



# NEWSLETTER



**Principal: Linda Ritchie**  
**Deputy : James Laughton**  
**Student Wellbeing : Sylvia Jadrych**

**Phone: 86422722**



Please note our **family night** will now be held on Wednesday 6th December 2023, Week 8 instead of Week 9 as was originally planned. Please put the new date in your diaries!

## YEAR 6 TRANSITION TO PASS

On Thursday the 16th of November, our year 6 students attended a music and drama performance at Port Augusta Secondary School. The students involved range from year 7 to 12. It was very entertaining and enjoyed by all. Thank you to Marsha and Miss J for supporting the students during the visit.



## Diary Dates for Term 4

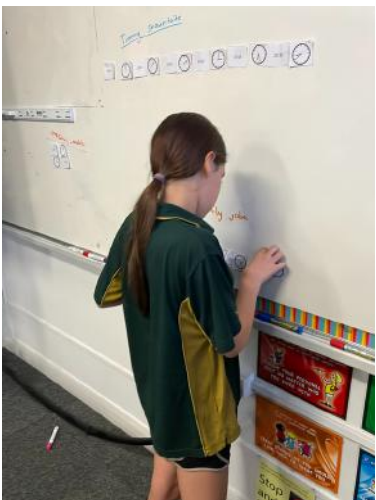
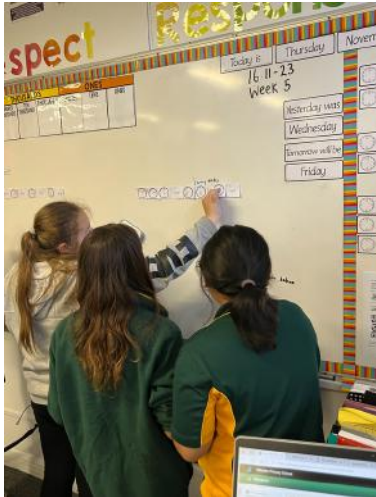
- Swimming lessons continue - Week 7
- Family Night - Wednesday 6/12
- Year 6 Transition Visit - Mon 11/12 & Tues 12/12
- Year 6 Graduation - Monday 11/12
- Splash Day - Thursday 14/12
- Last day of term - Friday 15/12 (Early Dismissal)



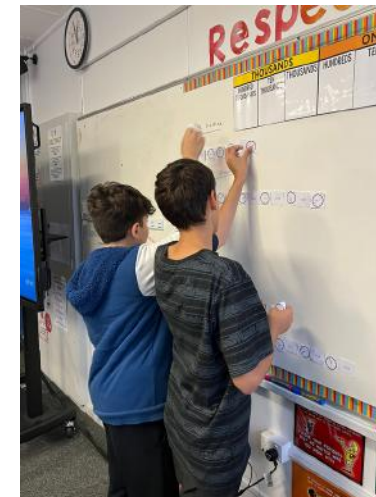
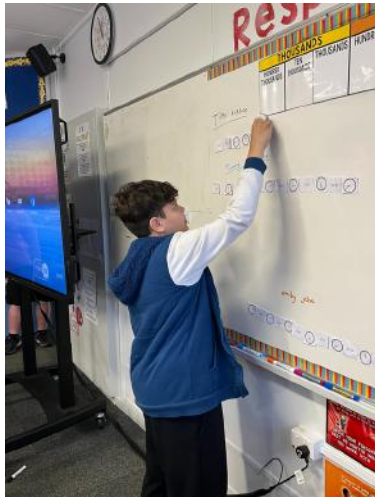
Don't forget to like us on Facebook

# ROOM 15

In Room 15, we've been learning about time in our maths lessons. We focused on AM and PM, and how to switch between 24-hour and 12-hour time. In the pictures, students worked in pairs to arrange analogue and digital clocks into a chronological order. They used what they knew about time to do this activity together. All students worked well and could demonstrate their knowledge of time.



# MATH



# TIME



# Around the school

## JUNIOR PRIMARY EXCURSION

On Monday 13th November students from Room 5, 7 and 8 went on an excursion to the Arid Lands Botanical Garden and West Side foreshore beach. Students enjoyed the guided tour delivered by volunteers, as well as exploring the gardens with school staff. Students loved searching for sleepy lizards, seeing kangaroos up close and finding the animal statues hidden in the garden. Students then had a play on the nature playground. They loved climbing, playing with sticks and rocks and being creative with the resources around, all whilst being safe and responsible. Before heading back to school, students stopped at the beach for hot chips and a run around.



# Around the school

## WW1 MEMORABILIA EVENT

The RSL conducted a WW1 Memorabilia event & exhibition this year in Port Augusta and were seeking our schools involvement.

Thank you to our students for contributing to the display in the Yarta Purtli Art Gallery by supplying poppies for the 'selfie wall' for the RSL Exhibition (photo at right)



## Book Giving Assembly

On Wednesday 15th November our whole school assembly was run by Room 7's Reception/Year 1 class. It was a special assembly because it was our Term 4 Book Giving Assembly from Books in Homes. Chelsey Footner, a member of the Port Augusta Writers Group, spoke to our students about her love of books and writing. We were also lucky enough to have Carlee Taylor from BHP Carrapateena (sponsor) at our assembly to hand out books to our students. We hope everyone is enjoying their beautiful books!



If your child is going to be away please contact the school on 86422722.

**As per our Attendance Policy the Attendance Team will follow the following process on a daily basis.**

1. If the family has not contacted the school, the Attendance Team will attempt to contact via phone to seek the reason of non-attendance.
2. If the family is unable to be contacted, the Attendance Team will conduct a home visit to seek the reason of non-attendance.
3. If the family is not home at the time of the home visit, they will leave a calling card for the family to contact the school.

# Around the school

## KEY MESSAGES FROM THE AUTISM INCLUSION TEACHER CONFERENCE

I recently attended the Autism Inclusion Teacher (AIT) Conference in Adelaide. Many AITs over the state attended and we learned many things that I found very important. I want to share just a few key messages from one of the topics - 'Autism with Anxiety'.

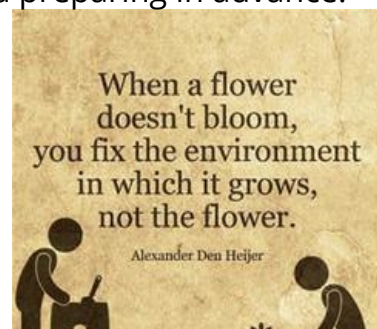
We learned that it is important for teachers to have knowledge about typical anxiety but also we need to understand a lot more about autism **with** anxiety. This is because more autistic students experience anxiety than their neurotypical peers. For example, they may feel more anxious about schedule changes or loud noises. We need to take an autistic perspective on uncertain situations.

Also anxiety may present differently in autistic students, and can be difficult to spot. They might run away, cry, become sensitive to lights, become angry or noncompliant. We need to recognise students' anxiety, and their behaviour should not be misinterpreted.

The presenter said many factors contribute to anxiety and we can't change the students, but we have the potential to change the environment to support them. The environment includes; parent-teacher collaboration, understanding, a quiet space, predictability, routines, rules, and preparing in advance. The quote below was shared in the presentation!

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and have a chat anytime.

**Kyoko Miyamoto (Autism Inclusion Teacher)**



## Open Parachute Mental Health Program

We are pleased to share with you that this term our classroom teachers have been trialling the Open Parachute Mental Health Program with their students. This program addresses issues of stigma surrounding mental health in young people, encourages help-seeking, and creates a culture of mutual support and respect for any struggles that students may face. This program was developed by Dr Hayley Watson, an adolescent clinical psychologist who has been developing programs globally for the past 15 years. If you would like some more information about the program, please come in and see our Wellbeing Leader, Sylvia Jadrych, who will be happy to assist you.



# Around the School



Helen Connolly, the Commissioner for Children and Young People South Australia, is working to develop a Kids/Youth Plan for Port Augusta and on Tuesday 21st November she visited our Year 4/5/6 classes to get their input about what would make Port Augusta a great place for kids.

Some of the questions that Helen asked the students included: what is your favourite thing to do after school / your favourite way to relax? What are some of your favourite places to go in Port Augusta? What is working well for kids? What should Port Augusta focus on to make things better for kids? The student's insights, ideas and contributions will inform the development of a Port Augusta Youth Plan.



## ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Assembly was hosted by Room 7 and held on Wednesday 15th November

Room 5	Makayla	For improving her attendance this term & always trying her best
Room 7	Layton	For always trying his best and settling into a new class
Room 8	Ava	For always helping out around the classroom
Room 13	Seth	For always coming to school with a wonderful attitude and trying his best
Room 15	Jobe	For becoming more responsible in his learning
Science	Nevaeh	Outstanding questioning and sharing of ideas in Science
Science	Eudopema	Completing all tasks with a great understanding
HPE	Chevy	Helpful in class and learning with great enthusiasm
HPE	Jaxson	Showing improvement in regulating his emotions when challenged

## SCHOOL VALUES AWARDS

Room 5	Cayde	Showing respect towards all staff and his peers
Room 7	Anton	Being a responsible learner
Room 8	Wyatt	Extending his own learning through an increased commitment to learning tasks
Room 13	Quinntaine	Taking responsibility with his work and actions
Room 15	Kalara	Working independently and taking risks in her learning