



# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Term 2 Week 3  
May 2026

**“Reading is the gateway for children that makes all other learning possible.”**  
– Barack Obama

## LEARNING IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

It has been wonderful to see so many students and families involved in recent and upcoming school events that help build a strong sense of belonging, connection and fun across our community. Our Mother's Day Stall was a big success, with students excited to choose special gifts for their loved ones, and it has also been fantastic to see students continuing to engage in Home Reading each night. This week we look forward to our Book Fair and VIP Day celebrations, all providing opportunities for students and families to come together, celebrate learning and enjoy being part of our school community.

## SCHOOLS ARE SMOKE AND VAPE-FREE

Just a reminder to our community that schools are smoke-free and vape-free areas under the updated Amendment Act. This includes all school grounds, early childhood services and children's services facilities, as well as areas within 10 metres of the school boundary. These changes are in place to help protect children, staff, families, and visitors from passive smoke and e-cigarette aerosol, and to support a safe and healthy environment for everyone. We appreciate everyone working with us to keep our school a healthy and welcoming place for all students and families. Please see article on page 3 for more information.

## DRESS CODE

To help keep our school a safe and respectful place for everyone, we ask families to support our school dress code. Items like baseball caps, hoods, jeans, midriff or tank tops, ripped clothing, very short skirts or shorts, and excessive jewellery are not part of our school expectations. Makeup, false and painted nails, eyelashes and body piercings (other than simple ear studs or sleepers) are also not permitted. We appreciate families helping students come to school dressed comfortably, appropriately and ready for learning each day.

**TERM 2** is off to a great start, with students settling quickly and classrooms buzzing with learning. Strong routines and positive attitudes have helped everyone get straight back into the swing of things, and it's been great to see students giving things a go and supporting each other along the way. We've also made sure there's been plenty of fun, laughter and exciting activities across the school, creating a happy and positive vibe to start the term.

Kind Regards,  
Julie Stockdale- Head of Junior School  
[Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au)

## DIARY DATES

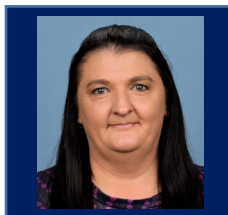
**WEEK 4**  
**NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK**  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
**BOOKFAIR**  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May  
**VIP DAY**

**WEEK 5**  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May  
**GOVERNING COUNCIL**  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May  
National Simultaneous Storytime  
**'Luna Roo' Special Lunch**

**WEEK 6**  
**RECONCILIATION WEEK**  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
**BIGGEST MORNING TEA**  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June  
**ASSEMBLY @ 1.30pm**



## MEET THE STAFF

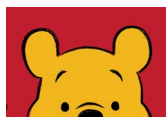


**Belinda Wilson**

To be honest, I probably don't need much of an introduction! But for those who may not know me, my name is Belinda and I've been a GDC here for over 12 years now — so I'd say I'm pretty much part of the furniture.

I'm passionate about the work I do and love being part of such a supportive school community. Outside of school, I'm passionate about animal rescue, supporting the community, and spending time in the garden.

I'd describe myself as kind-hearted, down-to-earth, and someone who still believes in the wisdom of Winnie the Pooh — because sometimes the simplest lessons are the most important ones.



## JUNIOR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

### Julie Stockdale

Head of Junior School R-6

[Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au)

### Michaela Selway

Junior School Inclusion & Pedagogy Leader & AIT

### Skye Miller

Junior School Wellbeing & Engagement Leader

## NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME on 27<sup>th</sup> May

**National Simultaneous Storytime**

On the Wednesday the 27th of May 2026 GDC B-12 Junior School will be celebrating National Simultaneous Storytime. All students will read Adam Jackson, Adrian Lloyd and Jake A Minton's, 'Luna Roo' simultaneously at 12pm.

We will be offering a Party Meat Pie, Party Sausage Roll, Iced Cupcake and a Soccer Ball Fidget Spinner for students to enjoy during Lunch, available for order.

ORDERS CLOSE MONDAY THE 25TH OF MAY 2026

**LUNA ROO**  
the KANGAROO BALLER

27 May 2026  
[www.luna.roo.sa.edu.au](http://www.luna.roo.sa.edu.au) #lunastorytime

**Luna Roo - NSS Lunch Deal**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed slip along with money to class teacher or

**Australian Soccer Teams**

The Australia men's and women's national soccer teams wear green and gold and play games against teams from around the world. They train hard, pass the ball, and work together to score goals.

When the Socceroos and Matildas play, they feel many different emotions. They feel proud to represent their country. They might feel nervous and excited when they run onto the field in front of a big crowd. When players practice a lot, they can feel confident in their skills. They may also feel brave when they take a big kick or try to score a goal.

Players can also feel doubtful if they think they might miss a goal. They can feel worried before an important game. Some players might even feel shy when lots of people are watching them play.

All of these feelings are normal. Even the best players, like Sam Kerr, can feel different emotions during games. What matters is that they keep trying, help their teammates, and never give up.

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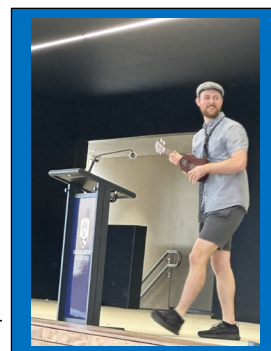
Every year, children all across the country gather with teachers, family and friends to read the same book, on the same day, creating a sense of community from a shared love of reading as a part of an event called National Simultaneous Storytime.

This year, the chosen book is Luna Roo. Cheer for Luna Roo as she finds her inner strength on the field in this energetic underdog story.

Rookie captain Luna Roo leaves nothing on the pitch as she leads FC Outback in a thrilling face-off against Bush United. Faced with a spider goalkeeper, snakes in attack and bubbling nerves, Luna must trust her skills and her teammates to soar to victory....

## HOME READING

Home Reading is off to a fantastic start this term, thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of Mr Jacob, who is leading the way with the program. Students were buzzing after his fun assembly performance, and it was great to see so many children excited and motivated to build regular reading routines at home. There are plenty of rewards and celebrations happening along the way to recognise students' efforts and commitment to reading each night.



**A huge CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs Richardson's class, our very first class to achieve 100% home reading — what an amazing effort! Way to go, 3/4s! Keep up the great reading habits everyone.**



## Parent letter – new regulations

Dear parents and carers,

To make our schools a healthy and safe place for everyone, new regulations have been introduced which expand the smoke-free and vape-free areas around schools and preschools. This letter provides you with an update on the new rules and outlines expectations for parents, teachers and visitors to schools.

The laws aim to reduce the danger to children and young people from passive tobacco smoking and passive e-cigarette vaping.

From 1 March 2024, you must not smoke or vape anywhere on school grounds and within 10 metres of the school boundary. This includes:

- at school drop-off and pick-up zones that are within 10 metres of the school fence, gate or boundary
- on school ovals and sporting fields and within 10 metres of the boundary of the oval or sporting field
- footpaths, roads, public nature strips and public recreation areas that are within 10 metres of a school boundary.

These rules apply all the time, even outside of school hours. If caught in smoking or vaping in these areas, you may receive a fine from police or an authorised government officer.

SA Health has further [information about the new regulations](#) and [resources about the harmful effects of vaping](#) including support available for quitting.

Find out more about how the Department for Education manages [alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in schools](#) on our website. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and healthy environment for children and young people.

## MEET THE STAFF



### Bandana Basnet

Hi,  
My name is Bandana Basnet, and I am excited to be joining the school as the new PE Teacher in Junior School. I am a new graduate teacher originally from Nepal, and I'm thrilled to be starting my teaching journey here.

I have always loved being active and involved in sports, especially soccer, which has been a big part of my life for many years. I also enjoy playing a variety of sports and love watching cricket whenever I get the chance!

As a PE teacher, I am passionate about helping students build confidence, develop their movement skills, and most importantly, enjoy being active. I love seeing children challenge themselves, have fun, and discover new things they are capable of.

Outside of school, you'll probably find me at the soccer field, at the gym, or on a hike. I'm very excited to be part of the school community and look forward to getting to know everyone.



## JUNIOR SCHOOL CROSSING MONITORS



We are proud to introduce our new 2026 School Crossing Monitors! These students have completed their training and are already showing great commitment, leadership and responsibility in helping keep our students and families safe each day. A roster has been created so everyone knows who is on duty. Please take the time to acknowledge and thank our crossing monitors for the important role they play in caring for our school community. Well done to all students involved — we are very proud of your leadership and dedication to keeping everyone safe.

|           | 2026<br>Term 2<br>Traffic Crossing Monitors |                               |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
|           | Morning Duty<br>8.30-8.45am                 | Afternoon Duty<br>3.15-3.30pm |
| Monday    | Andre K                                     | Lilly C-B                     |
|           | Amelia H                                    | Ruby W                        |
| Tuesday   | Lella W                                     | Laura O'G                     |
|           | Liam V-G                                    | Zoe H-C                       |
| Wednesday | Sara K                                      | Lella W                       |
|           | Aurora D                                    | Liam V-G                      |
| Thursday  | Amelia B                                    | Hayla K                       |
|           | Sara K                                      | Lilly A                       |
| Friday    | Hayla K                                     | Harry B                       |
|           | Ruby W                                      | Malcolm H                     |

## Junior School Karra Kurlana Family Group

Hi all, Here is the Niina Marni plan for term 2 and what we will be doing each week. This term we will be having our high school teachers from selected subjects run group activities with our Niina Marni kids in hopes to build a stronger relationship between staff and Jnr school students. We look forward to seeing you all Wednesday for another exciting term. Just a reminder that families are more than welcome to come along to our Niina Marni afternoons and our groups run from 3:15pm - 4:30pm.

Thanks, Aboriginal Education Team



## NIINA MARNI

| WEEK   | ACTIVITY                                | FOOD                  |
|--------|---|-----------------------|
| WEEK 2 | THEME: IMPORTANCE OF CARING FOR COUNTRY | FRUIT/PIZZA SCROLLS   |
| WEEK 3 | THEME: ANIMAL TRACKING                  | FRUIT/LAMINGT ONS     |
| WEEK 4 | NO NIINA MARNI (POWER CUP)              | POWER CUP             |
| WEEK 5 | THEME: MINI BUSH GARDEN PROJECT         | FRUIT/ SAUSAGE SIZZLE |

## NIINA MARNI

| TERM/ WEEK | ACTIVITY                           | FOOD               |
|------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| WEEK 6     | PE FACULTY ACTIVITY                | FRUIT/HONEY JOYS   |
| WEEK 7     | ART FACULTY RUNNING ACTIVITY       | FRUIT/PARTY PIES   |
| WEEK 8     | TECH FACULTY RUNNING ACTIVITY      | FRUIT/YOGHURT BARK |
| WEEK 9     | FOOD TECH FACULTY RUNNING ACTIVITY | FRUIT/MINI WRAPS   |
| WEEK 10    | NO NIINA MARNI (END OF TERM)       | END OF TERM        |

# Reception 41.4



The year so far in Reception has been very busy! We have done a lot and learnt so much already.



We celebrated Easter, decorated Easter biscuits and even had a visit from the Easter Bunny.



Play is a large part of our Reception curriculum. We join with Miss Pagnozzi's Reception class on a Friday afternoon and have our STEAM lesson, where we mix groups and get to explore collaboratively together.



We had our class museum to investigate artefacts from the past.



We had Nature Play SA come and we got to work with our whole Blue building to learn in nature.



# CHILDREN'S *University*



We are incredibly proud to share that in our very first year of implementing Children's University at GDC, we already have 35 students participating in the program! Our students have been enthusiastically earning hours through lunchtime clubs, activities, and out-of-school events, showing great commitment to their learning beyond the classroom. It has been wonderful to see their excitement and dedication, and I can't wait to continue supporting our students throughout their Children's University journey.



## Mother's Day Celeration in the Ochre Building

The Ochre Building in the Junior School was full of smiles, laughter, and a whole lot of love as we celebrated Mother's Day together 🌸

Our classrooms were buzzing as students welcomed their mums and grandparents for a very special morning. Instead of the usual school routine, everyone enjoyed creating beautiful crafts, thoughtful gifts, and decorating biscuits—all lovingly made to be taken home and treasured.

We finished off the morning with a yummy morning tea, giving everyone time to relax, chat, and soak up the lovely atmosphere. It was so special to see our students sharing these meaningful moments with the important people in their lives.

Thank you to all who joined us—it was a morning full of connection, creativity, and celebration 🧡 Wishing all of our wonderful mums a very Happy Mother's Day!





# Bunnings Visit

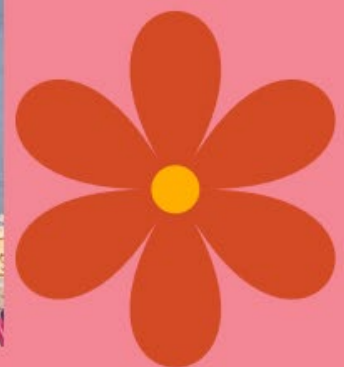


Our R-2 students recently enjoyed a wonderful visit from Bunnings, who provided a fun and creative Mother's Day craft activity. Students had the opportunity to design and decorate their own picture frames as a special gift for someone they love.

There was plenty of excitement, creativity, and glitter as students carefully created their masterpieces. The activity was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and it was fantastic to see our students so engaged and proud of their work.

A big thank you to Bunnings for supporting our school and helping create such a memorable experience for our students.

A big thank you to Ms Coomber for organising this incursion.





# 2026 Term Two

|  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>JS Newsletter                           | 27/4<br>TERM 2 STARTS<br>10.00 <br>ANZAC Assembly | 28/4  | 29/4   | 30/4  | 1/5  |
| <b>Week 2</b>  | 4/5<br>12.10<br>Achievement<br>Assembly  | 5/5   | 6/5  | 7/5<br><br>Mother's Day<br>Stall | 8/5<br><br>Mother's Day<br>Stall            |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>JS Newsletter                           | 11/5   | 12/5  | 13/5   | 14/5<br>Assembly  | 15/5   |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>National<br>Volunteers Week             | 18/5   | 19/5<br><br>Book Fair<br>(all week) | 20/5   | 21/5<br><br>VIP Day             | 22/5   |
| <b>Week 5</b>  | 25/5<br>Governing Council<br>6pm   | 26/5  | 27/5<br><br>National<br>Simultaneous<br>Storytime<br>Special Recess | 28/5  | 29/5   |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>Reconciliation<br>Week<br>JS Newsletter | 1/6  | 2/6<br><br>Biggest Morning<br>Tea  | 3/6<br><br>2026 MY Rec<br>Transition 1                              | 4/6<br>Assembly   | 5/6  |
| <b>Week 7</b>  | 8/6<br>KING'S BIRTHDAY   | 9/6<br>PUPIL FREE DAY   | 10/6<br><br>2026 MY Rec<br>Transition 2                             | 11/6  | 12/6<br><br>WIRRA<br>Fundraising<br>Event |
| <b>Week 8</b>  | 15/6   | 16/6<br>COLOURS<br>For Choir  | 17/6<br><br>2026 MY Rec<br>Transition 3                             | 18/6  | 19/6   |
| <b>Week 9</b><br>JS Newsletter                           | 22/6<br>Governing Council<br>6pm   | 23/6  | 24/6<br><br>2026 MY Rec<br>Transition 4                             | 25/6<br>Assembly  | 26/6<br><br>JS Disco<br>Fancy Dress       |
| <b>Week 10</b><br>NAIDOC Week                            | 29/6   | 30/6  | 1/7  | 2/7<br>Semester 1<br>Reports Go Home  | 3/7  |