



# NEWSLETTER



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

POORAKA PRIMARY SCHOOL R - 6  
11 SOUTH TERRACE, POORAKA 5095

Cooperation

Respect

Caring

Trust

Responsibility

## Term 1, 2023 Calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	School Starts				
Week 2	Aquatics		Acquaintance Day	Crossing Monitor training	
Week 3	Swimming Year 3-5	Swimming Year 3-5	Swimming Year 3-5	Swimming Year 3-5	Assembly 2:15pm
Week 4					
Week 5		NAPLAN practice	9:00am AGM & Governing Council		Assembly 2:15pm
Week 6					PUPIL FREE DAY
Week 7	ADELAIDE CUP		NAPLAN starts		Assembly 2:15pm
Week 8		Harmony Day			
Week 9	Parent Teacher Interviews	Parent Teacher Interviews	Parent Teacher Interviews	Parent Teacher Interviews	Assembly 2:15pm
Week 10					GOOD FRIDAY
Week 11	EASTER MONDAY				Assembly

### GROW FREE CART

Do you have spare fruit or veg in your gardens or fridge?  
Rather than throwing it out, donate it for our students.  
Drop at the front office.  
Thank you.

Your support is appreciated.



### Parent engagement in children's learning

As a parent you have a strong influence on your child's learning and development from their early years and through school. You are your child's first teacher and how you support your child's learning matters. You have a key role in shaping your child's values, attitudes and approaches to learning at home, at school, and beyond.

Research has shown that when parents are engaged in their children's learning and build strong connections with their children's school, there can be significant benefits for children:

- They are more likely to enjoy learning and be motivated to do well
- They have stronger relationships with other children
- They have greater confidence and social skills
- They do better at school and have increased wellbeing
- They are less likely to miss days at school.

#### What do we mean when we say parent engagement?

Parent engagement in children's learning is about working closely with your child's teachers to help your child to succeed. Parent engagement means knowing what they are learning at school, finding ways to bring school learning into the home, and helping teachers to know and understand your child so that they can help your child to thrive at school. Strong partnerships between schools, parents and families are essential for children to be successful in their learning.

We look forward to working with our families and caregivers this year at Pooraka Primary.

## Mobile Phone Policy

The Department for Education has updated the mobile phone policy to better support safe and productive learning environments and reduce phones as a classroom distraction. It applies to all primary and high schools. For students at Pooraka this new policy reflects what we already do here.

- Students must keep their mobile phones and other personal devices off and away while at school - our students can hand them in at the front office or keep them securely in their bags (at own risk).
- There is no change to the existing arrangements for schools to approve exemptions for students with extenuating circumstances - please see a member of the leadership team if this applies to you.

## Did you know we have Social Work students in the school

We would like to introduce Christine and Erica, two Social Work students doing their placement at Pooraka Primary school for the next two terms. The girls will be based in room 1 and have spent this week getting to know our school and students.

Social work students provide an additional opportunity for students, staff and families to connect and gain support for a range of things. The students will be involved in many aspects of the school including ; running lunchtime programs and friendship groups, making resources and visual supports for students; supporting routines, helping in classes and looking after our wellbeing space in Room 1.

We have had Social Work students at Pooraka Primary for many years and they always bring additional support, skills and opportunities for connection. Welcome to Pooraka!

## NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.



NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

The **NAPLAN online** test window is from Wednesday 15 March until Monday 27 March 2023 (commencing in week 7 term 1).

Families can access info at the website below.

<https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>

