



NEWSLETTER



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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

Cooperation

Respect

Caring

Trust

Responsibility

Dates to remember:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 8			School Photos		Assembly 2:15pm
Week 9			9:00am Governing Council		
Week 10					Assembly 2:15pm

Exciting News - Funding Grants

Schools Upgrade Grant :

Last term we were successful in receiving a Schools Upgrade Fund Grant of \$25,000 to improve and upgrade schools facilities. We applied for the funding to : build a doorway to separate two learning spaces – library and computer room; upgrade two air conditioners (in the main building); painting of sensory movement spaces outside 2 classroom spaces; and painting of the Junior Primary toilets. This work will get underway in the school holidays and continue in term 3.

Smart Giving Grant :

In late 2022 we applied for a Smart Giving Grant – a joint initiative between Pooraka Primary, Valley View High School, North Ingle Primary and Para Vista Primary. The grant was for \$58,000 to fund a project between local primary and secondary schools to support a smooth transition to high school whilst focusing on STEM learning. We were successful with this grant application and work has been underway.

The vision of the project is to improve student outcomes by building the capacity of students and teachers. We want students to embrace transition opportunities by working collaboratively with their peers across levels of schooling, exploring new technologies, and developing new learnings.

We also want Primary and Secondary teachers to work together to enable continuity of learning in STEM by creating common assessment opportunities, team teaching and participating in professional learning.

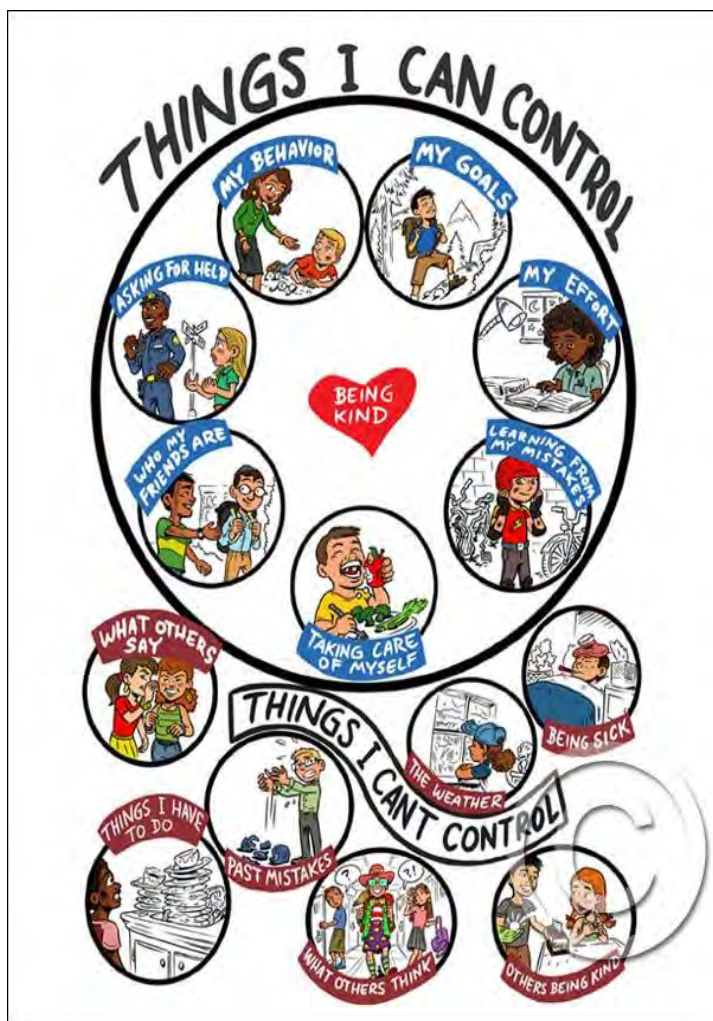
Last week saw our year 5 and 6 students do their first visit to Valley View for a day of learning and connection. Our students said they had a great time and loved engaging in the different learning opportunities presented. The students will share their learning in the next newsletter.

Don't Worry, Be Happy!

Worrying is nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, it's a normal part of our existence. However, worrying about things you can't control - like the weather or someone else's behaviour - will drain you of the mental strength you need to be your best.

When you stop worrying about things you can't control, you'll have more time and energy to devote to the things you do have control over. So when you're faced with a problem or experiencing discomfort, ask yourself, "Is this a problem I can solve? Or do I need to change how I feel about the problem?" If it's within your control, tackle the problem. If it's out of your control, focus on changing your emotional state.

When you take control of your mind you'll start to see that you can choose your own attitude and behaviour, but you can't control many external factors.



External School Review (ESR)

As part of our continuous school improvement process, Pooraka Primary School will be involved in an external school review with a Department for Education review team. Pooraka's last review was conducted in 2020. All public schools are generally externally reviewed every 3 years.

The purpose of external school reviews is to support us to raise achievement, sustain high performance and provide quality assurance to build confidence in public schools. The review team will identify aspects of our school's improvement that have been verified through the review processes, as well as the improvements that we need to make in the future.

Our ESR dates have been announced for Monday 31st July and Tuesday 1st August 2023.

During the external school review, some students, parents, governing council members and staff will be asked to provide information to the review team in a number of ways. These include:

- group discussions (with students or staff or parents)
- meetings (governing council, staff meeting)
- visits into classrooms.



The Seniors went to Valley View Secondary.

Head Start to High School Project.

On Wednesday week 7 room 9 and 10 went to Valley View Secondary School to do a project call Head Start to High School.

We arrived at 9:15am and headed into the amazing large school. We went to our first task which was art. We put our bags on the bench and went inside. We did screen printing with our initials on it. I think I did pretty good.

Next, we did a scavenger hunt but we were just looking for the places of the school. My team and I did really well at finding the different places because we asked the year 12 and 11's. At the end we got chocolate but I didn't take one because I didn't want it.

Then we had recess and most of the class ran to their bags to get their money for the canteen including me. The line was very long when we got there. Some older people kept pushing in because we were smaller than them.

Recess ended and we all met up at the centre and went to Home Ec which is basically cooking. We made Weetabix balls which were horrible. Darcey and I tried to sell them to people. We sold some but not all of them. After that we went to a different building that was upstairs and it was math. We started at one table then rotated to another one. The first one was a grid game. You had to fill in the squares with the number you got from the dice. When we started Darcey got a big lead but I caught up and I won the round.

Before I knew it, I heard the bell ring I left the room with a joyful smile on my face. I decided to get more money from my bag and run to the canteen before anyone was there. I bought a large slushie, another Lipton peach tea, and a pack of cornitos. We found some year 10's. There were these two twins that really stood out to me. Their names were Nick and Eddie they were super friendly, kind, cool, and funny.

Then the bell went. We came to the centre again and went to our next task with our group which was tech studies. When we walked in, we had to wear safety glasses because something could get in our eyes. The teacher walked around the room showing us different tools. My favourite tool was the buffing machine because if you get your hair get stuck in it the machine will pull your scalp off.

Before it was 3:00pm we quickly left to get on our bus.
Overall it was a great experience.
By Solomon.

