

# 2023

Term 3 Week 1

# NEWSLETTER

SOUTH DOWNS PRIMARY  
SCHOOL AND DISABILITY UNIT



## Principal's Corner

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 3! We have a busy term ahead with Science Week in Week 4, Book Week in Week 5 and Sports Day on Thursday 28th of September (Week 10).

At the end of last term, we said goodbye to Amanda Clarke who has won a leadership position at Riverbanks College. This term, we welcome Christelle Pleasance from Adelaide North Special School who will be taking on the role as Disability Unit NIT Teacher.

We also welcome new SSOs, Mel England and Jayden Birchard to our site.

### Taparra Primary School

Last term we sent a letter home to families confirming that the Minister for Education and Chief Executive has approved for our school name to be changed to Taparra Primary School. This change will come into effect from 1st of January 2024. Over the next few months, we will be consulting with the community regarding a new school logo and our next steps. More information will be provided soon.

Over the holidays, our front entrance had a landscape makeover! The brief was to make a fantastic first impression by using low maintenance and effective plants. We can't wait to see this area grow in Spring.

NAPLAN results will be provided to our Year 3 and 5 students soon. Please see the attached information regarding the changes to NAPLAN reporting this year.



Kind Regards,

Caitlin Manser



## DIARY DATES

### Week 7

Monday 12th June

King's Birthday Public Holiday



[dl.1038.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.1038.info@schools.sa.edu.au)



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School and Disability Unit



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Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education



# CLASS SHOWCASE

## Room 7



Hi Families, have a look at the wonderful learning that has been happening in Room 7 this semester!

In Numeracy we have been very busy exploring Measurement and Geometry. Students enjoyed using hands on equipment to demonstrate their understanding of the different concepts in Measurement, including length, mass, capacity and time as well as exploring the properties of 2D shapes and some 3D shapes. Room 7 had fun creating shape monsters to explain their understanding of common 2D shapes, these are posted in the pictures above and below – enjoy!

In Literacy, students have focused on the 'Letters of the Week' program where we focus on 2 letters each week. Here students practice isolating the sounds and identify the initial sounds in words. We used this knowledge to help us with our writing this semester, as we have focused on recording all the sounds we hear in words. Already in the first semester, there has been so much growth! Students are demonstrating their knowledge of concepts of print in our bookmaking sessions, they write about topics they already know and are beginning to share their ideas with their peers.

Stay tuned for term 3 as students will showcase their writing – a very exciting time!



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# AFL Max



On the 30<sup>th</sup> June, all of South Downs Primary School headed to AFL Max to participate in a team bonding day. The focus for the day was a range of team work, leadership, showing our school values and having fun!

Our students participated in a variety of activities where they needed to work together as a team to problem solve. Some activities involved students rock climbing to collect pieces to a puzzle, using the trampoline area to keep objects airborne and running through the inflatable zone on a team treasure hunt! Our students were seen helping each other, showing resilience in the face of challenges and most importantly, having a blast!



With the day coming to an end, everyone hopped upon the buses and headed back to school. It was clear they had worked hard as many took the opportunity to get some shut eye!

A big thank you to all of the staff involved in ensuring the entire day was a success and that all of our students were included and got the most out of the day.



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# Disability Unit Restaurant



## 🇮🇹 🍕 INSIEME CUCINA 🍕 🇮🇹

"The Together Kitchen"

Our Primary Disability Unit Restaurant was absolutely incredible today with 50 invited guests attending! Our menu included caprese salad, margarita & pepperoni pizza & even cannoli!

Thank you to our Year 5/6 students supporting our DU students throughout the event, we are so proud!! Thank you to Mrs Clarke, Miss Ella and Miss Dimi for preparing our students for this event. And also to Miss Maddi & our SSO team, we couldn't have done this event without your hard work!



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# Disglow



## 🌈 🌟 DISGLOW!! 🌟 🌈

Our Annual Disco event was Glow in the Dark theme! We loved seeing our students bust out their best dance moves in our glow tent!

Thank you to GC for supporting us with Popcorn 🍿 & Fruitboxes! 🍌



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# Wellbeing

Interoception is the internal sensory system in which the internal physical and emotional states of the body are noticed, recognised and responded to. It is one of the eight senses of the body and also known as the hidden sense that shapes wellbeing. Having good interoceptive awareness is one of key factors in mental and physical health. If you have good interoception you can manage your emotions, know when you are thirsty and when you need the toilet. Some examples of underdeveloped interoception is not being able to communicate emotions and not feeling the change in state of your emotions.

Over the year all the classes have been completing interoception activities after each break to ensure they are ready for learning. These include activities such as wall push ups, wall squats, balloon breathing and arm circles.

The benefits of teaching interoception means students can:

- Connect with their bodies and emotions.
- Develop a sense of belonging .
- Decreased behavioural challenges.
- Use as a proactive strategy when they are feeling a change of emotions.

The Education Department document 'Interoception and Communication parent and caregiver booklet' outlines some great activities you can try at home.



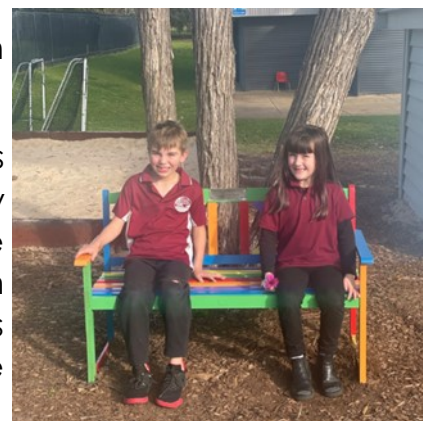
# Student Voice

Over the term Student Voice have worked hard on developing the South Downs School Value of 'Be Kind'. Over a few meetings, the student voice team were able to design and implement 'Kindness Cards'. These cards are in every classroom and can be used at any time. The cards are



an opportunity for students to thank others for being kind without expecting anything in return.

Student Voice have also created a kindness sign to go in our nurture nook next to the buddy bench. They all worked together to paint the sign and decide what writing went on the sign after collecting ideas from all the classes. This sign outlines all the different ways we can be kind in the yard.






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# GETTING TO KNOW US



<b>Get to know our Teachers</b>	 Amanda Elliott Year 5/6 Teacher	 Dimi Iaconis DU Teacher	 Ella Goodwin DU Teacher
<i>What was your first job?</i>	Jewell Supermarket	KFC	Target
<i>What's your favourite random fact?</i>	In the dark, the human eye can only see in greyscale—we don't see colour in the dark.	A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue	It's illegal to own just one Guinea Pig in Switzerland
<i>What is your dream pet?</i>	Five kittens	Birman cat	Monkey
<i>Who is your favourite author?</i>	Many but probably JK Rowling	Jojo Moyes	Stephen King
<i>What is the biggest risk you ever took?</i>	Travelling to Scandanavia for two months by myself. I loved it so much and want to go again.	Changing my mind from wanting to work with animals to working with children as a teacher (it was a great decision!)	Going back to university to study teaching

## SMS SYSTEM



**We use a text message system to provide information to parents, if you are not receiving these messages please contact the front office on [dl.1038.admin@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.1038.admin@schools.sa.edu.au) or 8255 6380 or pop in.**

## HATS



**We would like to remind parents that sunsmart hats are require to be worn at break times. These can be purchased from the front office for \$10.**

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# SAFETY & REMINDERS



## **SPEED LIMIT**

We would like to remind families and the community that the speed limit around to school is 25kph when children are present.

## **PARKING & STOPPING**

For the safety of our families please refrain from stopping or parking on a yellow line, fines can apply for stopping or parking in these areas. There is ample parking across the road at Argana Park Netball Courts.

Please note there is also a taxi zone and a disabled parking zone on the Dockett Road side of the school.

The following signs are displayed around the school, please adhere to these as fine can apply.



## **CLOTHING REMINDERS**

If your child has borrowed school clothing from the Front Office, please return the item/s washed ready for the next student.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

We have many items in our lost property basket that are not labelled. To avoid your child from losing items please also ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with the students name so we can return the item/s of clothing to the rightful owner should they get lost.

## **HATS**

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