



EDITION 1, TERM 1, 2024

IMPORTANT DATES

- Tues 6 Feb**
Informal Meet and Greet/Sausage Sizzle
- Mon 12 – Thurs 15 Feb**
Year 3-5 Swimming
- Fri 16 February, 9:00am**
Principal Coffee and Chat
- Wed 21 Feb**
Year 6 Aquatics
- Tues 27 Feb, 4:00 – 5:00pm**
School Enrolment Tour
- Fri 8 Mar**
School Closure Day – Staff Professional Development
- Mon 11 Mar**
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday (School Closed)
- Wed 13 – Fri 22 Mar**
NAPLAN Testing Year 3 & 5
- Thur 21 Mar**
Harmony Day
- Fri 22 Mar, 9:00am**
Principal Coffee and Chat
- Fri 29 Mar – Mon 1st Apr**
Good Friday and Easter Monday
- Fri 12 Apr**
School Ends – Early Dismissal – 2:10pm

PRINCIPAL WELCOME AND UPDATE



A very warm welcome back to Pooraka Primary School for the 2024 year. It is difficult to believe that almost 6 weeks has passed since the students left for their summer break. Over the holiday period, we also had a number of new school enrolments as well as our new Reception students and we'd like to extend a warm welcome to them and hope they feel a sense of connectedness in their new community.

This year, we will be having a significant focus on explicit teaching of positive behaviours as well as evaluating and consulting on new school values that are appropriate for our community.

You will notice from the **Important Dates** included in this newsletter that there are a few new events that we will be introducing. The first event is Tuesday 6th February, which is our whole school **Informal Meet and Greet**. The purpose of this event is for you to come in, enjoy a free sausage sizzle for dinner, meet the teacher and have a look at the classroom space. A letter was sent home earlier in the

week about this and we are looking forward to seeing as many families as possible. Remember if you haven't to return the **Reply Slip** at the bottom of the letter.

As a school we are always evaluating what we can do better to improve the emotional and academic outcomes of every child, so that they thrive and become confident, capable learners and individuals. Throughout the year, you will have opportunities to provide suggestions for improvement. The first opportunity will be at the meet and greet. All suggestions will go into a draw to win a \$100 Coles/Myer Voucher.

I am delighted to write about the highly successful first week back, where all students settled quickly and engaged in a range of activities to help them re-engage back into school life. Our newsletter this year will have many significant "spotlights" on learning so that we can share as much of the great work happening.

Michelle Parkes

The Leadership Team & Teacher Profile



DEBORAH BARRY
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



DEB FOREMAN
LITERACY CO-ORDINATOR

Meet Sally Clarke - Year 5/6 Classroom Teacher

YEAR 5/6 CLASSROOM TEACHER

Family: I live with my partner Matt and my 8 year old son Logan

Pets: I have a dog called Maurice

Favourite Fruit: Mango

Favourite Food: I don't have one, I love all food

Favourite Music: All genres

Teaching Career: I've been teaching for 19 years

What I love about teaching: Connecting with children and families and helping explore different ways of thinking.

Looking forward to this year: getting to know students more

Hobbies: Sewing and craft

A piece of advice: Always make sure you make time for yourself

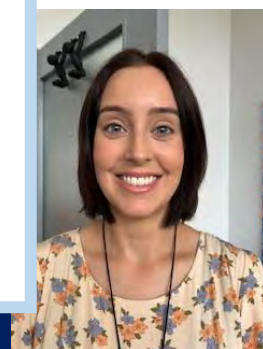
Favourite Author: Sean Tann



Meet our Newest Staff Member - Tess Freeling

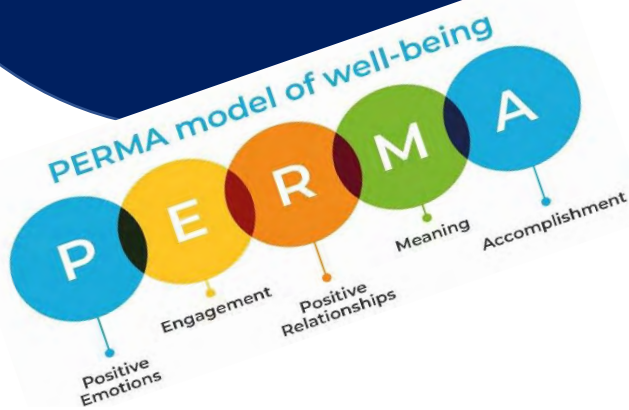
TEACHES A RANGE OF DIFFERENT STUDENTS ACROSS Year 4-6

Tess first started her teaching career in Victoria 7 years ago. She has since taught in South Australia, then moved to Canberra and is now back in SA. She is very excited to be returning to the Pooraka School, where she taught in 2019, 2020 and 2021. Tess has a beautiful fur baby called Maggie. Maggie is a Cavoodle. Welcome aboard once again Tess and we all look forward in getting to know you more.



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Week 1 – Whole School “JUMP START” Program



The students have reported a wonderful week. Some of the things they have enjoyed include:

Sadie: My highlight of being back is playing in the new tepees and domes. I love them because I love to build.

Naite: Playing with my friends and making hot air balloons to decorate the classroom

Mujo: Seeing my friends and enjoying PE lessons where we've been playing team games.

Isabella: Getting to see my friends again and using the computers to play Math games.

Connor: My favourite part of Week 1 is seeing Ali, my best friend again. I'm also excited to have Ms Clarke as my teacher.

This week all of the students and teachers have focused much of the student learning on the **PERMA Model of Wellbeing** to set students up for success throughout the year. Students have participated in activities that promote these qualities and skills.

PERMA stands for:

POSITIVE EMOTIONS & GRATITUDE

ENGAGEMENT & MINDFULNESS

RELATIONSHIPS

MEANING

ACCOMPLISHMENT



Jaxen: Catching up with friends and being able to draw.

Santiago: Meeting my friends and being able to draw.

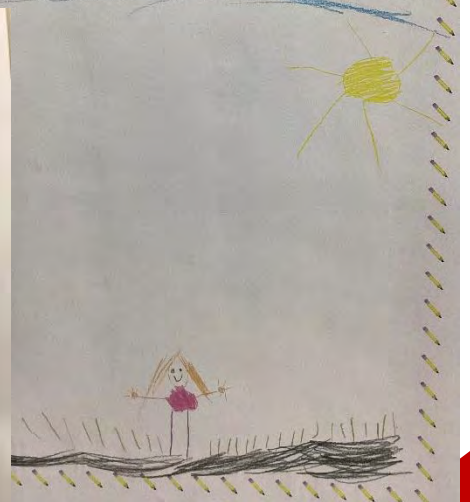
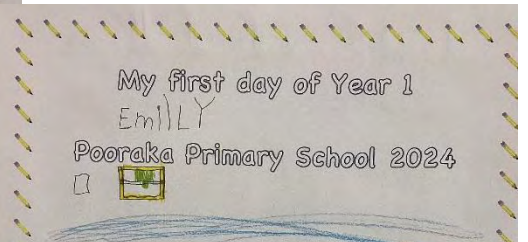
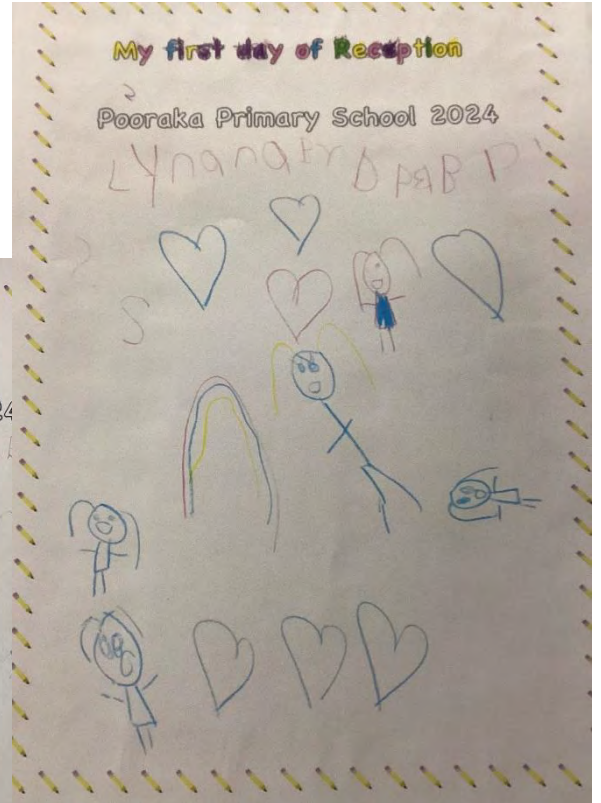
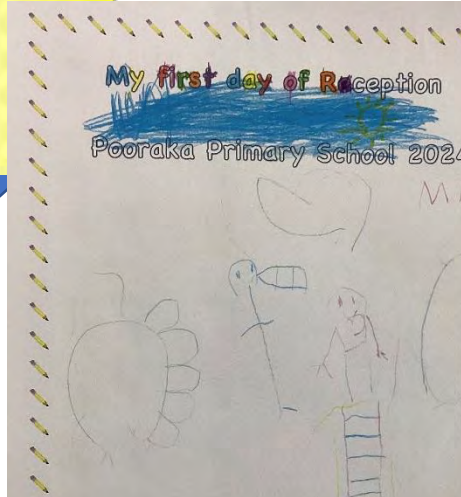
Latifa: Seeing my friends and learning about how to get along as a class.

Harley: Seeing my good friends and my teacher

Lucy: I've loved being back and learning. I really like making the book covers.

Sahar: Uniting with my friend. I also loved going into the computer room and playing Minecraft.

A SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING R-2



Tepees, Domes and Outdoor Classrooms

Pooraka
School
Improvements
– The Great
Outdoors



More work has been completed during the holidays to continually improve the outdoor learning and play spaces for our children. We are always striving to make improvements that nurture the curiosity of young children, allow them to use their imagination and encourage outdoor, constructive play for learning.

Watch out for more improvements in the future.



STUDENT SAFETY - CARPARKS

A reminder to all families that the front **staff/special visitor** carpark and the **back staff carpark** is not for general parking when dropping off and picking up students.

The safety of our children is paramount and we have no teacher on duty in these areas to ensure the safety of our children. Thank you for your support in **KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE.**

Important Notices

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SCHOOL UNIFORMS

All students should now be wearing full school uniform at Pooraka Primary School. How the students wear the uniform shows a sense of pride in the school.

The correct uniform consists of:

Pooraka School Logo Branded Polo T-Shirt
Dark Navy Blue Track Pants or Shorts
Dark Blue Bucket Hat. Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform each day. For further information, please refer to the uniform policy on the Pooraka Website.



[Parent Info - Pooraka Primary School \(poorakaps.sa.edu.au\)](http://poorakaps.sa.edu.au)



Pooraka Primary School Services and Advertising



HAPPY HAVEN OSHC

POORAKA IS HIRING QUALIFIED EDUCATORS

WHAT IS REQUIRED?

- 1 Working with Children Check
- 2 Masterclass RRHAN-EC
- 3 First aid training (HLTAID004 or HLTAID012)
- 4 CPR training (HLTAID001 or HLTAID009)
- 5 Recognised Diploma or 2 years FT teaching degree

WHY WORK WITH US?

- ✓ Career Progression
- ✓ SA Owned and Operated
- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ Rewarding Roles
- ✓ Adult and School Traineeships
- ✓ Admin Support = less paperwork!
- ✓ Build your Career Network

happyhaven.sa.edu.au

SPORTS ACADEMY

ROKKA MITCHELL SECONDARY COLLEGE SPORTS ACADEMY

TRIAL DATES
1 & 6 MARCH 2024
8:45AM-12:00PM
(FOR 2025 ENTRY)

Register your interest via QR code

**AFLW
SOCCER
CRICKET
VOLLEYBALL
BASKETBALL**

Rokka Mitchell Secondary College
Briens Road, Gepps Cross,
South Australia, 5094
Phone 8163 4600

SKILLS ACQUISITION FOOTBALL PROGRAMS

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

NOW AVAILABLE AT
POORAKA PRI SCHOOL on Thursdays.

CREATING A MOVEMENT OF CHANGE FOR TOMORROW'S GRASSROOTS LEADERS

LEARN THE SKILLS OF FOOTBALL DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Program Benefits:

- Structured sport program after school
- Develop your child's social skills
- Promote your child's physical activity
- Free's up your time, one less weekend activity!

YOUR LOCAL HEAD COACH IS: Jesse
BOOK NOW 04152450383
sa12.football@sportstaracademy.com

TEACHING FULLY QUALIFIED STAFF

2018 AWARDS Voted Best national school aged activity (5-12 years old)

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