

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Start of the Year Information
- School Photos
- Preschool
- Primary Years
- Wellbeing 2025
- Secondary Years

DIARY DATES

Please check the parent calendar on our website or by using the link below. Please note that this calendar is continually updated and we ask that families check for school events from time to time.
<https://www.theheights.sa.edu.au/link/calendar>

School Calendar

PUPIL FREE DAYS / SCHOOL CLOSURE 2025

TERM 1

- Friday 4 April (Week 10)

TERM 2

- Friday 6 June (Week 6)

TERM 3

- Monday 21 July (Week 1)
- Monday 1 September (Week 7) - School Closure
- Tuesday 2 September (Week 7)

CONTACT

Kaurna Country
Brunel Drive, Modbury Heights SA 5092
Phone: 08 8242 8900
Email: dl.1430.info@schools.sa.edu.au
www.theheights.sa.edu.au
[f /theheightsschool](https://www.facebook.com/theheightsschool)



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2025 school year at The Heights School. It has been a very productive and busy few weeks with students settling into new classes and routines.

I would like to extend a special welcome to The Heights School Community to our 2025 Preschool, Reception and Year 7 students and families and to all other new students and families in 2025.

Our wonderful Preschool and Reception students have done a good job of adjusting to the new school routines. Our Year 7 and 12 students took part in an orientation day on Tuesday 28 January.

The first newsletter every year provides a good opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of the graduating class of the previous year. The class of 2024 was an admirably collaborative group of students that worked conscientiously throughout the year, supported by their families and staff. At The Heights we are proud of the achievements of our students and the dedication they demonstrated on their journey to their chosen pathway beyond school. Their efforts resulted in many students finding work in their chosen vocations, achieving high tertiary scores and receiving offers to university and tertiary courses. Later in this newsletter there is more information about our Year 12 results in 2024. *(continued over)*



AN INVITATION


Parents and Friends of
The Heights School Community
are cordially invited to the



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2025
6.00pm



Conference Room
(Administration Building)



Light refreshments

To nominate for Governing Council:

- Register as a volunteer at The Heights School prior to the AGM using this link: [Volunteer Partnership Program | The Heights School](#)
- Once you have completed the registration process listed above, please email dl.1430.info@schools.sa.edu.au to obtain a nomination slip or collect one from the Front Office.

Nominations are to be returned to Dani Dunne by 9.00am on Tuesday 25 February prior to the AGM.

THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL Preschool - Year 12

The Heights School Community pays respects to the Kurna people, the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we live on. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment to the Earth, the relationship of the Kurna people to this country, and we respect and value their past, present, and ongoing connection to this land and their cultural beliefs.

CONTENTS

Principal's Message	1-3
Start of the Year Information	3-4
School Immunisation Program	5
School Photos	6
New Instrumental Music Vacancies 2025	6
Scholastic Book Club	6
Become a Volunteer	7
Preschool	8-9
Primary Years	10-11
Wellbeing 2025	11
Secondary Years	12-13
Safer Internet Day	14
2024 Yearbooks	15
Save the Date - Sports Day	15
Community Notices	15-16

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)



I would like to also welcome some new staff joining us at The Heights this year.

We welcome the following staff:

Returning to The Heights in 2025

Michaela Arnold - Year 4 and The Arts
Sean Davis - Technologies
Jess Goldstone - Year 6
Tom Jarvis - Finance Team
Kate Veevers - Mathematics and Science

Joining The Heights in 2025

Ingrid Lees - Deputy Principal
Tarnya Adams - Primary Years Leader
Patrick Anderson - Mathematics and Science
Theodora Andonopoulos - Year 1
Simone Brock - Spanish
Sharon Brown - Front Office Receptionist
David Clark - Year 9 Year Level Leader and Visual Arts
Nathan Clarke - Technologies
Wade Davies - Mathematics and Health and PE
Mishael Ecclesiastes - Music
Steve Marsh - Grounds and Maintenance Officer
Boel Muyderman - English and HASS
Victoria Politis - Technologies
Flor Rangel - Spanish
Wendy Yang - Year 1
Brayden Zwartz - Mathematics and Science

With our Deputy Principal, Ingrid Lees and Primary Years Leader, Tarnya Adams new to our Executive Leadership Team at The Heights they have written a brief introduction for you all.

Deputy Principal – Ingrid Lees

“Hello to students, staff and families at The Heights School P-12. I am joining The Heights School community as the new Deputy Principal, having most recently worked as Deputy Principal at Playford International College. I have been teaching since

the early 2000s and bring over a decade of senior leadership experience to The Heights. I began my teaching career as a Science and Biology teacher, but since 2010 I have shifted my teaching and leadership focus to Research Project and now AIF (the replacement subject for Research Project). This year I am teaching AIF for the 4th year, bringing three years of experience teaching the SACE pilot for this new subject to The Heights.

I have an ongoing and deep interest in educational research and using available evidence to inform teaching and learning choices. I have a strong focus on teacher, leader and aspiring leader development, along with providing meaningful support for pre-service and early-career teachers. I believe that investing in the development of current and future generations of teachers and support staff helps to create powerful learning communities for students and their families. As a keen life-long learner, I am delighted to be joining a P-12 school for the first time and making connections across all the years of schooling. I look forward to working with The Heights School community to empower all of our students to become confident learners who are supported to pursue their passions through high quality teaching and learning practices.”

Primary Years Leader – Tarnya Adams

“My name is Tarnya Adams and I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Primary Years Leader.

For the last 4 years I have been at Trinity Gardens School in a leadership role with a focus on curriculum, supporting high quality teaching and learning by being active in classes working alongside teachers and students.

I am passionate about providing opportunities for all learners to be successful and supporting students to have agency in their learning. I love being in classes, talking to the students about what they learn and how they learn best.

I really look forward to working in partnership with the school community to build on the strong foundations that already exist at The Heights, ensuring that every child feels safe, confident and empowered to achieve their full potential.”

I would like to thank our staff, students and families for your contribution to the development of our Vision and Values at The Heights in 2024. This work will help guide our school community in 2025 and beyond. (continued over)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Our Vision for The Heights School

The Heights School Community empowers every student to become a confident learner who embraces their own unique strengths and passions from early childhood through to adulthood. As a community, we celebrate diversity, embrace challenges, and support students to thrive and pursue their passions through high quality learning and teaching practices.

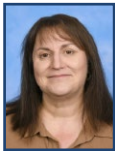
Our values that will support our work in 2025 are:

Respect Resilience Integrity Collaboration

These values encapsulate our community and will be evident in the items that you will see in our newsletter today and throughout the year.

I encourage our families to keep up to date with your child's learning journey through Daymap, Class Dojo (Primary Years) and our school calendar on our website. It is where you will see what is happening in our school and the events ahead. You will also see updates of activities via our Facebook page and Newsletters.

Please check your email regularly for the Edsmart broadcasts regarding important information, events, as well as various consent forms throughout the year. It's a way for us to connect on a regular basis with you.



It is important for us to work in partnership, as this leads to better outcomes for our students as it increases their connection to school life and generally supports better lifelong outcomes.

Meg Fay
Principal

START OF THE YEAR INFORMATION

Are We Able To Contact You?

If you have not been receiving emails, post or text messages from The Heights School, it may mean that we do not have your current details on our system.

If you have missed any communication from us, please check that we have current up to date details for your family.

This is increasingly essential as we use Edsmart for all online permissions and broadcasts.

If you need to update any family contact details, please access the change of personal details form on our website and read page 2 for any required supporting documentation. [Change-of-Details-Request-2025.pdf](#)

Forms and proof of address if you have moved can be emailed back to dl.1430.info@schools.sa.edu.au or handed in to the front office.



Health Care Plans

Does your child have or need a Health Care Plan?

It is important for staff to have up to date information to best meet student's health care needs. It is recommended that Health Care Plans are reviewed every 12 months, as prescribed by your child's doctor, or when there is a change in condition or support needs. If there have been no changes in your child's support needs, any plan we have for your student will remain current until such time as a new plan is provided. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify us of any changes in support needs or medical condition and to provide the school with all medication and administration equipment. If your child requires a new Health Care Plan, these can be accessed electronically from the department's website: [Health care plans for individual care – information for health professionals \(education.sa.gov.au\)](#) or ask for a copy at the front office. If your child no longer requires health support at school, please advise us in writing so that we can remove information from our records. Please note that once the medical condition is removed from your child's records, standard first aid practices will be used should a medical emergency arise. Families are encouraged to supply new Health Care Plans to the school at the beginning of each year as part of our fee paying days, and use the opportunity to check on medication/supplies and expiry dates for plans and medications you have previously supplied to the school. If you did not attend to this on fee paying days, you are welcome to visit or call Senior First Aid at your convenience.



Serena Beacham, First Aid

(continued over)

START OF THE YEAR INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Reporting Your Child's Absence

Students are absent from school or late at times for all sorts of reasons. Please let the school know if your child is going to be late or absent and the reason, so we can record the absence correctly and keep track of where students are during the school day.

You can report your child's absence in the following ways:

- **PHONE** the school on 8242 8900 and press the relevant number for primary or secondary student services on the phone menu.
- **EMAIL** student services (all year levels) on dl.1430.studentservices@schools.sa.edu.au
- **DAYMAP PARENT PORTAL** by clicking the red Absence Notification button, if more than one student is absent choose them both from the Absent Student drop down box. Choose the absent reason from the drop-down box and type a message in the Absence Notification for School box then click Send.

If your child arrives late to school or needs to leave early, it is very important that they go to student services and sign in or out, so that we know when students are on site.

Please provide a note (**R-4**), write in your child's diary (**Years 5-12**) or call the school if your child needs to sign out early for any reason, as we need parental permission before we can let your child leave the school grounds.

Similarly, a note or email is also helpful when your child signs in late so we can mark the absence correctly, otherwise it will be marked as an unexplained absence.

If your child needs to sign in late or leave early, they will need to do so at the locations listed below:

- **R-6** Students will need to sign out at primary student services (located next to the uniform shop)
- **Year 7-12** students will need to sign out at secondary student services (located next to the front office)

Family Travel/Holiday Absences

When a student is going to be absent due to family travel/holiday during the school term, there may be additional paperwork for the Principal to approve the student's exemption from attendance at school.

6 Days or Less (consecutive school days): Please report your student's absence as "family reasons" via the usual absence reporting process.

7 or More Days (consecutive school days): Please speak to student services and request an exemption form (Principal Approved) 2 weeks prior to the first day of absence. Travel dates will need to be provided to generate the form (school dates only; not weekends or school holidays). Once the form has been signed and returned to student services it will be processed within 7 days and you will receive a Daymap message to confirm it has been approved.

Students may monitor Daymap for assessment tasks during their absence but no online learning is provided for students that are absent due to family travel/holiday.



Yard Duty Supervision

Before School:

Yard duty supervision begins at 8.25am Monday-Friday. There is no supervision for students before this time. We request that students are not dropped off prior to this time. Students may be on site prior to this time with parent supervision only. If primary school students need to arrive unsupervised prior to this time, please make booking arrangements with our OSHC service (Out of School Hours Care).

After School:

Yard duty supervision finishes at 2.50pm on Mondays and 3.25pm on Tuesdays to Fridays. The Resource Centre will close at the end of the school day and students will be asked to leave, with the exception of students participating in scheduled staff supervised after school activities.

Please make arrangements to have students collected at the conclusion of the school day. If you are unable to collect your primary school aged student by this time, please make booking arrangements with our OSHC service (Out of School Hours Care).

All parents and students are required to leave the school site by the conclusion of yard duty supervision.

Leaving students on site without supervision is a safety issue and we are asking for your assistance in ensuring the best care for your child.

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM

Year 7 & 10 Immunisations 2025

Trained nurses from the TTG immunisation clinic will be visiting our school to vaccinate participating Year 7 and 10 students through the SA Health School Immunisation Program. Immunisation consent forms went home to all present Year 7 and 10 students, via home group teachers, in Week 1 and 2. The due date for these forms was Year 10 students - Monday 10 of February and Year 7 – Monday 17 of February. If you have not yet returned the form please, complete all sections (indicating clearly YES or NO on the back) and return to your student's home group teachers as soon as possible.

On Wednesday the 12 of November, participating Year 7 students will receive:

- Gardasil9 vaccine (human papillomavirus)
- Boostrix vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough booster)

On Wednesday the 30 of April, participating Year 10 students will receive:

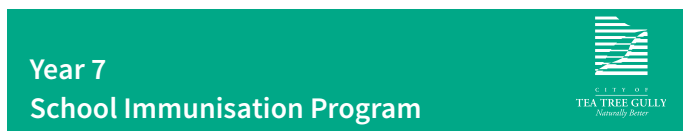
- Nimenrix (meningococcal ACWY)
- The first of two doses of Bexsero vaccine (meningococcal B)

On Wednesday the 23 of July, participating Year 10 students will receive:

- The second dose of Bexsero vaccine (meningococcal B)

If your student was absent or you have chosen for your child not to participate in the school program, you can contact the TTG immunisation clinic on 8397 7444 to make alternative arrangements for your child to receive the free vaccines. For more information please visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Serena Beacham



Frequently asked questions

How many injections am I having?

The vaccines given in Year 7 this year protect you against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) and the human papilloma virus. If you are having all the vaccines recommended then you will be given two injections at our school visit.

When two vaccines are given at the same visit they are done at the same time by two nurses and you will be given one in each arm.

How big is the needle?

Very small – in fact it is no bigger than the needle used for 6-week old babies.

Does it hurt?

Not as much as you might think it will. It will feel a bit like a small mosquito bite.

How long does the injection take?

About two seconds.

Why do I have to have these?

Because your parents have decided that it is important for you to be given these vaccines. Vaccines can prevent you from getting these terrible diseases, and they can even save your life.

If you have any other questions, please contact Council's Immunisation Team on 8397 7444 or at immunisation@cttg.sa.gov.au

2025 Year 10 School Immunisation Program

What is meningococcal infection?

About meningococcal infection

Meningococcal is a very dangerous germ that can infect your body.

It's passed between people who have the meningococcal germ in their nose or throat. People can have the germ but not know it because they aren't sick. Even if they aren't sick, they can still pass on the germ to others, who could get very sick.

There are different types of meningococcal infection. Meningococcal B is the most common type in Australia.

High school students are at a high risk of getting a meningococcal infection because they spend a lot of time close together.

Meningococcal infection can:



make your brain and spinal cord swell up



make body parts, like your fingers and toes, die



cause problems with your hearing, seeing and learning



kill you

Meningococcal B vaccine

2 vaccines are given to Year 10 students, 8 weeks between each vaccine. This protects students from most types of meningococcal B in Australia.

When you've had the Meningococcal B vaccine, you might:



have a sore, red or swollen arm where the needle was given



have a headache



have sore muscles



get a temperature



feel sick

Meningococcal ACWY vaccine

1 vaccine is given to Year 10 students.

This protects students from the A,C,W and Y strains of meningococcal disease.

When you've had the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine, you might:



have a sore, red or swollen arm where the needle was given



have a headache



get a temperature



feel sick or tired

It is safe to have the meningococcal ACWY vaccine and the meningococcal B vaccine at the same time.

For more information

Immunisation Section
Communicable Disease Control Branch
sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram



© Department for Health and Wellbeing, Government of South Australia. All rights reserved. F15 2410 17 September 2024



SCHOOL PHOTOS

Photo Day - Friday 14 February

This Friday, 14 February, all students whose families consented electronically through Edsmart, will have their school photo taken. School photos will also be used for the yearbook and for student IDs (Years 6 – 12 only).

Photo Catch-up Day Tuesday 18 February

The photographers will return to the school on Tuesday 18 February by 8.45am until recess on between to take individual or family photos for anyone who was absent on Friday 14 February. If your child is absent for photos on Friday 14 please send you child directly to the Resource Centre as soon as they arrive at school on Tuesday 18 February.

Photo Collection

Further information will come out through Edsmart about photo collections.

School Photo Ordering 2025

The Heights School - Portrait & Group Photos

To order your school photos please scan the QR Code or log into eventphoto.com.au and enter the Access Key Below. Individual and Class Group photos can be ordered on this Access Key.

ACCESS KEY: heights25

Order by 6am, Friday 14th February 2025 to take advantage of the earlybird pricing!



Sibling School Photo Ordering 2025

The Heights School - Sibling Photos

To order your school photos please scan the QR Code or log into eventphoto.com.au and enter the Access Key Below. Family (sibling) photos can be ordered on this Access Key.

ACCESS KEY: heightsfam25

Order by 6am, Friday 14th February 2025 to take advantage of the earlybird pricing!



NEW INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC VACANCIES 2025

At The Heights School we are supported by the Department for Education Instrumental Music Program. We currently have some very limited vacancies in the following instruments and year levels:

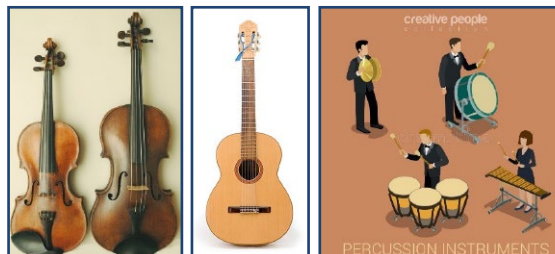
- Strings (Violin/Viola/Cello) in Years 3-5
- Percussion in Years 5-8
- Classical Guitar in Years 5-8

All lessons are 30 minutes long and in a group of 8 students.

We will be running 'come and try' workshops in Weeks 4-5 along with a Parent Information night in Week 5.

If your child is in Years 3-8, please check your email for the EdSmart slip to register for the sessions.

Daniel Roberts, Arts Leader



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Many thanks to everyone who made purchases from Scholastic Book Club Issue 1.

Your purchases help us to obtain more resources for our Library.

There are two issues each term. Books make excellent gifts and are a great way to build-up your home Library.

Issue 2 will be out soon and can be viewed online or from the paper catalogue which is distributed to all Primary Year classes. Secondary students are very welcome to make purchases.

Payment can be made online through Loop Orders (preferred method) or can be paid for at the Finance Office.

Please contact me if you require further information.

Ms Simpson



BECOME A VOLUNTEER



THE HEIGHTS
SCHOOL
Preschool - Year 12

BECOME A
SCHOOL
VOLUNTEER

ignite 
a program for gifted and talented children



Volunteers are an integral part of The Heights School.

Studies show that volunteering can have a positive impact on your child's learning, attendance and attitude, while showing that you are directly interested in their school and education. Being a volunteer provides an opportunity to build a closer connection to our school community.

We understand the pressures of everyday living and therefore cherish any involvement no matter how small.

Please visit our school website for more information www.theheights.sa.edu.au or if you have any questions please call our Community Liaison Officer on 8242 8900.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES IN:

- Classroom
- Excursions
- Camps
- International Exchange Student Program
- Performing Arts
- Grounds / Facilities
- Resource Centre
- Stall Events
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen / Garden

PRESCHOOL WELCOME

The preschool has welcomed back some existing families and had a warm welcome to our new families.

The Staff for 2025 Kayla Luciano (preschool leader and teacher) Simone Moore (teacher) Kirsty Hatchard (teacher) Michelle Yates (SSO) and Kinjal Parikh (ECW).

- Simone will teach on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Kayla will teach on Wednesday and Thursday and will be in the office on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Kirsty Hatchard is a specialist teacher for Music and movement, Sustainability and Auslan, She will teach on Monday and Friday.

Important Dates:

- Week 3/4 – Photo Days: Fri 14th Feb, Tues 18th Feb
- Week 4 – Student-Led Information Session: Wed 19th Feb, 12:30pm–1:30pm
- Week 6 – Sports Day: Tues 4th Mar, Fri 7th Mar
- Week 7 – Public Holiday: Mon 10th Mar
- Week 8 – Big Feelings Incursion: Mon 17th Mar, Fri 21st Mar, 9:30am
- Week 8 – Harmony Day Experiences: Tues 18th Mar, Thurs 20th Mar
- Week 10 – Interviews for New Families: Mon 31st Mar, Thurs 3rd Apr
- Week 10 – Pupil Free Day: Fri 4th Apr
- Week 11 – Last Day of Term 1 (2:05pm finish): Fri 11th Apr

Programs and Focus Areas:

Our focus this year is for children to develop the ability to communicate their thinking using oral language, storytelling and play.

Preschool children learn through an inquiry-based approach. Inquiry projects are guided by children's interests, dialogue, collaboration, and higher-order thinking.

Our Inquiry focus for this term is 'Water Wonders' (How does water shape our world?)

How our Inquiry Project Evolved:

Following a six-week break and a restructuring of groupings, preschool educators observed children's interests to inform the next inquiry project. Initial observations indicate a strong engagement with water-based play, including interactions with ocean animals, storytelling in the boat area, and self-directed story creation.

During group discussions, children actively contributed ideas, demonstrating curiosity about various water-related topics such as floating and sinking, weather, and conservation. Their responses indicate a developing understanding of scientific concepts (ice, water), cultural storytelling (Tiddalik the Frog), and real-world connections (pools, rivers, and the beach). This breadth of ideas reflects the children's diverse experiences and prior knowledge, offering a strong foundation for an inquiry project that fosters deeper exploration around water.

If there are any families that work for SA Water, we would appreciate if you could connect with preschool staff to share your knowledge.

Snapshot of Learning in the Preschool so Far:

Sorting Colours

This week we implemented a hoop sorting activity for children to develop a range of learning and thinking skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating (outcome 4).

The hoop sorting activity provided children with an opportunity to engage in problem-solving, inquiry, and investigative thinking, supporting their development of key learning dispositions in Outcome 4 of the EYLF. Most children demonstrated an emerging ability to classify objects by colour, indicating growing awareness of sorting concepts. However, observations from implementation phase highlight that some children require additional scaffolding to consolidate their understanding of sorting into groups.

By providing a smaller group setting with hands-on support from Kinjal, these children engaged in a differentiated learning experience using pom-poms and bowls. This modification allowed them to manipulate materials in a way that reinforced colour sorting. Their engagement in this activity indicates a need for repeated exposure to sorting.

The children that demonstrated understanding will focus on vocabulary development by incorporating interactive discussions and visual supports (such as sorting charts and picture cues) to reinforce the terms "sort" and "group". We will also discuss the different attributes of objects to see if we can sort or group items into different categories.

Name Writing Booklets:

The name booklets are a new process for the preschool which tracks their growth overtime with writing their name. The children will be explicitly taught their morning routine, including how to trace and write their name.

This will support children in developing a growth mindset and learning dispositions such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity (outcome 4).

The introduction to the name writing booklets has provided valuable insight into each child's fine motor development, pencil grip, and emerging writing skills. Observations indicate that while children are eager to engage in tracing and writing their names, many demonstrate light pressure and limited pencil control, suggesting the need for further fine motor strengthening activities.

Next week we will be introducing finger strengthening activities during play (e.g. assorted tweezers with pincer and tripod grip) to improve grip strength. We will also be explicitly teaching pencil grip through "pinch and rest" method (thumb and index finger pinch the pencil, resting on the middle finger). They will use pencil grips or shorter writing tools (broken crayons) to encourage correct hand positioning. The teacher will also model correct grip and provide verbal cues (three finger grip).

(continued over)




PRESCHOOL WELCOME (CONTINUED)



Preschool



Let's get organised

1. Have you put your lunch box in the labelled container?

2. Have you put your drink bottle in the trolley?

3. Have you written your name?




PRIMARY YEARS WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new Reception students and all our new students and families joining our school community. We also extend a big welcome back to all returning students and families.

Classes have started the year with a strong focus on Collaborative Classrooms and setting up class routines and expectations. We have loved seeing students engaged in their learning.

A focus has been on our new school values. Students have participated in a range of activities to unpack what the values mean to themselves and the class.

Class Newsletters and Overviews outlining the learning and key dates for the term have been sent via Class Dojo. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please contact your child's teacher.

All Year 6 classes participated in SAPOL crossing training in Week 1. A big thank you to the students who have volunteered to be crossing monitors for Term 1. We appreciate the support of families.

We look forward to seeing you at the Acquaintance Event on Monday 17 February.

Primary Years Leadership Team

Tarnya Adams, Primary Years Leader

Suzanne Ierace, Wellbeing Leader

Russell Max, Inclusion Leader

Jimmy Dimou, Student Engagement and Support Leader

Heather Christie, English and Literacy Leader

Zoe Skewes, Mathematics and Numeracy Leader

(continued over)



PRIMARY YEARS WELCOME (CONTINUED)

Collaborative Classrooms– Setting our students up for success!

The first few weeks of the school year is an important period for setting a safe and positive tone and establish clear routines and expectations, with a focus on relationships, routines, personal growth, connection and resilience.

All Primary Years classes have been immersed in our Collaborative Classrooms program, which has been aligned to our new school values of Respect, Resilience, Integrity and Collaboration. Our students have been spending time getting to know each other, building a positive classroom culture, sharing their own individual strengths and goals and learning skills for collaboration. Some of the exciting learning topics covered in Collaborative Classrooms include:

- How we display the school values in the classroom, in the yard, in the community and online
- Managing uncomfortable feelings by learning about our Zones of Regulation
- Having a growth mindset
- Friendship skills
- Problem solving strategies

Classrooms will now continue to build on and refer to these topics throughout the year.

Suzanne Ierace

Student Wellbeing Leader Primary Years



WELLBEING 2025

The Wellbeing Team has been busy planning events and celebrations around our school for 2025.

Some events/days to look out for include:

- Safer Internet Day
- Harmony Week
- International Women's Day
- International Day of Happiness
- R U OK? Day
- National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
- NAIDOC Week
- Reconciliation Day

...plus more to come.

We are also planning to run safe social media workshops and mental health awareness sessions.

Other programs that are managed by the team are Friendology, Play is the Way, 'What's the buzz', Social and Emotional Literacy program aimed at Primary and Secondary students, Literacy and Numeracy interventions.

The staff that form the Wellbeing Team are:

Daniel Brzezinski, Assistant Principal, Yr 7-12 Student Support Services & Inclusive Education, Whole School Wellbeing

Suzanne Ierace, Primary Years Student Wellbeing Leader

Ashli Richards, Secondary Years Student Wellbeing Leader

Rachel Scott P-12 Wellbeing and Inclusive Support



SECONDARY YEARS WELCOME

Welcome back to all our existing families and a warm welcome to all our new families. It has been a wonderful start to the year, supporting the transition of our Year 7s into the Secondary Years and working with our Year 12s to get the most out of their final year of schooling. I would like to thank all our students across Year 7-12 in supporting not just our new secondary students, but also our new students in the primary years.

Student Leadership Nominations

Student leadership is an integral part of school culture, fostering opportunities for students to be socially active in their communities. The skills developed through student leadership, such as collaboration and problem solving are paramount in preparing students for life post-school.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) will include two representatives from each year level who are involved in whole school planning aligned to the Strategy for Public Education. This work will require students to be involved in Department for Education initiatives such as Student Forums and school decision making groups, such as Governing Council. Supporting their work, is the Middle and Senior Forums which explore issues relevant to the cohorts they represent. This group will hone their skills in project management whilst working within leadership structures. In addition, students can elect to participate in committees that align with their interests and skillset. These committees include:

- School Ambassadors
- School Event Leaders
- School Communications and Marketing Leaders

Nominations are currently open to interested students via Daymap.

Clubs

We have a number of clubs which students can participate during lunchtime and before/after school. All activities happening before, after or outside of school will require parent/caregiver consent. This will occur through Edmsart email. These clubs include:

- Run Club
- Book Club
- Drama Club
- Before School Soccer
- Maths Support
- Maths Club
- Debate Club
- Studio Orchestra
- String Quartet
- Media and Visual Arts Club
- Lunchtime Sports in the Gym
- Wellbeing Club
- Chess Club

Information for students can be found on Daymap.

Academic Integrity

One focus of the Year 12 transition program in Week 1 was Academic Integrity. Students worked through a range of activities challenging their thinking about the importance of academic integrity and the choices they make in their learning. Students were challenged to consider times where they may be tempted and provided alternative strategies which will support their future

learning. Artificial Intelligence is fundamentally changing the world we live in, however students need to understand the limitations of a probability-based system. For example, programs such as ChatGPT do not *understand* a students' request, but are merely making predictions based on the library of content available.

Integrity, one of our new school values, is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. Acting with academic integrity means students do the 'right thing' and submitting work that is their own without taking learning shortcuts. Furthermore, all teachers have the responsibility to verify student work as their own, ensuring equity and high-quality learning opportunities for all students. It is for this reason that we ask students are completing a significant amount of their work in lesson time, gaining feedback from their peers and teachers.

Reminders for the start of year

I would like to share a couple of reminders as we head into a new year. Please have conversations with your students to ensure consistency of message at home and school.

Mobile phone policy

All students have been issued a Yondr pouch to be used while at school. It is important that students turn their phone off and lock in their pouch as soon as they arrive at school. If students require a new Yondr pouch, they will need to purchase this through the school.

Lockers

All students have been assigned a locker and provided a school padlock. It is important that students only use their own lockers and do not share their padlock code with friends. At the end of each term students will be provided time to clean out their lockers, however please remember to take home or bin any food waste.

Bikes through school

Students must walk their bike through the school yard to ensure the safety of all students and families on site.

Student Support

In the Secondary Years, there are a number of people who can support your child through a range of circumstances. In all instances, the best first contact is your child's homegroup teacher who can refer the concern to the appropriate teacher or leader.

For concerns related to curriculum and student learning, the classroom teacher of Learning Area Leader are best placed to work with students and families. Our Learning Area Leaders are:

Mathematics – Maria Provatas

English – Kelly Spalding

Science – Amanda Lamming

HASS and Cross Disciplinary – Tegan Gilson

The Arts – Daniel Roberts

Technologies – Sean Davis

Health and Physical Education – Georgina Sulley-Beales

Languages – Robyn Humphries

SACE Manager – Brianna Hartwell

VET Leader – Khara Rogers

(continued over)

SECONDARY YEARS (CONTINUED)

For concerns related to student behaviour, attendance or wellbeing, our Support Services Team are available to work with students and families. Our Student Support Team comprises:

Assistant Principal Inclusion and Wellbeing – Daniel Brzezinski

Assistant Principal Secondary Years – Kelly Spalding

Student Wellbeing Leader – Ashli Richards

VET/Tailored Learning/Careers – Khara Rogers

Year 7 Leader – Courtney Burgess

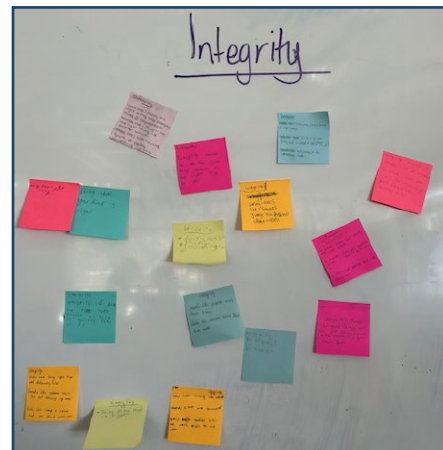
Year 8 Leader – Sam Johns

Year 9 Leader – David Clark

Year 10 Leader – Emily Cowgill

Year 11 Leader – Sean Utting

Year 12 Leader – Arthur Roubanis



SACE Results 2024

Congratulations to the Year 12 Students from 2024 on their outstanding results, a testimony to their dedication and commitment throughout the year. Their results included 24.5% A grades and 83.7% grades in the A or B bands, with an overall SACE completion rate of 100%. In addition, 20% of students completed a Certificate II or III course as part of their studies.

The 2024 Dux is Indulee Jayawardena who received an ATAR of 99.75.

A special congratulations to Indulee (Mathematical Methods), Ryan (Workplace Practices) and Nysa (Research Project) in achieving an A+ with merit.

On Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 February the Merit Ceremony occurred at Government House where Indulee, Ryan and Nysa were presented with their subject merits. The 2025 SACE Merit Ceremony provides an opportunity for the South Australian community to honour the outstanding achievements of students and signify each student's dedication and commitment to hard work and excellence.

We would further like to congratulate students who have recently received offers to courses at University, TAFE and other education providers. The diversity of these offers reflects the commitment of our students to a number of career pathways. We wish them every success as they navigate this new chapter in their education.

The Heights School

2024 SACE Results

SACE COMPLETION

100%

DUX

INDULEE JAYAWARDENA

99.75 ATAR

A+ Merit - Maths Methods
A+ Merit - Research Project
A+ Chemistry
A+ Physics
A+ Specialist Maths
A English Literary Studies

Merit and A+ Grades

Merit

- Indulee Jayawardena - Maths Methods
- Ryan Ritter - Workplace Practices
- Nysa Khanna - Research Project

A+ Grades

- Indulee Jayawardena - Physics, Chemistry and Specialist Mathematics
- Ashlyn Bunt - Psychology
- Alyssa Coppens - Creative Arts
- Arlo Yip - Music Explorations
- Taihla Stevens - Essential Maths
- Khushi Bhargava - Integrated Learning
- Mah Ruk Fatima - Integrated Learning
- Ajin Lee - Integrated Learning
- Nishtha Patel - Integrated Learning
- Lina Mohamad Nizam - Research Project
- Divya Panwar - Research Project

ATAR over 90

- Indulee Jayawardena
- Gleb Dubinin
- Mah Ruk Fatima
- Averil Oon
- Ajin Lee
- Yuki Kikuchi
- Kumarasinghe Jayaratne
- Ivan Ling
- Khushi Bhargava
- Jinho Woo
- Prashan Gunatillake
- Dhanya Lotia
- Alex Jose
- Ekaterine Antonas
- Jiya Sargun

VET

20.01%

*Students completing SACE with VET

Percentage of A

24.5%

SAFER INTERNET DAY

From the eSafety Commissioner

Webinars for parents and carers

Join one of our free webinars for parents and carers. These live webinars give parents and carers the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe online experiences.

Supporting healthy tech use as your child transitions into high school

This 30-minute webinar explores the social pressures, peer influences, and technological challenges young people face as they transition into high school. It also offers practical strategies for navigating online friendships and connections to help minimise negative experiences.

It's suitable for parents and carers of children in upper primary school (ages 11 to 12) and Year 7.

2025: Term 1 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

- 12 February, 12.30pm
- 25 February, 3.30pm

Algorithms and adolescents: the rewards and risks of recommender systems for young people

Are you curious about how digital platforms are influencing your children's online experiences?

This 30-minute webinar explores the role algorithms and AI and how parents and carers can support safer and more positive interactions in the digital world.

This session will:

- highlight how young people are using some of the popular social networking apps and games
- discuss the role of algorithms and recommender systems in influencing how children and young people experience the online world, including potential harms and impacts
- provide strategies to have better conversations with your children about social media use, managing content and reporting negative online experiences.

It's suitable for parents and carers of young people in upper primary and secondary school.

2025: Term 1 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

- 19 March, 12.30pm

Further information and resources can be located on the website; www.esafety.gov.au



Term 1, 2025

eSafety parent and carer webinars

Join eSafety's expert education team for a free live webinar designed for parent and carers.

Term 1 topics:

- **Supporting healthy tech use as your child transitions into high school (30 minutes).** For parents and carers of young people in upper primary school (ages 11 to 12) and Year 7.
- **Algorithms and adolescents: The rewards and risks of recommender systems for young people (30 minutes).** For parents and carers of young people in upper primary and secondary school.

For more information and to register now: eSafety.gov.au/parents/webinars






eSafety.gov.au

2024 YEARBOOKS


2024 Yearbooks are in production
 Estimated delivery to school is Term 1 Week 9

If you have purchased a 2024 Yearbook they will be distributed to students via their Home Group teachers.

If students no longer attend school a copy will be posted to the mailing address we have on file.

SAVE THE DATE

The Heights School Sports Day 2025
Friday 7 March
 Week 6, Term 1



COMMUNITY NOTICES



**NORTHERN ADELAIDE LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK
 Aboriginal Health Community Forum**

Thursday 27 February 2025 Innovation House
 9:30am – 1:30pm Technology Park, Mawson Lakes

- Welcome to Country – Robert Taylor
- MC for the day – Garry Goldsmith, Mui Kawi Services
- Update on NALHN Aboriginal Health Service
- Have your say towards key priorities for Aboriginal Health in the north including consultation for NALHN's new Reconciliation Action Plan 2025-2028
- Morning Tea and Lunch provided
- Transport available on request

RSVP to Cherie Allan, Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer
 E Health_NalhnDeatly/learn/Deatly/Communitie@sa.gov.au
 P 8240 9611

sahealth.sa.gov.au/nalhn



**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
 PARENT INFORMATION SESSION**

ADHD: A PARENT'S GUIDE TO SUPPORT AND SUCCESS

Learn how Student Support Services can help your child with additional needs at our upcoming Parent Information Session

WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2025
 1:30PM - 2:30PM

LOCATION:
 DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION - PARA HILLS OFFICE
 26-34 WILKINSON ROAD PARA HILLS, SA 5096

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER




**FREE INFORMATION SESSION:
 KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE**

SCAN ME!
 For further details

Every attendee receives a child safety pack with a FREE gift!

PARAFIELD GARDENS CHILDREN'S CENTRE
7TH MARCH, 10:00AM - 11:30AM

CHILDREN WELCOME

Limited number of crèche spaces available

Topics covered include:
 • Falls Prevention
 • Burns
 • Water Safety
 • Driveway Safety & much more!

COME & TRY Calisthenics

2 FREE LESSONS

MODBURY UNITING CHURCH
 576 Montague Rd Modbury North

CONFIDENCE
 FRIENDSHIPS
 FUN

JOIN US



Ridgehaven Calisthenics
 admin@ridgehavencalisthenics.com.au

Save up to \$200

COME & TRY Calisthenics


2 FREE LESSONS

2025 Term days and times below:

Monday	SENIORS (18+ years) Competitive
Tuesday	EVOLUTION (any age) Inclusion / Non-competitive INTERMEDIATES (14-17 years) Competitive
Wednesday	SUB-JUNIORS (8-10 years) Competitive MASTERS (26+ years) Competitive
Thursday	JUNIORS (11-13 years) Competitive
Saturday	TINIERS (2-7 YEARS) Non-competitive (2-7 years) & Competitive (5-7 years)

576 Montague Rd Modbury North

Register Here



Ridgehaven Calisthenics
 ADMIN@RIDGEHAVENCALISTHENICS.COM.AU

PlayStart SOCCER

FREE TRIAL CLASSES AVAILABLE - CALL TO BOOK

Play ▶ Learn ▶ Progress

Term program for kids aged 2-10 RUN ALL YEAR ROUND - Join Anytime!

Grange ◀ Windsor Gardens ▶ Unley Park ▶ Mawson Lakes ▶ Stonyfell

All programs - 8 weeks **Term 1 Kick Off February 8 & 9**

- Play Social**
Ages 2-3 (30 mins)
Term Fee \$140
- Play Develop**
Ages 4-5 (45 mins)
Term Fee \$150
- Play Connect**
Ages 5-6 (60 mins)
Term Fee \$170
- Play Improve**
Ages 6-8 (60 mins)
Term Fee \$170
- Play Progress**
Ages 8-10 (60 mins)
Term Fee \$170

Class times same at all venues

Play Social	9:00 - 9:30am	Play Develop	9:00 - 9:45am	Play Connect/Improve/Progress	10:00 - 11:00am
-------------	---------------	--------------	---------------	-------------------------------	-----------------

Saturday Locations
 Windsor Gardens : Avenues College, McKay Avenue
 Grange: Grange Rec. Reserve, Corner Trimmer Parade and Military Roads

Sunday Locations
 Unley Park - Walford Playing Fields, Corner Belair and Cross Roads
 Windsor Gardens : Avenues College, McKay Avenue
 Stonyfell - St. Peter's Girls School, Stonyfell Road
 Mawson Lakes - Uni SA Grounds, Oval 2, University Boulevard

Full details & enrol online here

0401 410 465 playstart.com.au

Sports Vouchers Plus
 Save up to \$200 per child, per calendar year on sport

COMMUNITY NOTICES (CONTINUED)

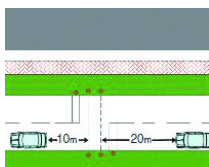
School zones

Drivers must slow their vehicles to 25km/h in a school zone at any time, day or night, when a child is present. A zigzag white line is also usually marked on the road to let drivers know they are approaching a school zone.



School crossings

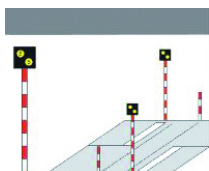
You cannot stop within 20m of the approach side or 10m of the departure side



of a school crossing. This rule applies to all pedestrian crossings.

Koala crossings

A Koala crossing consists of two yellow flashing lights mounted on red and white striped poles.

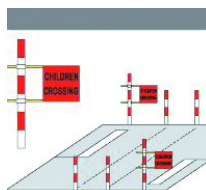


A 25km/h speed limit applies when the lights are flashing.

A driver must give way to any pedestrian.

Emu crossings

An Emu crossing has a red 'Children Crossing' flag displayed on red and white striped posts.



The speed restriction of 25km/h applies at any time when a child is present so slow down to be safe and take care of children.

Bicycle lanes

Bicycle lanes run alongside kerbs or next to parking lanes. They are indicated by painted lines, bicycle symbols and bicycle lane signs, or the word 'lane' painted in white. Some bicycle lanes (or sections of lanes) are painted green.



Some bicycle lanes operate around the clock. Others only operate during peak travel times (as specified on the signs) to allow parking for local businesses and residents.

It is illegal to drive, park or stop your vehicle in a bicycle lane and fines apply.



SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS



We want to ensure the safety of children, pedestrians and motorists around our streets and schools.

Parents and caregivers have a great responsibility to ensure children stay safe in school zones and have a key role in educating children about road safety.

Helpful tips for parking around schools

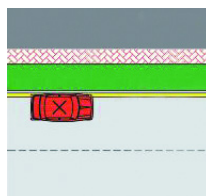
- Allow enough time to take the child to the school gate safely without rushing
- Always observe parking signs and speed limits in and around school zones. They are designed to keep children safe
- Talk about signs and traffic lights with your child. Identify and discuss places where it is safe to get in and out of the car
- Teach your child how to cross the road using the 'stop, look and listen' process – stop at the kerb, look and listen for traffic and then decide whether it is safe to cross
- Park a few streets away and walk your child to school. This is also good exercise and helps teach your child road safety rules.

Note – Council officers patrol school parking in the morning and afternoon during school terms.

Common parking problems

No Stopping

You must not park or stop in a No Stopping Zone for any reason. A continuous yellow line marked on the edge of the road has the same meaning as a No Stopping zone.



No Parking

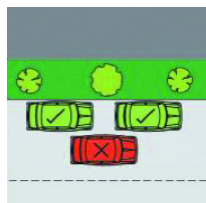
You can only stop in a No Parking area for the immediate purpose of picking up or dropping off passengers or goods. You must not leave the vehicle unattended (no more than three metres away).



You can wait in this location no more than two minutes (without moving).

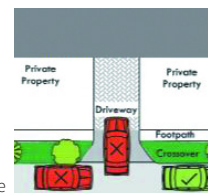
Double parking

Drivers must not stop next to a parked vehicle when picking up or dropping off children, not even for a few seconds. This practice is illegal and creates dangerous situations at any time on any street.



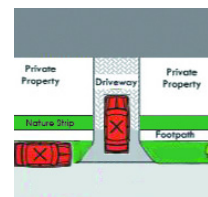
Driveways

You may park so that the front of your vehicle is level with the approach or the back is level with the departure side of a driveway to any private or public property so that vehicles can enter and depart.



Footpaths or nature strip

Parking is prohibited at all times. It creates dangerous situations for pedestrians and other vehicles in the vicinity.



Bus zones

You must not stop or park in a bus zone at any time.



Kiss and drop

This is an area near the school gates for you to drop your child off safely and quickly. The intention is that drivers do not wait in these zones and that they stay in the vehicle so queues are minimised.

