



*"I find television very  
educating. Every time  
somebody turns on the  
set, I go into the other  
room and read a book."*

*Groucho Marx*



## JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Term 3 Week 9  
September 2024

### DIARY DATES

#### WEEK 10

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September  
Governing Council

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September  
Hiragana Competition

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September  
Term 3 100% Home Reading

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
End of Term 3 Special Lunch

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
2.15pm DISMISSAL  
END OF TERM 3!!

### TERM 3

What a fabulous term we've had, filled with exciting events, celebrations, and fun! We hosted the Hiragana competition with our Japanese Hub schools **AND WE WON!!!!**, celebrated Sports Day, and had a blast at the Colour Explosion Fun Run. We practiced our invacuation and evacuation drills, enjoyed a Pupil Free Day focused on Inclusion, and appreciated our School Closure 😊. We completed PAT testing, held assemblies with awards and certificates, and conducted Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks. We also celebrated Father's Day with gift buying, enjoyed Book Week and the parade, and had our choir perform at the Festival Theatre. Other highlights included Wellbeing Day, Science Week with lunchtime activities, wearing green and gold for our Australian Olympians, a cozy Winter Night In, a special 'Possum Magic' recess during Book Week, student-led conferences, and so much more. The list just keeps going! A **huge thank you** to our staff, volunteers and families for their willingness to go above and beyond, always doing whatever is necessary to support our students' success.

### BEFORE SCHOOL SAFETY

Walking to school and waiting outside the school gates safely and responsibly is very important. It allows students to be active and independent, but they need to stay aware of their surroundings. Using our crossing and avoiding distractions can help them stay safe. Waiting outside the school gates is equally important; students should remain on the footpath at Gate 5 and not play chasey or with balls, and respect others' personal space. By practicing safety and responsibility, students not only protect themselves but also contribute to a positive and secure environment for everyone. We have recently received calls from community members notifying us of some students playing and running in front of cars- just not being safe. To add to this, many students are arriving VERY early without supervision.

**Please remember the front gates open at 8.30am.**

### 2025 ENROLMENTS

We are looking at predicted student numbers for next year. Accurate enrolment details are needed so we can determine numbers for our classes. Therefore, if your family is considering moving, or you know of someone moving into our area it is important that you let us know as soon as possible. If you have a younger sibling to start next year or middle of next year and you haven't completed an expression of interest form yet, please come in and speak to Reily in our front office.

Ngaityalya,  
(Kaurna, thank you)  
**Julie**

**TERM 4 begins**  
**Monday 14**  
**OCTOBER**



## MEET THE STAFF



### Mel Langford

Hi everyone, I'm Mel Langford (O'Rielly), and I'm one of the Year 5/6 teachers.

I recently got married in Europe and spent time traveling through Italy and Norway this year, making amazing memories and enjoying lots of great food.

I've been teaching at GDC since 2020, always with the same year level. This year, I'm the Junior School Tintu House Leader and the coordinator of the Public Relations Ministry for 2024.

I love working closely with students, especially as they prepare for their Year 6 graduation and transition into high school. Helping guide them through this exciting milestone is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

In my spare time, I love hunting for bargains at Op shops across Adelaide—honestly, I could probably turn it into an Olympic sport!

## JUNIOR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

### Julie Stockdale

Head of Junior School R-6  
[Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au)

### Jody Burton

Assistant Head of Junior School

### Skye Miller

Wellbeing Leader/AET

### Michaela Selway

Learning Support Leader/AIT

## STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

In Week 8 of this term, we held student-led conferences. These preplanned meetings allowed students to take responsibility for their academic performance by showcasing their work to parents and teachers. During the conferences, students presented work samples and discussed their learning journey, including their strengths, weaknesses, and progress toward their goals.

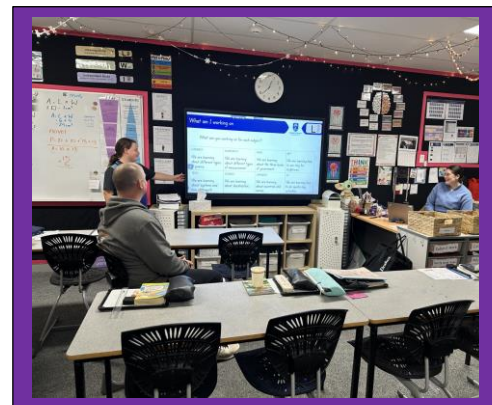
Student-led conferences offer numerous benefits for students, parents, and teachers:

- Students gain greater ownership of their learning.
- Parents and students engage in open communication about school, extracurricular activities, and important life decisions.
- Teachers strengthen their relationships with both parents and students.

### Feedback from parents was extremely positive.

The students led the conversation to show what they have learned. They received feedback from their parents/carers and teachers about strengths and goals for improvement.

They really enjoyed the chance to share their learning experiences, goals, and what they need to succeed.



It was like they were the bosses of their own education!



## MEET THE STAFF

### Lisa Luscott



I started working as an SSO with GDC in February this year. I initially supported Miss Lauren's year 1/2 class during Terms 1 and 2 before moving into Mrs Robinson's class to support the mid-year receptions.

I am a qualified early childhood teacher and have worked across various settings (childcare, preschool and primary school) educating and caring for children from birth to 8 years old, over the past 13 years.

I love working in a support role at the moment as it enables me to continue my passion for educating and caring for young children whilst also finding balance raising my own children in a sole parent family.

Gawler is my local community and it has been for most of my life. I have strong family history with the area and both my parents attended Gawler High School many years ago too.

When I'm not at GDC, I enjoy spending time with my daughter (12) and my son (5). We love getting out on nature walks together with our dog, baking up treats in the kitchen or making music (and lots of noise!) on the piano and drums.

Read the part where she burns her mouth on my porridge again



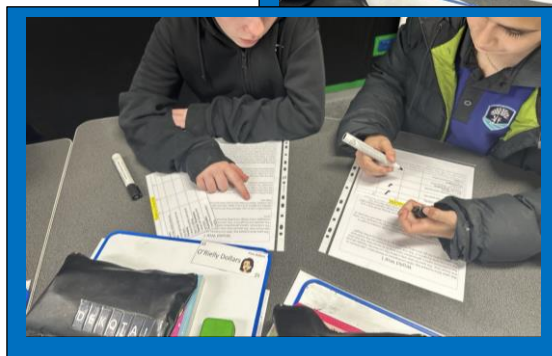
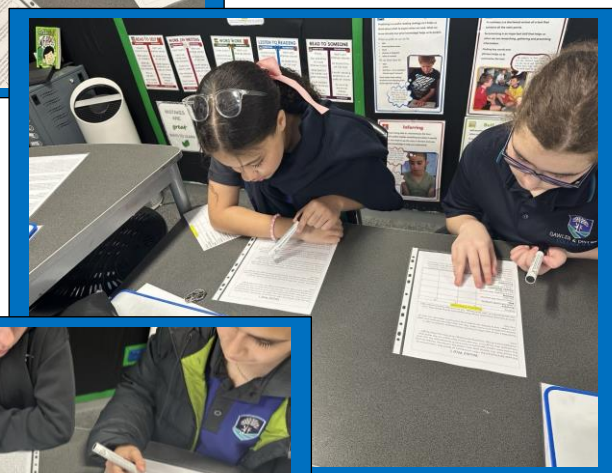
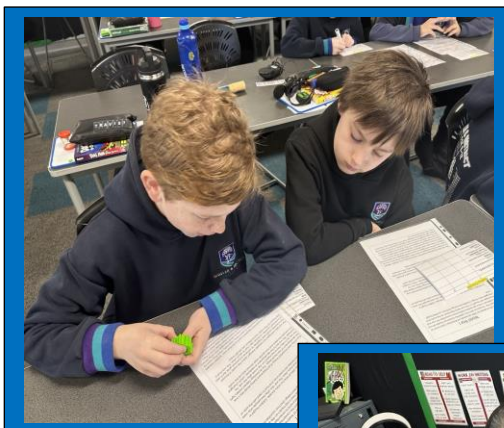
## WHAT IS FLUENCY?

Fluency is the ability to read connected text accurately at a suitable rate and with appropriate prosody. When the 3 core components of fluency – accuracy, rate and prosody – are combined, they contribute to:

- precise reading
- smooth reading
- expressive reading
- self-monitoring and self-correction
- comprehension.

Fluency involves automatically recognising words in less than half a second and activating their meanings. This enables most words to become 'sight words'. Words are orthographically mapped and instantly retrieved from long-term memory during fluent reading. Using fluency pairs effectively can significantly enhance students' reading skills and foster a love for reading!

**All three 5/6 classes have integrated FLUENCY READING into their Literacy Blocks**





**THANK YOU** for all your support. It is with great pleasure to share that our Colour Explosion School Run 4 Fun was a huge success.

It is fantastic to see the spirit and enthusiasm that was displayed in supporting our school. Seeing the smiles on the student's faces and everyone coming together as they ran was truly amazing!

The incentive prizes have been ordered and are on their way. Once we receive the prize order at the school we will sort and distribute them in a timely manner.

Again, our most sincere thanks for your support and fundraising efforts.

**We couldn't have done it without you!**

**Total Raised (Gross Amount)**

**\$11,882.12**

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR ULTIMATE  
SUPERSTAR!**

Charlotte Bowden



Top Students			
Rank	Student	Class	Total
1 <sup>st</sup>	Charlotte Bowden	41:4	\$772
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tayte Pool	41:1	\$610
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cora Andrews	41:3	\$514

Top Classes			
Rank	Class	Profiles	Total
1 <sup>st</sup>	41:4	8	\$2,017
2 <sup>nd</sup>	41:1	9	\$1,231
3 <sup>rd</sup>	41:15	6	\$970



## 2024 Junior School SPORTS DAY

Despite the rain, the Junior School oval was full of excitement for Sports Day. Students wore colourful outfits and cheered for their teammates. The day started with fun R-6 sprints, filled with energy and smiles. Events like the R-6 House Scramble and Team Games showcased students' skills and sportsmanship as they supported one another in the wet conditions.

The highlight was the Colour Run, where participants in white t-shirts lined up eagerly. When the race began, colourful powder filled the air, creating a vibrant spectacle. Runners laughed and celebrated, covered in a rainbow of colours by the finish line.

The day ended with a lively Year 6 versus teachers tug-of-war, with everyone cheering enthusiastically. Parents, students, and staff added to the fun atmosphere. By the end, everyone felt a strong sense of camaraderie, excited for next year's Sports Day, rain or shine!







# MRS ROBINSON'S RECEPTION CLASS! ROOM 41.15



## WHEN I GROW UP...



### NUMERACY



HUNTER IS BUILDING NUMBER  
TOWERS WITH UNIFUX CUBES

### HARMONY BEAR

We built a house, a  
hospital and fire station  
for Harmony Bear!



### HASS



NATE IS ENJOYING THE PIZZA  
PUZZLE