



Port Augusta Special School

27-45 McSporran Crescent - Port Augusta West SA 5700

Telephone: (08) 8641 0882

ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY

DATES TO REMEMBER

AQUATICS ROOM 7

20 FEBRUARY

3 MARCH

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT / AGM - GOVERNING COUNCIL

22 FEBRUARY

ASSEMBLY

9 MARCH

13 APRIL

STUDENT FREE DAYS

10 MARCH

6 APRIL

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

13 MARCH

7 APRIL

10 APRIL

YEAR 7, 8 AND 10 IMMUNISATIONS

29 MARCH

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

14 APRIL 2PM DISMISSAL

**REMINDING
FAMILIES THAT
STUDENTS
FINISH EARLY
EVERY MONDAY
AT 2.00PM**

From the Principal ...

Welcome back to another school year and what a hectic start we have had. With two teaching staff members down, we have had to make use of our PRTs to help get us through. (PRTs – Permanent Relieving Teachers - normally used to cover absences for illnesses, or staff who are on training.)

Trudy replaces Kyoko, who took up the offer of a full time position with the Pt Augusta/Quorn Partnership group. Kyoko will have autism as a major focus for this year and she will be working with a number of different sites for 2023, before returning to us in 2024.

Alex is an experienced PRT, who brings a wealth of information and experiences to our school. He is currently filling the position vacated by Rhian, which will eventually be covered by Wendy. Wendy is currently away following surgery. We hope Wendy recovers soon and is back with us to take over the role of Reception/Year 1 teacher.

We also welcome Simon Cai and Sarah Bull.

Sarah replaces Kyoko, as this years' 0.8 NIT teacher. She will be working across the three reception / primary classes and Kath Smith retains her role as NIT teacher for the two secondary classes.

Both Sarah and Alex have slotted in really well and are a short-term solution to our staffing problem. Welcome, and thanks to you both for the excellent way you have joined in with our staff here at PASpS.

Welcome to Simon, who has settled in quite well and has a calming effect upon his students. Simon won his position last year and works with the junior primary school.

We had two teachers who left us rather late last year and these are the two positions I have had trouble filling. Twice I have advertised and twice we have had no applicants. This is a problem that is not unique to our school, it is happening across all schools in our region, and most schools in SA. The problem is in fact a national one; like every other industry and government department, Education is suffering staff shortages across the entire department.

I have now taken out an advertisement nationally to see if that has any impact on our staffing – one can only hope.

We also have Shauna with us as a PRT, who fills the hole vacated by Kelsey, who was fortunate to be offered a permanent position with another school in the district.

Welcome also to Usman Ghani who replaces Kristy Crabtree as our Finance Officer. Usman comes to us very experienced in the world of finance and accounting, but needs time to learn all about how to apply that in an educational setting. He is currently training with Katrina from PAWPS, thanks to David Laughton for allowing us to borrow Katrina whilst Usman settles in.

We hope to have our staffing issues sorted soon and full time people in place.

We have a lot of new changes that we hope become evident to parents as the year progresses.

Two of our SSOs, Keith and Deanna, have been given time and equipment to take our TV By Me program to the next level. They will be working toward more student content, with all commentary and content being included in the video. They will also be endeavouring to raise the profile of TV-By-Me with the wider school community.

Billie will be continuing her excellent work with the PODD System. She will work with students and staff initially and there are plans to maybe take this to parents and the wider community too.

Chelsea is ensuring all the students physical needs are catered for, by delivering a PE unit to Reception to Year 12 students. Teachers are on hand to ensure the students are learning PE curriculum and being assessed in appropriate ways. I have already received very positive reports of the PE program, and I acknowledge and thank Chelsea for the work she is doing for the benefit of our students.

There are lots of exciting things planned for our students such as swimming, aquatics and shopping expeditions. I think the Events Committee will be giving us details of a change to our end of year concert format for this year – more to come on that later.

Despite the messy start to the year with staffing, it has been an extremely positive start in terms of school culture – we began with T & D delivered by Anne Williams, Education Consultant from Adelaide, in which we looked at working effectively together, to achieve common goals and expectations. It set us up to be positive and motivated and as a result everyone is much more relaxed about their roles, and we are focussing on our well-being as well as achieving successful outcomes as a team.

A reminder that our Meet the Teacher Night is Wednesday 22 February. There will be a BBQ tea, meet the new staff and this will be followed by the AGM for the Governing Council at 6pm. We welcome you all to come along and get involved in your school. We have a very positive Governing Council and welcome new members to join us.

With Regards

Tony Holden



STUDENT INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORMS

Student information and consent forms for 2023 were sent out at the beginning of the term.

Please ensure they are completed and returned to the front office as soon as possible.



A Note from Sue

Welcome to 2023 school year. It is wonderful to see attendance at a regular pace and the new reception students every day. I remind families to please contact the school on 8641 0882 if your child is going to be away. This assists teachers with planning and also with our funding. We are funded on attendance of students not just enrolment.

Please ensure all your details are updated and returned as soon as possible to school. This helps us to get into contact with you when there is an emergency or queries on the day about your child.

Starting from Week 5 – 3 March, and continuing fortnightly on Fridays we will have available NDIS assistance based at our school. I know some new families are having some difficulties working through the process successfully. You are invited to attend sessions to speak to Rebecca or any of her staff between 10am – 12noon at the school. Please enter through the reception area to sign in and be directed to the meeting room.

Please find her details below if you wish to book a time with her or simply just come in.

Rebecca Neilson

Community Engagement LAC

Whyalla, Port Augusta, Flinders Ranges LGA (Quorn, Hawker & Cradock)

National Disability Insurance Scheme LAC Partner

T 1800 931 543 M 0448 063 630 E rebecca.neilson@ndis.gov.au



Delivering the NDIS in your community



Amelia

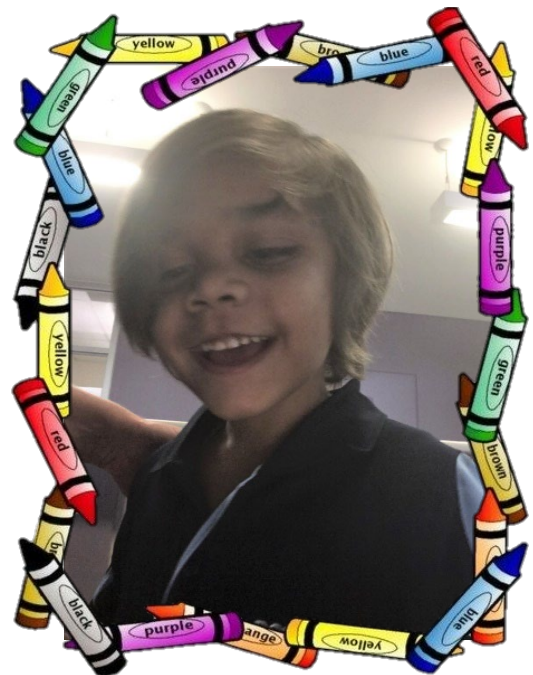


Hope

New Reception Students



Addilyn



Dominic



Room
8

Aquatics







ADELAIDE'S

MUST ATTEND DISABILITY EXPO

The Source Kids Disability Expo is coming to Adelaide!
Focused on children, youth and young adults — this expo brings together the latest products, services and technology, along with some incredible performances under one roof for two days. Come along and find, test and talk with providers.

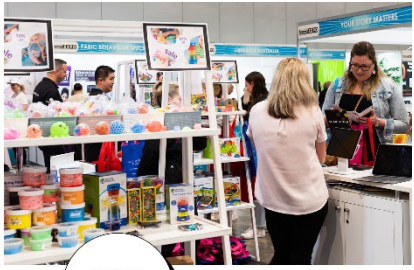


Adelaide
Convention Centre
**25-26
FEBRUARY
2023**

sourcekids DISABILITY EXPO

**FREE
ENTRY**

Find out more and register to attend online at sourcekids.com.au/disability-expo



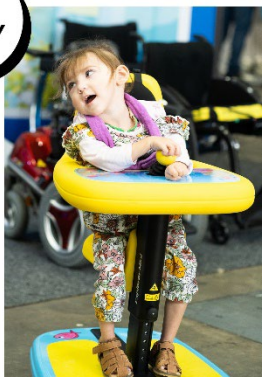
**FREE
ENTRY**

ADELAIDE

**25-26
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sourcekids DISABILITY EXPO

Adelaide
Convention Centre



Need help applying for school card?

Please ring or visit Andrea in the front office

APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL CARD



All types of School Card applications are now online.

You can access the online forms from any device that gets internet, including mobile devices, such as tablets and smart phones, as well as laptops and computers.

Applying online is easy! Simply follow the steps below.

- STEP 1** Visit sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard
 - STEP 2** Select the type of School Card you would like to apply for (for example 'Type A') and follow the prompts.
 - STEP 3** Complete all mandatory fields.
Please note: you cannot submit your application unless all mandatory fields are complete.
 - STEP 4** Once you have completed a page click on the 'NEXT' button.
 - STEP 5** Once you have filled out all pages click the 'SUBMIT' button.
Please note: if you exit the form without clicking 'SUBMIT' your details will be lost.
- You can save the form, and return to complete it at another time, by clicking on the 'SAVE' button.



sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

Term 1 – CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	30/1	31/1	1/2	2/2	3/2
Week 2	6/2	7/2	8/2	9/2	10/2
Week 3	13/2	14/2	15/2	16/2 NEWSLETTER	17/2
Week 4	20/2 ROOM 7 AQUATICS	21/2	22/2 MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT GOVERNING COUNCIL AGM	23/2	24/2
Week 5	27/2	28/2	1/3	2/3	3/3 ROOM 7 AQUATICS
Week 6	6/3	7/3	8/3	9/3 NEWSLETTER 9:30 ASSEMBLY	10/3 STUDENT FREE DAY
Week 7	13/3 ADELAIDE CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	14/3	15/3	16/3	17/3
Week 8	20/3	21/3	22/3	23/3	24/3
Week 9	27/3	28/3	29/3 YEAR 7, 8 & 10 IMMUNISATIONS	30/3	31/3
Week 10	3/4	4/4	5/4	6/4 STUDENT FREE DAY	7/4 GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Week 11	10/4 EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	11/4	12/4	13/4 NEWSLETTER 9:30 ASSEMBLY	14/4 LAST DAY OF TERM 1 2PM DISMISSAL

