



# NEWSLETTER

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Term 2 2024

## From the Principal

Dear Families

We've reached the halfway point of the year with the midyear break only days away. As the weather has turned quite wintry there has been a distinct uptick in sickness across both students and staff which has presented some challenges in this last half of Term 2. Whilst we don't want students missing too much school time we do certainly appreciate families keeping sick students at home. It's the only way to prevent the wider spread of illness across the school. Hopefully the mid year break will act as a circuit breaker for illnesses and we will start Term 3 with the majority of students and staff back on board.



Since the beginning of the year we have been working on improving our facilities across the school. We had made a significant application for Commonwealth assistance but unfortunately were unsuccessful. However, we have committed to some courtyard upgrades in the Primary and Junior Primary units which we will fund as a school. This is a costly exercise and so we will need to do it in stages with the Primary Unit being the first priority. There have been other facilities works in progress (e.g., gate locks, drop off zone works, an additional room space created in the Pink Building) all school funded but also some department funded works (a glass wall replacement in H block, carpark lighting and central courtyard major maintenance) approved.

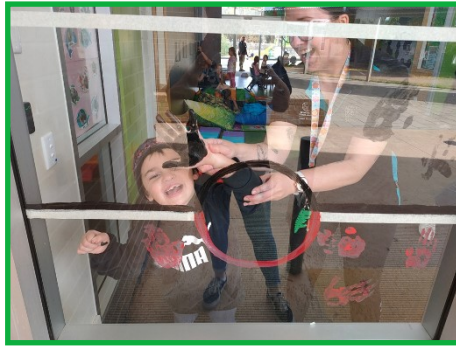
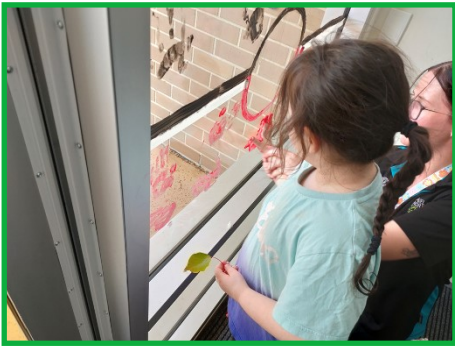
As we do at the commencement of Terms 1 to 3, Monday 22nd July will be a Pupil Free Day with students returning to school on Tuesday 23rd. One of our major tasks on that Monday will be to commence planning for class placements in 2025. While 2025 may seem a long way off, our experience over the last couple of years has been that beginning the placement planning early has great benefits. That's especially true this time as we know we have a large bubble of secondary aged students next year and not enough rooms in the senior building to accommodate them all. So, some of our secondary students will need to be accommodated in another unit (most likely the Primary Unit). At the end of 2025 we have a large cohort of Year 12 students graduating and so our placement pressure will be greatly reduced for the commencement of the 2025 school year.

This last term there has also been a significant change to how we make medications available to students. We have seconded specially trained SSOs to carry out this task in a purpose built 'dispensary' to ensure our students receive their medications in the safest, most personalised and efficient way. This system has been working well this term and we are planning more improvement 'tweaks' to the process next term.

I wish you all well for the mid-year break and look forward to seeing you again from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Kindest regards

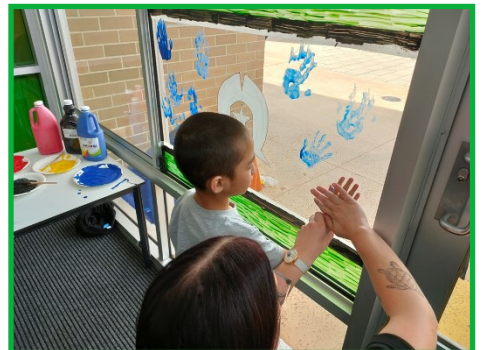
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## Green Unit

### Ashlee Barnes and Laura Tunn

For Reconciliation Week, the classes in the Junior Primary Unit came together to engage with two different activities to celebrate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. One of the activities was making flags of each group of people with handprints on the front windows of the unit. Lots of us enjoyed using our hands to paint and had so much fun doing this activity that we did multiple handprints! The other activity was to create and decorate boomerangs using playdough and natural items. Using playdough mat templates, we rolled the playdough and stuck and pressed gumnuts, leaves, sticks and rocks into our boomerangs. We also used some Aboriginal symbol stamps to decorate our boomerangs.







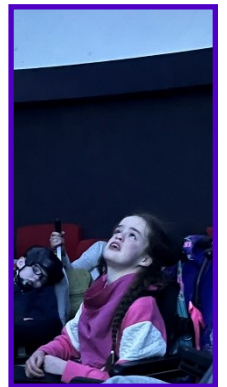
# PURPLE UNIT

Penny James & Kaitlyn Zieke-Malone

## The Adelaide Planetarium

This term students in Kaitlyn's and Penny's classes visited the Adelaide Planetarium. We learnt about the night sky and the importance of the stars to Aboriginal culture. We learnt about the constellations and saw some planets. We got to see and touch a real meteorite. It was wonderful to see happy and interested students engaged in learning.

It was a lovely day so we had lunch together in the sunshine.







## Pink Unit

Kayla Mancini, Kat Wcislo & Emily Faulkner

Every Tuesday and Wednesday Pink Unit students engage in Science lessons. These involved a range of hands on activities designed to develop our student's awareness of the world around them. This term our theme was Seeds. Students examined and compared seeds of many types. They grew their own seeds and observed the changes that took place in the growing process. They also observed the changes that take place when certain seeds are cooked, like popcorn. Students had fun playing with seeds and making them into musical instruments. They also used sorting mats and graphs to help them organise and record their discoveries. Some of their favourite lessons were looking for seeds in fruit and exploring seed dispersal.

