

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

Important Diary Dates

Week 5

Science Week

Thursday 20 August

Offsite Choir Rehearsal

SAPSASA Boys
Basketball

Friday 21 August

Assembly 2.30pm
Rms 6 & 9 presenting

Week 6

Book Week

Wednesday 26 Aug

Year 1/2 Art Gallery
Excursion

Friday 28 Aug

Book Week
Character Parade

Thursday 3 Sept

State Athletics Day

Friday 4 Sept

Assembly 2.30pm
Rms 15&16 presenting

School Disco

Monday 7 Sept

School closure Day

Welcome

We have been very pleased to welcome 11 new Reception students to Blackwood this term, as well as new students in other year levels. They have settled in beautifully, and it has been lovely to see our continuing students welcoming them, helping them find their way around and making them feel part of our community. A big thank you to our students for being such caring and supportive buddies.



This term we also welcomed back Tiffany Sansome from maternity leave. She is teaching in Room 9 alongside Courtney Woodward in replacement of Lucy Sherwell who is expecting a baby later this term. Aiden O'Neill has also joined us as a classroom support SSO.

Student Feedback

One of the things I really value about being Principal at Blackwood Primary School is having the opportunity to regularly sit down with our students and hear what they think about their school. As a way of hearing progress against our Strategic Directions, I have been meeting with small groups of students over recent weeks to hear about their experiences at Blackwood what they enjoy, what they value and what they think we could do even better. There was a lot to be proud of in what our students shared.

Students consistently described Blackwood as a safe, caring and supportive school where wellbeing is prioritised. They spoke very positively about the relationships they have with their teachers and the support they receive when things are challenging. They particularly valued having adults at school they can talk to, as well as the different strategies and spaces available to help them manage their emotions and friendships.

Our students were also able to articulate why their learning is important. They talked about inquiry learning, the IB Learner Profile, exhibitions, enterprise activities and opportunities to apply literacy and mathematics in real-world situations. They also spoke about having a voice in their learning through goal setting, leadership opportunities, choosing levels of challenge and pursuing their own interests.

Perhaps the most pleasing feedback was simply that students enjoy coming to school. They identified our caring staff, engaging learning, quality facilities and strong sense of community as some of the things they value most about Blackwood.

Of course, our students also had some ideas about how we could make things even better! They suggested improvements to playgrounds and play spaces, greater access to technology and continuing to look after our beautiful school environment. I always enjoy hearing these suggestions as our students often see things from a perspective that adults don't.

School Information

Student Absence

If your child will be **absent** from school, please text

0498 811 598 with

- Child's name
- Reason for absence
- Parents name

or email or ring the school to notify us.

Term Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Monday 8:15 – 9:15
Wednesday 12.45 - 1.30
Friday 8:15 – 9:15
3:00 – 3:45

Ph: 0431 776 713

KickStart Breakfast

Everyday
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.

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.

Wellbeing & Engagement

We have also recently received our latest Wellbeing and Engagement Collection (WEC) results from the Department for Education. There is a lot to celebrate, with students reporting positive improvements in 22 of the 28 wellbeing measures over the past 12 months.

In particular, we have seen encouraging improvements in students' sense of belonging with their peers, resilience, school climate, friendship relationships and connections with important adults at school.

These results are really encouraging and reflect the work of our staff, students and families to create a positive and supportive school environment. At the same time, the data helps us identify where we need to keep working. We will continue to use student voice, wellbeing data and classroom observations to strengthen the ways we support students' emotional regulation, resilience and wellbeing.

Staff Learning

Our staff have also been busy with professional learning this term. Our recent Student Free Day provided opportunities for staff to further develop their understanding of the SA Curriculum, particularly in mathematics, and to explore how we can continue to develop students' learning dispositions.

Teachers are also continuing our work in literacy, with a focus on strengthening phonics, spelling and morphology. This is an important part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that all students receive the support and challenge they need to become confident and capable readers and writers.

Grounds/Facilities

There is also plenty happening around our school. Work has commenced on our new shed on the oval, and we are continuing to plan improvements to our upper primary playground. Work on the boys' toilets is also progressing.

Car Park

I thought that I would take this opportunity to remind families to use the car parks available at school pick up, before lining up in cars through the car park space. Lining up in your car blocks access to the staff car park, as well as available car park spaces. The Mitcham Council has recently reached out and mentioned they will be patrolling the areas during peak periods as cars have been banked up onto the main road. Yard Duty occurs until 3:40pm. Please communicate clearly with your children about pick up times as families are not allowed to park in the kiss and drop zone to wait.

Thank you to our students, staff and families for the part you each play in making Blackwood such a wonderful school community.

Sam Mosley
Principal

Please click to like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



@Blackwoodprimaryschool



Blackwood Primary School

Performing Arts Update

Term 3 has been a busy and exciting time in Performing Arts at Blackwood Primary School!

Drama

During the first four weeks of Term 3, students from Reception to Year 6 have been exploring different aspects of Drama.

Our Reception to Year 2 students have been focusing on getting “stage ready”. They have explored stage presence, voice, audience awareness, movement and expression through drama games, mime and freeze frames. Students have also been developing characters and learning how their voices and bodies can communicate ideas and emotions.

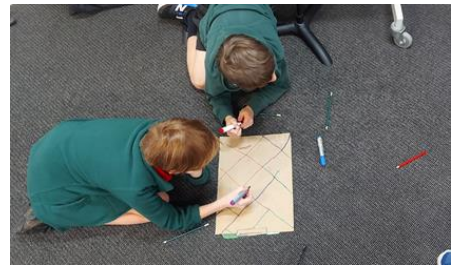
In Years 3 and 4, students have started exploring **Drama Across Cultures**. They have been investigating why and where people make drama and looking at how drama can be different across cultures and contexts. Students have also begun exploring First Nations drama and the important connection to Country, thinking about how ideas about place and meaning can be communicated through movement.

Our Year 5 and 6 students have also been exploring how drama reflects culture. They have been looking at how drama can communicate ideas, traditions and perspectives and have begun analysing how elements such as voice, movement and setting can create meaning.

Music Club

Music Club also had a chance to perform in Week 2! Our students performed **“Everybody (Backstreet’s Back)” by the Backstreet Boys** for some members of our school community. It was fantastic to see the students sharing their music and performing with confidence.

We are now beginning work on our next song: **“Believer” by Imagine Dragons**. We are looking forward to seeing how the students develop this new performance!



Choir

Our Festival of Music Choir is also working very well. With our big concert night coming up on **17 September**, rehearsals are becoming increasingly focused. At the moment, we are working mainly on **choreography**, adding movement and performance elements to our songs.

The students have been working hard and are making great progress as we prepare for this exciting opportunity to perform at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre.



Congratulations, Tiya!

We are also very pleased and proud to announce that **Tiya** has gained a position in the **Public Schools String Orchestra**. It is fantastic to see one of our students representing Blackwood Primary School in such a wonderful ensemble. Congratulations, Tiya — we are very proud of you!

Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off Day

On the last day of Term 2 we held our Jump Rope Jump Off Day, with all classes having the opportunity to demonstrate their skipping skills across the day.

Well done to our Jump Rope team who opened the day demonstrating their fantastic routine. These students worked hard on their routine for weeks during break times and during their own time.

Together our school raised an incredible **\$7,670** for the Heart Foundation.
Congratulations to our top fundraisers.

Esther	\$820
Sophie L	\$560
Hugo	\$528
Elliot	\$473
Eleanor	\$340



Japanese News



日本語



Last term some of our year 6 students participated in the Southern quiz day and the hiragana competition. Students formed teams with other students across the region to participate in quiz rounds and for the hiragana competition they represented our school against some very tough competition. On the quiz day Amit and Coen's team came second.

All the schools who participated had a lot of fun meeting and sharing their Japanese knowledge.
Yoku dekimashita! (well done)



Oliphant Science Awards

BPS is proud to recognise the outstanding creativity, curiosity, and scientific thinking demonstrated by our students through their participation in the **Oliphant Science Awards**. A remarkable total of 31 projects were entered by our students, both individually and collaboratively.



Participation in the Oliphant Science Awards offers valuable opportunities for our students to explore real-world problems, collaborate effectively, and express their learning in diverse and imaginative ways. It gives students the opportunity to apply the inquiry skills developed through our IB framework to real-world situations, reinforcing their scientific thinking and problem-solving abilities.

We are especially proud to share that our models and winning projects were showcased at Science Alive, giving our students the opportunity to share their ideas with the broader community and inspire others through science.



Congratulations to all the students who participated. Your enthusiasm, dedication, and innovative ideas embody the spirit of inquiry that lies at the heart of BPS. We look forward to seeing your continued curiosity and achievement in Science!



Year 5 Unit of Inquiry Report

In Term 2, the Year 5's unit of inquiry was **Where We Are in Place and Time**. Our central idea was **Learning about the past can help us plan for the future**. Our lines of inquiry were *historical change, impacts of technology and using digital systems responsibly*. The learner attributes we showed during our learning was becoming *Knowledgeable* about technology, past and present. We were *Inquirers* by asking questions about the future and researching technology we weren't familiar with. We were *Principled* by using technology responsibly and giving credit to the resources we used. We engaged in a range of activities, including:

- Presenting our technology artefacts to younger classes in our Technology Museum. We showed the old pieces of technology that we (including staff from our school) brought to school for us to investigate and explain to others what they are, how they worked, etc.
- Learning about digital systems and their terminology.
- Exploring the history of the keyboard and how it was developed, then using typing programs to improve our typing skills.
- Using coding blocks to plan step-by-step instructions to solve simple problems.
- Discussing facts about developing technology and how it might impact us and our world in positive and negative ways.
- Wrote information reports about a type of technology of our choice, with some being developed into non-fiction books.
- Viewing artwork about the future of technology and interpreting the meaning of them. Also watching short clips of shows like the Jetsons to see how much of the predicted future has come true so far.
- Using our knowledge to develop our own ideas of how technology might change in the future, such as cars, planes, space travel, TV, computers and robots.
- Looking at ways we need to use technology, such as the internet, in safe and responsible ways, like being careful with our digital footprint.

Overall, students from both classes enjoyed the unit of inquiry as they felt it covered lots of important skills and thinking that will be helpful in the future.



How We Organise Ourselves

Communities create systems to meet the needs of people

Year 2 / 3

Our classes recently visited Adelaide Oval and Wallis Cinemas to deepen our understanding of the systems that help these venues operate successfully. Students explored how different systems work together to support people, manage resources, and create positive experiences for visitors.



During our Adelaide Oval tour, students discovered the rich history of this iconic venue and explored some incredible spaces, including the cricket commentators' box, the historic scoreboard, and areas that are usually behind the scenes. One of the highlights was entering the oval through the players' race while hearing a recording of a cheering crowd, allowing students to imagine what athletes experience on game day.



Throughout the visit, students investigated the many interconnected systems that help Adelaide Oval function, including accessibility systems, lawn care and maintenance, seating arrangements, ticketing, food and beverage services, team organisation, pulley systems, scoring systems, and the systems used to preserve the venue's history through the National Trust.



At Wallis Cinemas, students stepped into the world of movie entertainment and explored the systems that help a cinema run smoothly. Students enjoyed sitting in a theatre with their own box of popcorn while learning about the many processes happening behind the scenes. They investigated ticketing systems, candy bar operations, stock management, movie scheduling, screen and sound systems, building maintenance, security systems, reporting systems, and how staff roles are organised to support customers.

These experiences helped students recognise that systems are everywhere and that each part plays an important role in helping a larger system run effectively. Students are beginning to understand how systems are connected, how they can be improved, and how each individual part contributes to the success of the whole.



Upcoming events at Blackwood Primary School.

Please add these events to your calendar.

Term 3

Book Week Book Character Parade

Friday 28th August 2026 (Term 3, Week 6).

Parade to commence at 9:30am.

Dress as your favourite book character. Theme: 'A Symphony of Stories'

(If you are struggling to find a costume, please come and see Ms. Johnson in the front office)

School Disco

Friday 4th September 2026 (Term 3, Week 7).

\$5 Entry Fee. Book via Qkr!

Reception to Year 3: 6:00pm - 7:15pm

Year 4 to Year 6: 7:30pm - 8:45pm

School Closure Day (Show Day)

Monday 7th September 2026 (Term 3, Week 8)

A program will be available through OSHC for those with bookings. Please reach out to OSHC team to determine availability.

Festival of Music (Choir)

Thursday 17th September 2026 (Term 3, Week 9)

Adelaide Entertainment Centre

See information from Milan Heil for participating families

Term 4

IBPYP Exhibition (Year 6 Families)

Tuesday 27th October 2026 (Term 4, Week 3)

3:00pm-5:00pm

Hosted in Ashby Hall (Gym)

Children's University Graduation

Thursday 29th October 2026, Daytime event (Term 4, Week 3)

Adelaide University - Bonython Hall

More information to be provided to participating families from Judy Adami.

Colour Fun Run

Friday 30th October 2026 (Term 4, Week 3)

Afternoon Session hosted at school.

More information to come.

Sports Day

Friday 13th November 2026 (Term 4, Week 5)

Full Day program hosted at school.

More information to come.

Learning Showcase/ Celebration Evening

Monday 7th December 2026 (Term 4, Week 9)

More information to come.

(Currently planning for a showcase of learning as well as performances from students and a mini Christmas concert).

Year 6 Graduation

Wednesday 9th December (Term 4, Week 9)

5:30pm for a 6:00pm start.

Hosted at Blackwood High School

We say a big welcome back to term 3 for our OSHC families! We almost can't believe that it is halfway through the year already!

Throughout the July vacation, we had many special and exciting days planned. These included a Teddy Bear Picnic Day, Wheelchair Sports day, a Kpop Demon Hunters disco day as well as trips to Bounce, Hahndorf Farm Barn and a couple of movies! The children had tons of fun at both our excursions and incursions, where they got to do various planned activities like painting, air dried clay creations, and learning about animals. It was an action packed vacation care and we are already well underway in planning our experiences for the next vacation care period!



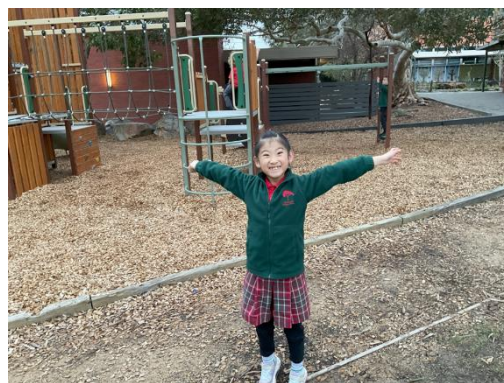
We began the third term of the school year with a carnival day as our pupil free day experience. Where the children took turns on the bouncy castle we had hired, as well as several carnival games and foods, such as giant snakes and ladders, the egg and spoon race and fairy floss!



After our pupil free day, our normal school routine commenced with the theme of safety week, where the children learnt how to keep safe on the roads and whilst they are online. We also completed our mandatory safety drills to help the children understand the procedures and what to do in case of an emergency. The children also enjoyed going outside during this time, exploring with imaginative play and sporting games!



The second week was about healthy eating and the Commonwealth Games! Where we set up learning experiences such as medal making and a giant food group activity for the children to enjoy. We also talked about the Commonwealth Games, watched a few sporting events, and talked about the history of the games and what countries were involved! It was awesome to see the children enthusiastic and passionate about supporting the athletes that they look up to!



With term 3 of the 2026 school year well underway, it is sure to be another awesome term yet again for our OSHC children. We have a school closure day on Monday 7th September where we will be going to Wizbang. Please see below:

School Closure Day

Excursion

Monday September 7th
2026

 **Wizbang Family Fun Centre**

Excursion times: 10am til 2.15pm

Activities

- Minigolf**
- Lasertag**
- Dance room**
- Playgym**

**Bookings made via Xplor app and
complete a consent form from OSHC**

The block contains several illustrations: a child playing minigolf, a child playing lasertag, and two children in a playgym. There are also decorative stars and colorful abstract shapes in the background.

AFTER-SCHOOL



SEWING

CLASS



Term 3 bookings
open!

Kids only

For 7-17 year olds
Small groups
Materials and
machines included

Weekly classes

Thursdays
Held at
Blackwood
Uniting Church

www.ohsewcraftysa.com
Contact Sara at
ohsewcraftysa@gmail.com

