



# NEWSLETTER

135 Douglas Drive, Munno Para West, SA 5115

PH (08) 8254 2625

Term 1 2025

## From the Principal



Dear Families

Term 1 is the longest term of the year and always a busy one given the arrival of a new cohort of Reception students in our school. As always our Junior Primary team has done a great job settling our new little people into their school routines. There were a few complications this year with a few of the new Reception students not starting until quite late in the term, however with only a couple of days of term left, all appear to be well settled.

We saw the return of hot weather this year after a couple of quite mild summers in previous years. Hot weather can play havoc with off-site activities (e.g., swimming). However, our new Hot Weather Policy for off-site activities worked well to minimise disruption of community access for our students which I know the great majority of families value for their students.

Our school has a great record for retaining staff year to year with this year being no different. To have a stable staff profile is of great benefit to our students as it enables continuity of relationships which is so beneficial to our students' wellbeing. Also, with the reduction in size of our Annex class at Elizabeth Vale we have a slightly reduced number of students. We have, however, maintained the number of classes from last year and managed to increase the staff student ratio supporting the learning and safety of all our students.

This year also marks the first year of our new School Learning Plan which provides the direction for learning in our school for the next three years. Staff have worked hard over the term to develop the plan and it is now ready for presentation to the Governing Council at the first meeting of Term 2. The process for this plan has been much more useful to our situation than previous planning procedures so we are confident in the plan being a practical document to support learning in our very special context.

Term 1 has been a successful start to the year and while we are all looking forward to the vacation period we are pleased at the way the term has set the scene for a successful balance of the school year.

I wish you all an enjoyable vacation period however it is that you choose to spend it. I look forward to seeing you all again in the new term. A reminder also that the first day of Term 2 is a Pupil Free Day with students returning as of Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of April.

Kindest regards and best wishes.

Cam



## GREEN UNIT

### Laura Tunn

In our JP class, we have been diving into a hands-on cooking lesson each week, increasing our independence and promoting life skills. Every session is an exciting adventure where the class explores basic cooking skills, from measuring ingredients to mixing and stirring. Through fun, age-appropriate recipes, students not only develop a love for food but also learn important lessons in teamwork and following instructions. As they prepare a different recipe each week, they gain an understanding of how to work together by waiting for their turn, and the cooking process. Each lesson is designed to be interactive and engaging, allowing students to enjoy the process of creating something delicious. No matter what we make, our weekly cooking lessons are a highlight of the day, giving children a sense of accomplishment and encouraging a lifelong appreciation for cooking, even if we do hate when the food is taken to the oven to cook!

## GREEN UNIT

### Maddy Dennis

B3 have had a fantastic start to the year, settling into the new school year with some new Receptions joining us.

As part of our literacy theme this term, the students in B3 have been exploring the colourful world of Eric Carle through his beloved books; from *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* to *The Very Mixed Up Chameleon* and more! To bring these books and animals to life, we have enjoyed engaging in book crafts each week. Some of our creations include our busy spiders, colourful chameleons and furry polar bears, which are proudly displayed in our classroom. Supporting student's communication through AAC by making choices and comments about our work, is also a large focus.





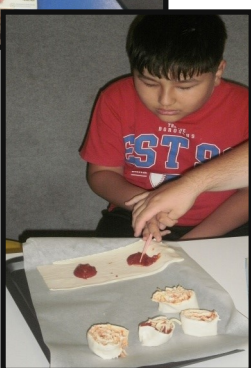
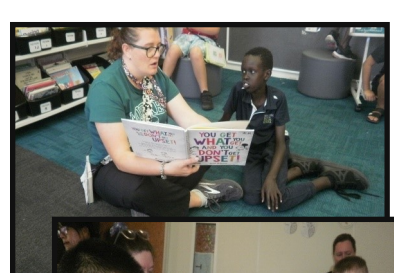
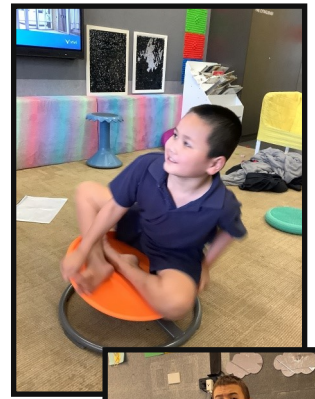
## YELLOW UNIT

Sarah Skuse

This term in Room C4, we have had a fantastic time learning how to regulate and meet our sensory needs within the classroom. Understanding the importance of sensory regulation is crucial for our students' well-being and learning, and it's been rewarding to see them engage with various tools and activities designed to support this.

Our sensory-friendly activities have provided students with valuable opportunities to develop self-regulation skills. One of the highlights has been the spinning chair, which offers a fun and calming way for students to practice balance and focus. Many have enjoyed the mini trampoline as well, where they can release energy in a healthy and engaging way.

These sensory activities are not only fun but also play an essential role in supporting our students' emotional regulation and focus throughout the day. We look forward to continuing to incorporate these sensory-rich experiences into our classroom routine as we work together to build an environment where every student can thrive.



## YELLOW UNIT

Claire Palmer

C2 has been busy in term 1 this year! There has been hard work in literacy learning tasks, with students building their independence in learning by using a literacy menu to make choices about activities. A favourite activity is using shaving foam to make letters.

Each week, we visit the library, the students enjoy reading books together and with teachers. Each student chooses a book to borrow and bring back to the classroom. We also visit the gym on Tuesdays with classes C5 and C6. The students are learning to play What's the time Mr Wolf, Duck Duck Goose and Fruit salad.

The favourite day of the week in C2 is Thursday because we do a cooking lesson! The students have made, pizza scrolls, chocolate crackles, fruit skewers, toast and chocolate coconut balls.

It has been a fun start to the year in C2!

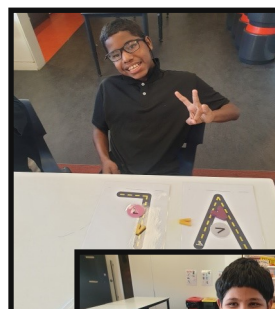
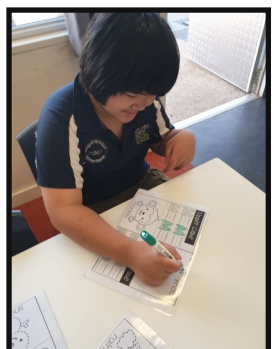
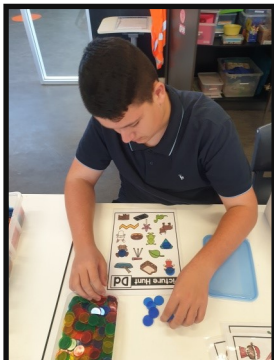




## ORANGE UNIT

### Darren Bradshaw

What a great start we've had to 2025, and one of the highlights has been participating in One Culture Sport sessions each Monday morning. With a focus on basketball and soccer skills, it's been a great way to get moving, practice the social skills we've been learning in class, all while having fun and learning new skills. It's been very pleasing to see how each student has developed not just their sporting skills this term, but seeing students who weren't keen to have a go early on grow their confidence to the point where they wanted to get up and participate has been amazing!



## ORANGE UNIT

**Christelle Pleasance / Luke Stephenson**

Students in CLE6 participate in daily literacy lessons which follow the Four Blocks: guided reading, self-selected reading, writing, and working with words. This ensures a balanced and multi-level approach to literacy where the diverse learning needs of our students are met. One of our favourite blocks is working with words. Students enjoy selecting from a range of sensory options to practice identifying letters, letter sounds and our weekly words. The engagement and smiling faces in these photos show how proud we are of our learning!