



NEWSLETTER

Week 4 Term 2 2022



Principal: Kris Robson
Deputy Principal: Amanda Gulliver

4 Seymour Street, Eden Hills 5050 Phone: 8278 5355 www.blackwoodps.sa.edu.au

An IB school valuing, supporting and inspiring a community of lifelong learners

Important Diary Dates

Thursday 26 May

Police Band Performance

Friday 27 May

Rooms 4&5
Art Gallery Excursion

P&F Movie Night
5.45 for 6pm start

Friday 3 June

Rooms 1&2
Art Gallery Excursion

Week 5

Reconciliation Week

Week 6, 6-10 June

Swimming Rec-Yr5

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break with their children and managed to spend some valuable time with family.

We have had a smooth start to the term with very few student COVID cases affecting our school. We are still, however, seeing a continued impact on staffing. We are so thankful to all of our wonderful relief staff who are regularly 'filling in' for our classroom teaching staff.

Although we have had less student cases, the Department restrictions still remain in place until the end of this week (Week 4) which includes: face masks required for all adults (including visitors), except when teaching or interacting with children, when indoors and face masks are strongly recommended for students in Years 3 to 6.

From the start of **Week 5**, face masks in education will be:

- Strongly recommended (but not required) for all adults (including visitors) while indoors, except when it impedes ability to teach
- Strongly recommended (but not required) for students in Years 3 to 6 while indoors.

Face mask use in COVID-19 outbreaks:

- Face masks will be required to be worn temporarily in education settings when COVID-19 transmission reaches certain outbreak thresholds, based on SA Health advice.

Our new playground was opened last week after we had it audited to ensure it was safe. Mrs Fuller spent some time with classes developing skills for the new equipment. The children are having a great time exploring all of the new things they are able to do. At this stage we have rostered the time on the playground during recess and lunchtimes to ensure that everyone has enough space to play safely.

Over the past two weeks all of our students in Years 3 and 5 have participated in the NAPLAN assessments. The students completed the Writing, with our Year 3s continuing to do the pen and paper test and our Year 5s using the online platform. All students then completed the Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy assessment in the online format. This was the first time that any of these students had completed these assessments due to COVID, and we were really pleased with the way the students applied themselves during this time. It is important to remember that whilst these results are useful in giving us a snap shot view of children's learning our teachers are very well equipped to give a holistic view of where individual student learning is across all curriculum areas.



School Information

Student Absence

If your child will be absent from school, please send a txt through the

School Star App

or

SMS Text to

0427 016 460

Term Uniform Shop Opening Hours

School shop closed until further notice.

Open at Daws Road
Edwardstown

Ph: 8350 7933

KickStart Breakfast

Monday, Wednesday
& Friday

8:30am

Outside the Canteen

Lost and Found

Ensure all items are clearly labelled so we can return them to you and check the lost and found cupboard for missing items.

BPS Playgroup

Thursdays

0 – 4 year olds

9am to 11am

OSHC Room

School Tour Days

We offer school tours for new families & new students.

Contact Reception on 8278 5355 for the next tour date and to book.

To join, search for Blackwood PS Scene in Facebook and click on the Join button.



Over the first two weeks of term, teachers have also been conducting 3-way conferences with parents and students. It was great to be able to finally meet face to face for this event and have the opportunity to share student learning and develop future goals together. As these conferences have been delayed to the usual timing our Mid-Year Reports will also be slightly delayed. We anticipate that these reports will go home at the beginning of Term 3 instead of the end of Term 2.

As the weather is beginning to turn chilly we remind parents to check our school uniform policy to ensure that winter uniform is in line with the policy. In particular, please check children's pants and tights. The policy is included at the end of the newsletter or you can click on the following link: [Uniform Policy](#)

Governing Council Report

The Governing Council meeting on the 17th May provided us with some great insight into the work being undertaken in support of the Site Improvement Plan (SIP). Some dot points are below but if you have any questions please talk to one of the Governing Council members or you can ask the school directly.

- They have been working on an 'Understanding Map' which unpacks different types of thinking – for example making connections between issues or items, digging deeper into questions, teaching students how to ask good questions. These learning experiences help them to articulate the types of thinking they are using as they learn.
- They have focused on different Visible Thinking routines which draw that information out – an example is the '*See Think Wonder*' routine which gets the students to think deeply about a prompt such as images/pictures. A great example of this in action is Kris (Principal) did a walk around school and took photos of rubbish that had been left, then showed these to the children and they did a '*See Think Wonder*' to get them to really think about their environment. The children responded with comments like 'we see rubbish' and 'we wonder why people don't care about the school'.
- Teachers and students add to student thinking/ideas/comments with questions such as 'What makes you say that? Why do you think that?' to foster deeper thinking and questioning

We were also given a snapshot of the inquiry work being undertaken with the various year levels as follows:

- Reception/1 are looking at why places might be important to different people for their 'Where We Are in Place and Time' inquiry
- Years 1/2 have been learning 'How the World Works' by learning about how chocolate is made, repurposing crayons by melting them down and remaking, looking at how people get colours into glass
- Years 2/3 are about to go into their science unit under 'How the World Works' and will look into how heat moves from one object to another
- Years 3/4 are looking at 'How We Express Ourselves' by learning about signs and symbols that are used to communicate and other methods of communication
- Years 5/6 are looking at 'Where We Are in Place and Time' by studying the reasons behind migration.

Athletics Day Placegetters

Once we were able to hold school assemblies we booked in an outdoor assembly for Friday 6th May. Unfortunately, the weather was wet and cold so we ended up holding a Zoom Assembly where students were presented their awards in their class. The results are below:

Individual Results:

10 Year old Boys:	1 st : Jai G 2 nd : Tyson M 3 rd : Ashby 4 th : Noah P	10 Year old Girls:	1 st : Addy M 2 nd : Annie 3 rd : Asher 4 th : Victoria
11 Year old Boys:	1 st : Marshall 2 nd : Oscar B 3 rd : Axl 4 th : Wyatt	11 Year old Girls:	1 st : Isabel P 2 nd : Maddy O 3 rd : Grace 4 th : Ellen
12 Year old Boys:	1 st : Mitchell 2 nd : Tyson P-W 3 rd : Macklin 4 th : Eden L	12 Year old Girls:	1 st : Dakota 2 nd : Isla G 3 rd : Lily M 4 th : Eliana



Meet Blackwood's First Language Leaders

This year, Blackwood Primary School has introduced the role of Year 6 Language Leaders. The purpose of this role is to help promote Japanese and other languages, and ultimately find ways to celebrate the diversity of our school community.

All Year 6 students were welcome to apply. After a written application and interview, three leaders were selected. Meet our Language Leaders for 2022:



Abbie M (Room 1)

I'm Abbie and I'm a Language Leader this year. I'm happy to be one of the first and am excited to help school and Sensei to organise and run activities, help with the Japanese Garden, and so much more. I learnt Italian at my old school, and I'm excited to share with other students.



Izzy V (Room 2)

Hello, I'm Izzy, and I love learning about different places and about their culture. I've also just moved schools from one that taught Spanish. Since we are learning about bits of different languages, my Spanish knowledge could help educate others, not just in the Spanish language, but also about their culture. I would love to learn more and help educate other students. I'm excited to get to know everyone!



Willem V (Room 2)

I'm Willem and I am one of the new Language Leaders at Blackwood! I know a lot about Japanese and love learning it too. I've previously learnt Mandarin Chinese at my old school, and it is amazing trying to find connections between Japanese and Mandarin. I will try to improve the school's knowledge about Japan and Japanese by helping organise events at school with the other Language Leaders.

**QKR will close at 4pm
Thursday 26 May**

WHAT: MOVIE NIGHT! – SING 2

Tickets are \$3 (purchase through Qkr)

WHERE: Blackwood Primary School Hall

WHEN: Friday 27th May from 5.45pm (6pm start)

BYO: Beanbag, blanket or pillow for comfort, water bottle and nibbles

Please drop-off children for the event and then collect them at 7.40pm



Our Senior Student Leaders for 2022 cont.

Hello, I'm Dakota and I am Rosewall's School Captain. I have enjoyed being at Blackwood since starting here last year. I like to participate in different school activities such as Choir and Jump Rope. I think that I will enjoy the experience of being a student leader this year.



Hi, my name is James and I am the 2022 Thomson School Caption for this year. I'm looking forward to making the school better and running events too. My favourite thing to do is play footy and help other people. I'm caring to others and open-minded too. I'm going to enjoy being school captain this year and I'm hoping to do great in this role.

ANZAC Day Dawn Service Presentation

The three of us had the big responsibility of doing a speech at this year's ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the Blackwood Memorial. It felt amazing speaking in front of so many people from the Blackwood community. We have attended the Blackwood Dawn Services before, but to actually be part of the service is something we will never forget. Below is what we said:

We are very honoured to be speaking to you all about what ANZAC Day means to us. When we got together and discussed ANZAC Day's significance, there were 3 things that stood out to us – Bravery, care and reflection.

Bravery. *The bravery shown by our soldiers in war is huge, risking getting injured or losing their lives to protect Australia's freedom. Soldiers leave their children, their friends and their families behind, not knowing if they will ever see them again. We can't imagine how much bravery it took, how hard it would be, or how strong soldiers' hearts would need to be to do this.*

Care. *The care shown by our soldiers who fought in war, including those currently serving overseas, is enormous. Even though Australian soldiers do not know everyone who lives in their country, it was all of Australia who they fought for. They did it for love that they had for their families, their friends and their country. We are lucky to have had so many soldiers in our country's history who cared so much for all of us and what Australia is as a nation.*

Reflection. *To us, ANZAC Day is such an important day for us all to reflect and remember all of those who have served our country. It is to acknowledge that we would not have all the freedom that we have in Australia today, without what our soldiers have done for us. The poppy flower is something we think of when remembering what this day is about. To us, it symbolises that we are able to grow older and grow happy due to those who served Australia. As primary school students, we can also reflect on ourselves, on what we can do, big or small, to help make our great country even better.*



By Dakota, Henry and Isla

Debating - Round 1

Blue Year 5 Team



At our school we have two debating teams. There is a Year 5 team and Year 6 team. We (Year 5 team), had the topic 'Cats are better than dogs' and we were the negative team, which meant that we disagreed with the topic. We started with brainstorming ideas and arguments that we could use against the other team (rebuttals). We had to research lots of websites to find evidence for our arguments. Did you know that dogs can do over 50 tasks like being a sheepdog, helping people with disabilities, and working with the police? Onadee was 1st speaker, 2nd was Aliya, Clio was our final speaker, Ari was our timekeeper. Wyatt came as an audience member to observe, note-take and give feedback. At first, it was very nerve-racking, but once we started it was fun like speaking in front of our class. Unfortunately, we lost but we had a really fun time and learned lots about how to debate next time. Onadee won the 'Best Speaker' award.



Aliya & Onadee

Red Year 6 Team

On Tuesday the 17th of May, we smashed our debate! Abbie, Lexi, Bella and Lorelei went to Pulteney Grammar School and had their first debate about 'Swooping magpies should be culled'. We were on the negative team. But after lots of preparation and hard work, we won our debate. We all had lots of nerves and had never debated before. So we were really happy and proud with how we went. Bella even won the 'Best speaker' award.

Bella & Lexi





UNIFORM POLICY



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Blackwood Primary School Mission Statement

To develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

The Blackwood Primary School Governing Council supports the wearing of the recognised Blackwood Primary School uniform which is itemised below.

Our aim is to provide a positive, equitable and safe learning environment for our students. The wearing of uniform clothing is an important factor in achieving this environment.

In accordance with the school's Sun Smart Policy, the wearing of hats is essential for play times and outdoor activities for Term's 1, 3 and 4. The hats are to be either legionnaire or broad brimmed hats in the school colour of green with the school logo on the front.

On enrolment of their child at Blackwood Primary School, parents will be provided with a copy of this policy. Uniform samples will be on display at the school and uniform is purchased from the Uniform Shop.

UNIFORM SHOP

A school uniform shop, run by Devon Clothing, is open on Mondays and Fridays from 8.15-9.15am; Wednesdays from 12.45-1.30pm; and Fridays from 3.00-3.45pm.

EXEMPTION

Every effort will be made to implement this policy in a reasonable and sensitive manner. The following issues will be considered in implementing the Uniform Policy:

- The needs of new and itinerant students.
- The values of students and parents/caregivers of other cultural backgrounds.
- The additional burden on families in financially disadvantaged situations. This will be addressed with discretion and sensitivity and procedures are in place to address financial disadvantage.

The Principal may exempt students from wearing the uniform upon written request from the

parents. Grounds upon which parents may seek exemption are:

- religious
- cultural or ethnic
- new students (time to purchase)
- itinerant students (short term visits)
- financial hardship

PROCEDURES FOR EXEMPTED STUDENTS

- Exemptions can only be made after written application to the Principal, who will keep a record of those students exempted.
- The Principal will inform class teachers of any student exemption.

PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING UNIFORM POLICY

- The Principal or Deputy Principal will contact parents by letter if students are often out of uniform.
- The Principal or Deputy Principal will keep a record of consequences and action taken to ensure compliance with the Uniform Policy.

UNIFORM ITEMS:

All items to be purchased from the Blackwood Primary School uniform shop

SUMMER OPTIONS

- Polo shirt (with striped collar & small logo)
- Grey shorts (Choice of two styles with and without elasticised waist)
- Summer uniform dress
- Mid weight culottes

WINTER OPTIONS

- Long sleeve polo (with striped collar & small logo)
- Polar fleece zip top
- Blackwood Primary School shell jacket
- Grey pants (Choice of two styles with and without elasticised waist)
- Polar fleece zip top



UNIFORM POLICY



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- Blackwood Primary School pinafore or skirt

SENIORS

- Windcheater designed yearly by students
- Year 7 polo top

ACCEPTABLE ACCESSORIES

Accessories to the school uniform need to be in keeping with the uniform policy

- Jewellery: watch, small, plain ear studs/sleepers, necklace (provided it is concealed by clothing), 1 flat ring
- Scarves, gloves, winter hats, hair ties etc. need to be in the schools colours of red, green or grey
- Stockings need to be in the school bottle green colour
- Socks need to be in plain colours of red, green grey, black or white.

NON ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Make up and coloured nail polish
- Jewellery not specified above
- Unsafe footwear such as thongs and shoes with heels.
- Leggings of any style or colour

**WOW KIDS
DRAMA Workshop:**

Prancelot's Unicorn Academy

Welcome to Prancelot's Unicorn Academy, a school for all magical creatures and special humans like you!

Professor Priscilla Prancelot will teach you about the magic and marvels of the Unicorn world, a wondrous world except for Priscilla's sister, the wicked Verucca Shadowhorn! Will you help Priscilla defend the Darkling Forest and stop Verucca's plan to destroy it?

For kids ages 5-8 years

Mitcham Library
2pm | Saturday 28 May | \$5

MITCHAM LIBRARY SERVICE

Bookings essential via:
mitchamlibraryservice.eventbrite.com