



PORT WAKEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Ph. 08 8867 1012 Fax 08 8867 1001 W: portwakefieldps.sa.edu.au E: dl.0366.info@schools.sa.edu.au
Principal: Kerri Blackwell Administration: Lynne Pycroft

Dear Families,

Welcome back and welcome to our new families this year. All students have settled back into the school routines with a minimum of fuss. It has been fantastic to see how well they are all getting along and the students who have changed classes, settle into their new ones quickly.

Welcome

We would like to welcome our new students Malachi, Moses, Jazmine, Sophie and Liam. We welcome back our returning students and staff, it has been great to see you all again.

We would also like to welcome Mr Bob Ellis to the school in the NIT teaching role.

Staffing for 2021

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Kerri Blackwell | Principal, 1.0 teaching the Arts R-7 0.1 |
| Megan Parish | R/1 class 1.0 |
| Tracey McGrath | 2/3/4 class 1.0 |
| Sam Otta | 5/6/7 class 1.0 |
| Bob Ellis | NIT – Health and PE R-7, Science R/1 and 5/6/7, HASS 2/3/4 0.4 – Tuesday, Wednesday |
| Lynne Pycroft | Front Office/Admin/Finance 5 days |
| Jo Budgen | Class support 5 days |
| Lauren Wilson | Class support 3 days Wednesday-Friday |
| Marc Cicollela | Grounds 1 day |
| Nancy Gates | Pastoral Support Worker – Monday 8:15-1:45, Wednesday 10:45-3:15 |

Road and Footpath Works

Beginning on Monday 15th February, the council will be commencing road works out the front of the southern side of the school. You and your children may need to park away from the school and use the pedestrian gate at the **western end of the school**.

Covid-19

As we saw last year, this is a continually evolving situation and the rules are changing regularly and can change very quickly. The current rules are

- If your child is showing any signs of being unwell, they need to be kept home, or if they show signs during the day at school, we will ring you and ask for them to be collected.
- Adults need to stay out of school grounds if they are unwell.
- Volunteers are allowed on school grounds provided they are well and sign in. There is the SA Health QR code sign in as well as our own school sign in
- Families are allowed to attend assemblies and other school events provided they are well and sign in

Term 1 Week 3

DATES **FOR THE DIARY**

Tuesday 16/2/21

Pancake Day at PW
Uniting Church.

Monday 22/2/2021

Governing Council AGM
at 6pm

Monday 1/3–5/3/21

Swimming Lessons at
Owen Pool.

Attachments to newsletter

**Swimming and
Excursion Consent
forms—please return
before Week 6.**

REMINDERS—NOTICES TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL.

Yellow Pack of Forms—Consents and information sent home.

Swimming & Excursion Consent forms



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

“We’re Moving—Into a New School Year!” Afternoon.

Thank you to the families who came along and it was fantastic to see some new faces. It was a very casual affair with staff chatting to families. The snacks that the children made for the afternoon were very popular. Thank you to Mr. Ellis and Miss Jo for putting this together with the children.

Student Attendance at school

Students are required to attend school every school day. Families and the school have responsibilities at a part of the Department Attendance and Absence Policies and procedures to follow. The main points from them are listed below:

Parents must:

- provide information to the school that may help planning for the child’s learning. For example medical conditions, developmental milestones and family issues
- ensure their child attends punctually on every day the education program is offered and to comply with the education program being offered
- provide an explanation to the school whenever their child is absent. It is preferred on the day of absence. A doctor or dentist certificate, notes or appointment card. This is only if the appointment was during school time.
- where appropriate, apply for an exemption when they wish to take their child out of school, such as family holiday
- work with the school on intervention strategies to improve attendance

School Responsibilities

- Record non-attendance daily according to departmental requirements
- Have processes in place for following up absences
- Monitor student attendance to identify habitual and chronic non-attenders so the provision of early timely and appropriate supports can be put in place
- Work with parents and government and non-government agencies to support children and young people’s regular attendance in the education program
- Implement procedures including parent communication to follow up non- attendance, attendance improvement plans
- Mandatory notifications to Child Abuse Report Line (CARL) are made by staff as required by the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017*, for concerns regarding:
 - a parent’s refusal to send the child to school or engage with any other education options available (including Open Access College or home schooling)

Pancake Day

On Tuesday 16th of March—(Shrove Tuesday), students can take part in Pancake Day at the PW Uniting Church Parish Room. Pancakes will be served by church community volunteers. Please send each child with \$2.00 if they wish to take part. The JP class and MP class will go over at 10.55am with the UP class following at approximately 11.05am.

Breakfast club

Breakfast Club will be running on Mondays when Mrs Gates is here. We are aware that some of the students have breakfast at home and then have some more at school and that is completely fine. The food for this is kindly donated by Kick Start for Kids. If you would like to see more about this go to their website. <https://www.kickstartforkids.com.au/> Depending on what is delivered from Kick Start, breakfast could be toast, cereal, milo and occasionally we cook up eggs or pancakes for the children.

Swimming lessons

For swimming lessons this year, we will be going to the Owen Swimming Pool due to the Balaklava Swimming Pool being closed for repairs. Swimming week is in week 6, 1st March – 5th March. Children will need to be at school on time as we will be leaving at 9:00 to ensure we get to Owen on time. Attached to the newsletter are swimming and excursion consent forms.

Newsletter and Assembly weeks

This term, our newsletters will be in week 3, 7, 9 and 11.

Assembly will start at 9:00am in the Middle Primary class in week 4 (19/2/21) run by Upper Primary, week 7 (12/3/21) run by Junior Primary, week 9 (26/3/21) run by school leaders and week 11 (9/4/21) run by SRC. Please come and join us, just remember to sign in.

Facebook page

Our Facebook page is up and running and there are regular updates about what is happening in the school. If you haven’t already liked it, please do so. <https://www.facebook.com/Port-Wakefield-Primary-School-101423001751126>

School website

Our school website is up and running has all the latest documents in it. Please take the time to have a look at it. If there is anything you would like us to add to the website, please let us know. <https://portwakefieldps.sa.edu.au/>



Site Improvement Plan

All schools have a Site Improvement Plan, which is updated annually and reviewed throughout the year to monitor if targets will be achieved. In 2021, the school is focusing on Reading and the Big 6 of reading (oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension). Our challenge of practice this year is **'If we prioritise a rigorous daily, timetabled reading program which integrates the Big 6, we will increase student achievement in Reading.'** We will be sharing information with families about how you can support your child's reading at home and what the 'Big 6' is all about. We are in the beginning stages of planning an information session for the Junior Primary families. Further information about this will come.

Phones at Primary School

We already have a Student Mobile Phone Policy in place, however; it will be updated this year as the Department have released a Department Policy. There will be minimal changes to what actually happens for students with mobile phones at school for us.

Governing Council AGM

Our Governing Council AGM will be held on Monday 22nd February at 6pm in the Upper Primary class. Everyone is welcome to attend. We would love to see you all in attendance to learn a little more about what Governing Council does.

Head lice

The school has had a case of head lice reported to us. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat them if required.

Kind Regards, Kerri

Student Awards from Week 2

Congratulations to the following students who have made a positive start to the school year.



Port Wakefield School—Parent Club

Thank you to all the families who came along to our Parent Club AGM. It was great to see a few new faces join us.

Our committee this year consists of—

President: Jo Jesnoewski V/President: Karina Todino

Secretary: Sandra Smith Treasurer: Lesley Curry

Committee: Sarah Mumford, Amanda Castle, Heather Downie & Jaine Collins-Dodd

Photos from "Moving On" Afternoon



Junior Primary Class Profiles

Name: Arjay
Year level: Year 1
Favorite colour: blue
Favorite food: spaghetti & garlic bread
Favorite part of school: Kimochis
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Work in a bird shop

Name: Liam
Year level: Year 1
Favorite colour: light blue
Favorite food: onion rings
Favorite part of school: Art
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Looking at sharks that sleep in caves.

Name: Khadijah
Year level: Year 1
Favorite colour: purple
Favorite food: pizza
Favorite part of school: learning, relaxation and recess
What do you want to be when you grow up?
A puppy

Name: Ryan
Year level: Year 1
Favorite colour: red
Favorite food: chocolate cake
Favorite part of school: Recess
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Cleaner

Name: Sophie
Year level: Reception
Favorite colour: Pink
Favorite food: Strawberry ice-cream
Favorite part of school: doing the work that Miss Parish tells us
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Everything

Name: Jazmine
Year level: Reception
Favorite colour: Pink
Favorite food: Apples and Banana
Favorite part of school: Everything
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Fire fighter

Name: Tyrone
Year level: Year 1
Favorite colour: Violet
Favorite food: Burger
Favorite part of school: Creative Play
What do you want to be when you grow up?
A dinosaur

Name: DARTHLIAM
Year level: Year 1
Favorite colour: Violet
Favorite food: Bacon
Favorite part of school: Everything
What do you want to be when you grow up?
You-Tuber

Name: Moses
Year level: Reception
Favorite colour: Black and Grey
Favorite food: McDonalds
Favorite part of school: Looking at cars
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Train driver

Name: Malachi
Year level: Reception
Favorite colour: Red
Favorite food: pizza, burger and hotdog
Favorite part of school: play time and friends
What do you want to be when you grow up?
Scuba diver



Transition from Primary School to Balaklava High School

Firstly, I'd like to introduce myself, my name is Michelle Pudney and I am the Middle School Assistant Principal at Balaklava High School. I am looking forward to meeting you and your family this year as your child completes their final year in primary school. At Balaklava High we have many transition events planned to help your child transition smoothly into high school with former students and myself visiting the primary school, as well as having your child attend lessons and events at Balaklava High School.

Last year Covid 19 interrupted some of our usual transition events, such as our Open Night turning into a virtual tour. This tour can be accessed on our website <http://www.balakhs.sa.edu.au/> or found on our school Facebook page, to follow please visit <https://www.facebook.com/balaklavahighschool/>. We are hoping that Covid 19 does not interfere with any of our plans this year, but if it does we will keep families and Primary Schools updated with all changes to the transition program.

2022 will see Year 6s and Year 7s transition from primary to high school across South Australia. The Department for Education has provided a page on their website dedicated to provide information about Year 7s entering High School which includes;

- Year 7 is moving to high school
 - Enrolment in high school for 2022
 - How the move of year 7 to high school will work
 - Benefits for your child
 - Support for your child starting year 7 in high school
 - Support for students with a disability
 - Preparing our schools for year 7s
 - School sport and competitions
- Which can all be accessed from the link below

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites-and-facilities/year-7-high-school/year-7-high-school-information-parents>

Student Tips: What to expect when starting high school

In high school, you will move around more for your classes. You'll get to learn in new facilities like fully equipped science labs and design and technology facilities. You'll most likely have different teachers for these different subjects and the school bells will ring between some lessons, not just at recess and lunch.

The workload is different and builds on the things you've already learnt in primary school. You might find the work more challenging. Remember that your teachers will be there to help you develop more advanced knowledge of subjects and give you the support you need to handle the workload.

Some of you will attend your new high school with your primary school friends. For others, there will be changes to your friendship groups. You'll make new friends and may even stay in touch with old primary school friends. It's okay if you are nervous at first. If things feel really tough, don't worry as there are lots of people available to help you adjust. This includes your home group teacher, Mrs. Thiel our school wellbeing leader, Mr. Parsons who is another counsellor, your subject teachers, Ms. Pringle our school Principal, our wellbeing dog called Eddy and myself.

A great resource you can look at with your family has been created by ReachOut is Australia's leading online mental health organisation. <https://parents.au.reachout.com/common-concerns/everyday-issues/transition-to-high-school-for-teenagers>



TRANSITION CALENDAR

Here at Balaklava High School we have planned the following Transition program to help you start to make connections with the high school, students and staff members and help ease any worries about starting high school.

| Term 1 | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| March | Newsletter article sent out to all primary schools |
| Weeks 8-10 | Visits from Mrs. Pudney to Primary Schools in Weeks 8-10 |
| Term 2 | |
| Week 4 | Open Night at Balaklava High School 4:30 – 6:30pm |
| Term 3 | |
| Week 4 | Transition Information Evening & Tours |
| Term 4 | |
| Week 2 | Year 6 and 7 students will be invited to watch our school musical |
| Week 3 | Ambassador visits to primary schools our Year 8s will discuss the highlights of their year with upper primary school students. |
| Weeks 6-8 | Transition Interviews to discuss your child's individual needs. |
| Week 8 Monday and Tuesday | Two-day transition program for Year 7s attending Balaklava High School in 2021. |
| Week 8 Thursday and Friday | Two-day transition program for Year 6s attending Balaklava High School in 2021. |

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Michelle Pudney at Balaklava High School on 8862 0600.

Checklists and a message for parents and caregivers

Checklist – Find out the following using our school website <http://www.balakhs.sa.edu.au/>

- Find out about school uniforms (including sports uniforms) – where and when to buy them.
- Note school start and finish times.
- Get details on programs the school offers.
- Learn how you can become involved in the school.
- Meet the Middle School Assistant Principal.
- Connect with other parents and carers on social media.
- Find out about our school laptop program.
- Read our policies on mobile phones, hats and student wellbeing and discuss it with your child.

At home

- Talk positively to your child about the move to high school. Ask them what's exciting about high school. Does anything worry them?
- Make sure your child has a quiet work area and extra stationery supplies.
- Organise personal hygiene items in school bags.
- Decide what your child will do before and after school, and what time they need to be home.
- Discuss emergency and safety issues with them. Remind them they can always speak to the counselling staff at their school.
- Discuss the dangers of being distracted when crossing the road or riding – including talking and texting on the phone and wearing headphones.
- Work out a backup plan in case their travel routes change or they miss their transport.

We understand that you may have questions about your child going to high school. Our students' wellbeing is our priority, and we want to work with parents, carers and families to support them during this transition. If you have a question or issue and want to talk to someone before your child starts high school, you can contact Michelle Pudney or Sonia Pringle at the school on 8862 0600.

Kind regards
Michelle Pudney

HUMMOCKS NETBALL CLUB—SEASON 2021 SENIOR TRIAL & JUNIOR BONDING SESSION—PORT WAKEFIELD COURTS

Seniors—Sunday 14th February 2021 at 10am-12:30pm Juniors—Time: 11:30am-12:30pm



Junior age players interested in playing for Hummocks in 2021, come and join us also on the 14th of February for a fun interactive session with Thunderbirds training partner and U21 Australian squad member Tayla Williams. There will be an hour bonding session followed by registration and lunch. Please contact Ash Williams for more information—hncsecretary@hotmail.com or 0437 849 227

****Registrations now open****

Please note we will be participating in the Sports Vouchers program

Food Preparation with Miss Jo and Mr. Ellis for the “We’re Moving—Into a New School Year!”



Reading just 10 minutes each day makes a difference.



Be their reading legend.

Research confirms reading to children just 10 minutes each day strengthens literacy, models positive reading behaviour, and builds children's self-esteem about reading (especially for boys).

It doesn't stop there. You can show your children that you value reading by reading yourself. Having books in your house makes a big difference too. Either books you own or books you borrow from the library remind children of the importance and fun of reading.

The Premier's Reading Challenge is most successful when parents show interest and support their children. Help your child read their 12 books for the year and you will be making a positive difference to their future.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



Term 1 2021 Calendar

| | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|--|-----|-----|
| Week 1 | January 25 Pupil Free Day | 26 Australia Day Public Holiday | 27 Start of School Year! | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| Week 2 | February 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Week 3 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Newsletter | 13 | 14 |
| Week 4 | 15 | 16 Pancake Day | 17 | 18 | 19 Assembly—UP | 20 | 21 |
| Week 5 | 22 Governing Council AGM— 6pm | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| Week 6 | March 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | SWIMMING WEEK | | | | | | |
| Week 7 | 8 Adelaide Cup Public Holiday | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Newsletter Assembly—JP | 13 | 14 |
| Week 8 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| Week 9 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Newsletter Assembly—School Leaders | 27 | 28 |
| Week 10 | 29 | 30 | 31 | April 1 | 2 Good Friday | 3 | 4 |
| Week 11 | 5 Easter Monday | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Newsletter Assembly - SRC running End of Term 1—2.00pm dismiss | 10 | 11 |

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| Term 1 | 27th January—9th April 2021 |
| Term 2 | 27th April—2nd July 2021 |
| Term 3 | 19th July—24th September 2021 |
| Term 4 | 11th October—10th December 2021 |