



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Term 4 Week 3
November 2025

*"A book is like a garden carried in the pocket."
Chinese Proverb*

HATS AND UNIFORM REMINDER

As the warmer weather approaches, please remember that **hats are required for all outdoor play**. Students without a hat will need to stay under the activity verandah for their own sun safety. Summer is also the perfect time to double-check uniforms—students should be wearing their **GDC polo shirt with black shorts, pants, or a skirt**. Let's all take pride in looking our best and showing our school spirit!
If your child has lost the school hat they received this year, please visit the Finance Office to purchase a new one.

CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

We're proud to share that **new rubbish bins** have been placed around the school to help us look after our environment. It's important that we all take responsibility for keeping our school grounds clean and tidy. By putting rubbish in the right bins, we can make sure our **yard stays litter-free** and beautiful for everyone to enjoy.

THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

A huge thank you to all the **parents, carers, and community members** who have generously volunteered their time to help out at swimming this term. Your support—whether it's assisting poolside, helping with groups, or cheering on our swimmers—makes a big difference and helps each session run smoothly and safely. We truly appreciate your enthusiasm, energy, and commitment. Our swimming program wouldn't be possible without you!

SAVE THE DATE – JUNIOR SCHOOL SHOWCASE!

Our Junior School students have been working hard and are very excited to share their talents at our **Showcase Night on Thursday, 27th November**. Each class has been busy practising their performances, and we can't wait to see their creativity and confidence shine on stage. This special evening is always a highlight of the year, and we hope all families can come along to celebrate our students' wonderful achievements together.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

If you're planning to leave GDC in 2026, please let us know. We're starting to plan ahead and just want to make sure we're prepared. If you already know your plans or think there might be changes coming, just give us a heads-up. Thanks for keeping us in the loop!

Kind Regards,
Julie Stockdale- Head of Junior School
Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au

DIARY DATES
WEEK 4 Tuesday 4 th Nov @ 10.45am VOLUNTEERS' MORNING TEA in the Activity Room PLANETARIUM excursion Yr2/3s: Wednesday 5 th Nov Yr3/4s: Friday 7 th Nov
WEEK 5 Tuesday 11 th Nov @ 11.30am WHOLE SCHOOL REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY in the Pavilion Wednesday 12 th - Friday 14 th Nov Roonka Yr 6 CAMP
WEEK 6 Monday 17 th Nov PUPIL FREE DAY Thursday 20 th Nov @ 1.30pm ASSEMBLY in the Pavilion



MEET THE STAFF



Stacey Brown

Hello!
I'm Stacey, and I've been at Gawler District College for nearly two years now, supporting the middle primary students in the Ochre building. I absolutely love helping the kids reach their goals and watching their progress along the way.

When I'm not at school, I'm usually spending time with my husband and our two kids. We're big sports fans, our weekends are often filled with games, whether we're cheering on our kids or watching the Crows, Carlton, Adelaide 36ers, or the Thunderbirds. We also love heading out for camping adventures in our camper trailer whenever we can!

I feel so lucky to be part of such a wonderful school community and can't wait for more fun, learning, and laughter with the Ochre crew this year!

JUNIOR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Julie Stockdale

Head of Junior School R-6
Julie.stockdale908@schools.sa.edu.au

Michaela Selway

Acting Assistant Head of Junior School, Learning Support Leader & AIT

Skye Miller

Wellbeing Leader & AET

KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE Online



SOCIAL MEDIA

Connecting with friends and others is very important to children and young people. They can spend a lot of time on social networking sites and apps such as **Instagram, WhatsApp, Snapchat, Discord or TikTok. MOST REQUIRE USERS TO BE OVER 13 YEARS OF AGE.**

This is **for legal reasons** and does not mean children this age have the maturity to cope with social media. They do not require proof of age. **If you provide access for a child under 13 years it is important to supervise their use as there can be many risks.**

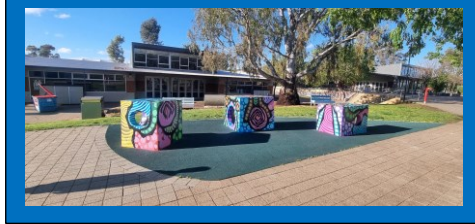
Encourage your child or young person to:

- communicate with others on social media **in a respectful, kind way**
- set **privacy settings** so their profile is only seen by people they intend, and check settings often
- decide whether to use a nickname, avatar or an image of something they like **instead of their photo**
- **let you view their profile** and 'friend' you or accept you as a 'follower'. Explain your reasons
- **realise most messages and images they share can be accessed, saved, manipulated and distributed by others.** Personal information may be misused or their identity stolen
- **get permission** from friends and others before putting photos of them online and 'tagging' them. 'Tagging' provides information about the person's activities and creates a link to their profile they may not want. They could ask their friends to do the same for them
- ensure **geolocation data is turned off and metadata not embedded when sharing photos**
- **understand the risks** of 'friending' people, accepting 'followers' or 'chatting' with people they don't know in real life. They may not be who they say they are and intend harm. This is called 'catfishing'
- **learn how to report** abuse or inappropriate content
- **tell you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.** Assure them they won't be punished or have devices taken away. Remind them to collect evidence before blocking or deleting offending material
- **understand there may be consequences if they engage in bullying behaviours.**

Some young people may set up decoy or fake accounts parents are not aware of - reasons could include wanting to hide their online activities or to anonymously cyberbully someone.

It can help to set up your own social networking accounts so you know how they work. Keep talking to your child/young person and check in regularly about their online world.

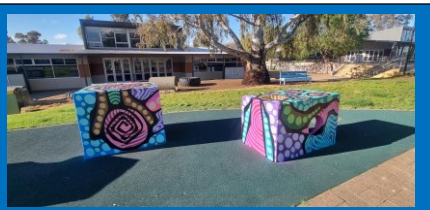
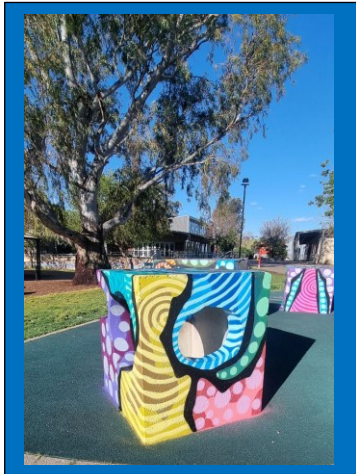
CUBES IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL



Our cubes near the Upper Primary playground have been beautifully repainted by Aboriginal artist Scott Rathman. They look amazing!

The story behind the cubes, as shared by Scott, is that *“every sunrise brings a new opportunity for new beginnings — a chance to grow, connect and learn. Each day invites us to build new relationships and strengthen the ones that guide us. We walk the paths shaped by those who came before, whose knowledge lights the way for our own learning journey and grounds us in our connection to this place.”*

These cubes remind us that every day at school is a new opportunity to learn, grow and stay connected to each other and to Country.



MEET THE STAFF



Rebecca De Vincentis

Hello!

My name is Rebecca, although I prefer to be called Bek. I joined the Gawler and District College B-12 community in July this year, having moved across from Melbourne, Victoria! I'm passionate about supporting students to achieve their personal best at school and delivering content in a way that suits their individual needs, including a play-based learning approach. Since living in South Australia, I've enjoyed exploring the Middleton and Victor Harbour areas, as well as the Barossa Valley. I enjoy going to the beach to swim and surf, getting creative with scrapbooking and hosting friends for delicious food and games nights most outside of school!



WHAT'S GOING ON IN 42.12

WELCOME TO TERM 4

How crazy to think we are already a third of a way through the final term of 2025. With two weeks under our belts we have already crammed so much in. This term the year 3/4 have been learning about the importance of the explicit instructions when writing procedures. We are loving how delicious our writing lessons have become. Did someone say fairy bread?



CHESS WITH MR BROWN

This term our class have loved the visits we have been getting lately with Mr Brown, he has been teaching us all about the game of chess and how to use different strategies and mathematical skills. So far we are sitting on a draw, but with more players to come we are sure we will win against Mr Brown.



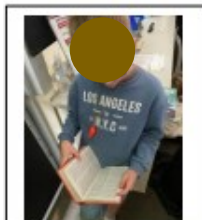
HALLOWEEN DISCO

It was wonderful to end week two with a spooktacular Halloween Disco on Friday. Our class sure did bring their best spooky dancing moves.



Halloween Disco

On Friday night we were thrilled to be able to attend the Halloween themed disco with our classmates. It was great to be able to dress up in our costumes and have some 'tricks and treats.'



Novel Study

This term we are reading a Morris Gleitzman novel entitled 'Once.' It is about a Jewish boy named Felix who confronts some big issues in Poland during WWII.

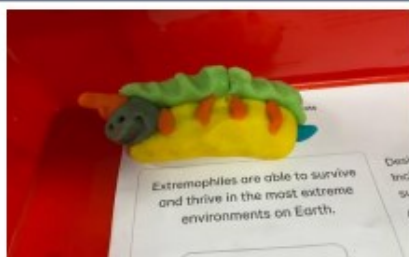
In the classroom

This term we are looking forward to

Year 6 camp	Swimming
Disco	Cookie Dough
S.A.P.S.A.S.A	Movie Day
Graduation	Showcase
Transition	HASS Stall

Science

We love learning about science and last week we created our own animals from play dough utilising different adaptations and characteristics and identifying which habitats they'd thrive in. It was a fun activity.





Thank you so much for supporting Gawler and District College B-12 especially through fundraising. This term, we are running a **Billy's Gourmet Cookie Dough** fundraiser to raise money for Junior School Playgrounds.

Billy's Gourmet Cookie Dough is an exciting fundraiser, made by an Australian, family owned and operated business. There are ten (10) dough-licious flavours to choose from, including **Choc Chunk**, **Golden Classic** and the new **Cinnamon Donut Cookie Dough!** There is even something for your special furry friends, with a cheese flavoured Doggie Dough! Billy's Gourmet Cookie Dough is exclusive to fundraising – so stock up!

For a Limited Time Only - Christmas Fruit Cake Dough! This heavenly creation is rich and bursting with the perfect blend of festive spices and fruit.

Get started! Cookie dough orders must be placed online using the online platform. Create your child's profile by visiting cookie dough.com.au, click on the Register Button and follow the Prompts. Orders are open from 30/10/2025 until 14/11/2025, so make sure you get rolling and create your online fundraising page today!

How do prizes work? Every student/member who sells two or more tubs will receive an incentive prize for their efforts! But why not aim higher? The more tubs you sell the more prizes you will receive! There are 11 prizes up for grabs, so why not set your own fundraising goal and aim for them all? Prizes are automatically ordered at the end of our fundraiser based on the number of tubs you have sold.

Family and friends are your greatest supporters, so don't hesitate to reach out to them. With their help, you'll reach your fundraising goal in no time!

You can Win Big! Our highest tub seller will go into a draw to win a PlayStation 5 Gaming Bundle. For every tub you sell or buy, you will also receive one entry into the draw to win \$20,000 Cash. Plus, every student/member that achieves all online virtual badges will win an additional Gold Dig Out prize.

Don't forget to refer to your Order Form for all the information. Happy fundraising!






VOLUNTEERS' MORNING TEA

This week, our school community came together to celebrate and thank our wonderful volunteers at a special **Volunteers Morning Tea**, beautifully organised by our Wellbeing Leader, **Skye Miller**.

The morning was filled with warmth, gratitude, and delicious food, as our volunteers were treated to a **scrumptious spread** of homemade treats and morning tea delights. It was a small gesture to show our immense appreciation for the time, care, and energy our volunteers give so generously throughout the year.

Our school leaders delivered a **heartfelt speech**, expressing gratitude for the many ways our volunteers support our school — from classroom help and event organisation to reading with students and assisting on excursions. Their words truly captured the spirit of community and the positive impact our volunteers have every day.

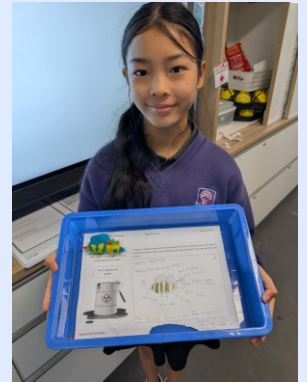
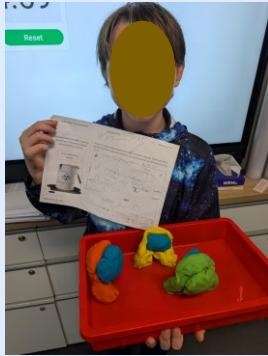
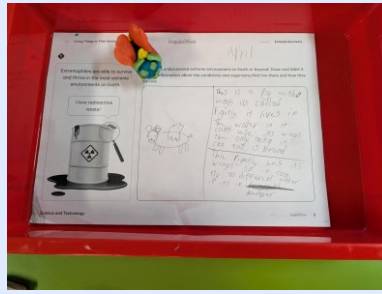
As a token of appreciation, each volunteer received a small **gift of thanks**, recognising their invaluable contributions and ongoing support.

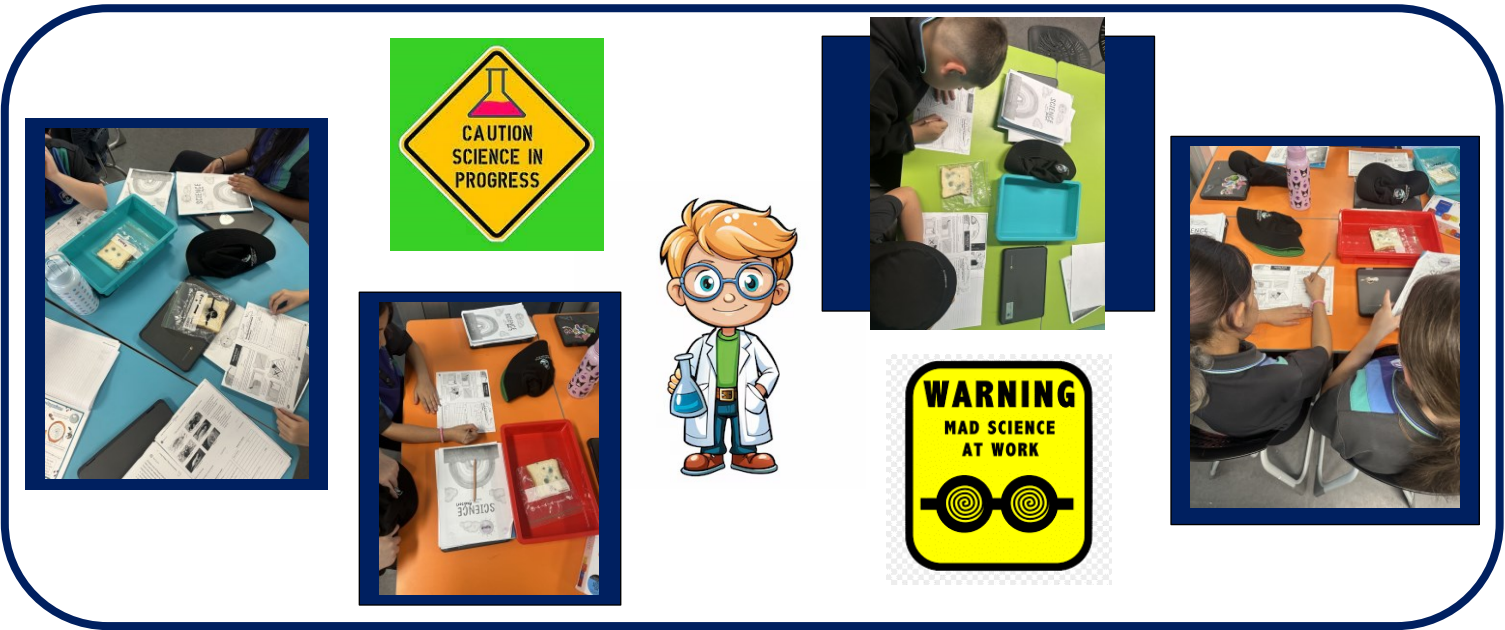
It was a beautiful morning filled with smiles, conversation, and connection — a reminder of how lucky we are to have such dedicated and caring people within our school community.









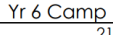



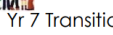



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for everything you do. You make a real difference!



Where Science meets Fun





 2025 Term Four					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 4	3/11	4/11 	5/11 	6/11	7/11
Week 5	10/11	11/11 	12/11 	13/11	14/11
Week 6	17/11 PUPIL FREE DAY <i>JS Newsletter</i>	18/11	19/11  	20/11  	21/11 
Week 7	24/11 <i>Governing Council 6.00pm</i>	25/11	26/11 	27/11 	28/11
Week 8	1/12 	2/12	3/12	4/12  	5/12 
Week 9	8/12	9/12 Movie Day: 4/5 & 5/6 2/3 & 3/4 	10/12  Movie Day: R/1/2 Jacaranda Movies	11/12 	12/12 LAST DAY OF TERM 2.15 DISMISSAL