper

Colour in & activity sheets available all week

Naracoorte Library + Town Hall