



OAKBANK
SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



Connection | Respect | Responsibility



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

TERM

3

WEEK

6

AUG 2025



OAKBANK SCHOOL Upcoming Dates

Please check our Daymap Connect calendar for further dates & amendments.

Connection | Respect | Responsibility

OAKBANK SCHOOL
R-12 Education
oakbank.sa.edu.au

Enrol now for reception in 2026!

WEEK 07 **04 THU** **Student Free Day**
Staff Training
Thursday 04 September

05 FRI **School Closure "Show Day"**
Friday 05 September

WEEK 09 **Local Schools "Come & Try"**
Oakbank days
Weeks 9 + 10

WEEK 10 **26 SEP** **End of Term 3**
Friday 26 September
2.15pm Early Dismissal

OAKBANK SCHOOL

We're hosting Oakbank Kindy children for "Farm Kindy" this term!

Farm Kindy
Every 2nd Thursday

OAKBANK SCHOOL
R-12 Education

Principal's Tours

19 AUG **29 AUG** **08 SEP** **16 SEP**

oakbank.sa.edu.au

Book online now!



oakbank.daymap.net/daymap



oakbank.daymap.net/daymapconnect

Having problems with Daymap? Call us or try our guides on oakbank.sa.edu.au/guides

OAKBANK SCHOOL R-12 Education
oakbank.sa.edu.au **8398 7200**

154 Onkaparinga Valley Rd, Oakbank SA 5034



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



From the Principal

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

the beginning of term 3 has been tough with the loss of our wonderful student Kieran Welsh in the July school holidays. The staff and students held much affection for Kieran, as he was a wonderful student who took advantage of every opportunity available to him, at school and beyond.

He was all that we would celebrate in a young man – kind, curious, friendly to all and open to new learning. We will always miss Kieran and we thank all of you who contributed to a gift to give to the Welsh family to try to support them during this very difficult time.



School Improvement

As you know we are always in pursuit of whole school improvement and have developed a new Site Learning Plan this year. This plan will remain in place for 3 years. We regularly share our progress in all three areas of our plan with our school community.

1

Our Pivotal Purpose

Defining who we are and what we do

With input from Staff, Student Leaders and our Governing Council parent group we developed a clearly defined school purpose. This is in alignment with the Department for Education's purpose, however is written to suit our context and community. This purpose will continue to guide our directions, decision making and policy development into the future.

“

Our Purpose

At Oakbank School we see and value every child. We empower our students to thrive by connecting them with real-world learning experiences, enhancing their personal character, intellectual curiosity and academic confidence. We provide a foundation for all students to achieve a fulfilling and purpose-driven future. When Oakbank students thrive, so does our community!

”



2

Prototyping and Playing Diving into the new SA Curriculum

Our staff and students have been involved in a great deal of exciting work in this area. The new SA Curriculum was released in full in late 2024 for staff to start working with. Our staff have embraced this opportunity to explore ways to embed learning opportunities in their classes that enhance personal character, intellectual curiosity and academic confidence.

Some brilliant multi-faceted learning opportunities have resulted including: our Year 3/4 students designing real-life solutions to solve an engineering issue with the Murray Bridge, our year 8 students digitally repairing old photos from the Onkaparinga Archives and our year 9 and 10 students diving deeply into exploring civics and democracy.

We look forward to our staff continuing to enhance these real-world learning opportunities for all students.



Things I can see, hear,
touch, smell and taste.

3

Persistence and Perseverance Developing dispositions to support effective learners

Students and staff have been working together under the leadership of the Inclusion and Wellbeing team to develop their own regulation plans. Being able to access a range of self-regulation strategies is vital to being a successful learner and enhancing personal wellbeing. All students, reception to year 12, have been introduced to a range of regulation strategies. From these they have identified those which best suit their individual needs. This has significantly helped to increase engagement time on task in class and therefore improving learning outcomes.

This is only the first 8 months of our new Site Learning Plan and we are very excited to continue to progress this over the next two years.

“ Our goal with regulation tools... was to help every student start thinking about what does work for them—and to give everyone a chance to try something new. ”



Staffing changes for Term 3

Shane Wissell has left Oakbank School to begin work at Eastern Fleurieu School. We thank Shane for his many years at Oakbank.

Karalyn Jones has taken leave for the remainder of 2025, and has chosen not to return to her role in 2026. We thank Karalyn for her work in leading the Primary School for 12 months and wish her well in future roles.

Melanie Welsh remains on personal leave for the remainder of 2025.

David Harris is also on personal leave for term 3.

Dan Chapman will shortly begin a new role as Farmhand and Assistant Groundsperson. We are looking forward to Dan bringing his expertise in many areas of agriculture, horticulture and viticulture to the school farm.

Courtney Smith has joined us to take up a teaching role in Health and PE and Maths. Courtney has developed effective teaching skills, having been mentored by Tori Kaesler in term 2, and is enjoying her new role.

Fan Xiaopeng Fan has taken up a teaching role in Science and Maths for term 3, we welcome him to our school community. Fan has quickly built a good rapport with his middle school students.

Genine Riley has taken up a teaching role in the primary school for the remainder of the year. She will be working in the year 3/4 class to enable **Nikki Kearton** to undertake her new role as Learning Culture Leader, R-4. In addition, Genine's wealth of literacy experience will be drawn upon to provide some additional literacy intervention for upper primary students, complementing that which already exists for those in the junior primary.

Rachel Sant will adjust her role as Learning Culture Leader 5-7, with the addition of **Dave Binney** taking on the responsibilities of Learning Culture Leader 8-9 alongside his Aboriginal Education Teacher role.

In addition, this term we also welcome many **pre-service teachers** to our site. They work alongside our teaching staff to develop their skills and learn the science and art of teaching. As the next generation of teachers, we are committed to ensuring they get all the experience they need to allow them to thrive in the classroom once they are fully qualified.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of the newsletter as you get to explore all the wonderful learning experiences our students have been involved in from Science Week to Book Week and everything in between.

Lee Knight | Principal



OAKBANK
SCHOOL

Are you
following
our socials?



[oakbankas](https://www.facebook.com/oakbankas)



[oakbank_school](https://www.instagram.com/oakbank_school)



Nikki Kearton

Learning Culture Leader R-4

Year 3-4 Teacher



I became a teacher because I love working with a wide range of people, organising opportunities, and sharing my love of learning. No two days are ever the same, and throughout my career I've gained so many valuable skills. What keeps me coming back is witnessing those 'aha' moments when a student finally grasps something they've been working hard to understand—the pride they feel in themselves is incredibly rewarding to see.

This year marks my 11th year teaching at Oakbank School. I first joined the school as a relief teacher in 2014 before taking on my own class as the R/1/2 teacher in 2015. Since then, I've taught every year level from Reception to Year 5, worked as a Performing Arts specialist across the primary years, and taken on leadership roles including Primary Coordinator and now Primary Learning Culture Leader R-4. One of the highlights of my time here has been watching my very first Oakbank class grow up—those students are now in years 10, 11 and 12. It was a real privilege to join the year 12s at their formal this year and celebrate all they have achieved since their days in my classroom.

My favourite thing about Oakbank is the strong sense of community and connection. Our students have many opportunities to mentor and support each other, work as buddies across year levels, and share in the fantastic resources our school offers. I also value the way we connect with the wider community and all that they bring to enrich our students' learning.

Nikki Kearton

Fast 5 facts!

Tamora Pierce is my favourite author.



Chocolate or a **cheese platter** are my favourite foods.



Kindness is what I value most in the world.



Spring is my favourite season.



Europe – England, Italy, France, Amsterdam are my favourite holiday destinations.



“ My favourite thing about Oakbank is the strong sense of community and connection.

”



EMS





OAKBANK SCHOOL

We're moving our student record management and finance to EMS!

The Education Management System (EMS) is a flexible digital, cloud-based platform designed for the department to streamline and automate many school administration and financial management procedures.

Oakbank School will be moving to EMS in Term 4 on November 19.

What does this mean for parents?

Parents shouldn't see a significant change to the way they interact with the school, other than finding official processes somewhat more streamlined and a change for the better when logging on the Daymap Connect! We are already using  EdSmart® for **electronic permissions** and we will continue to use  Daymap for **student learning and parent communication**.

Preparing for EMS

To prepare for EMS, there'll be a couple of things leading up to the transition that will happen.



Data Check

Later this term we'll be sending out an EdSmart form to all parents to fill in to confirm some key information for you to ensure we bring across the most current information.



Unique Contact Email Address

If you don't have a unique email address for each parent or guardian supplied to the school, we will be contacting you to supply one – shared emails are no longer supported.



Daymap Connect for Parents

Parent accounts will be simplified in the future by moving to use your contact email address as your username – no more parent code! You will also be able to re-set your password without the need of entering a student code. We may move to this format before EMS transition if possible and will inform parents prior to this transition.

Keep an eye out and remember to keep up us to date with any changes to your contact details through the year- it's important that we keep in touch!

We'll keep you up to date with any further changes as we continue on this process.

Oakbank School





Secondary School SLC Leadership Day Olon Adelaide

On Monday 4 August, the Secondary School Student Leadership Council participated in a leadership day with Ryan and Ms Ferraro. Our focus for the day was leadership, team building and strategising for the semester.

Some of the activities that the SLC participated in at Olon included Virtual Reality laser tag, working as a team to communicate how to diffuse a bomb using VR headsets, which we were unsuccessful with due to time constraints and dodge ball. The leadership team thoroughly enjoyed this day and it helped us get to know each other better.

Ava Smith
SLC President





Future
learning
opportunities



Flinders University Open Day Inspiring Futures & Fun Moments

On Friday of week 1, a group of enthusiastic Year 10, 11, and 12 students with a keen interest in pursuing a university pathway attended the Flinders University Open Day. The event kicked off in the lively Hub, where students were welcomed with a range of interactive stalls offering information and directions to help them make the most of their visit.



With maps and programs in hand, students then set off across the Bedford Park campus to explore their chosen areas of interest. They attended campus and facility tours, lectures, and information sessions covering a wide variety of study areas, including nursing, creative writing, drama and acting, engineering and criminology.

Beyond the formal sessions, there were plenty of hands-on and memorable moments. Isaiah turned heads with his impressive vertical jump at the Sports Degrees stall, catching the attention of not only his peers from other schools but also the Port Adelaide Football Club players connected to Flinders' sports programs.

Meanwhile, Duncan found his element at the Information Technology and Computer Science stall, enjoying some console time and exploring gaming technology.

Jinx and Aleisha had a nostalgic moment at the Biomechanics display, singing along in their heads to *"The knee bone's connected to the thigh bone..."* as they explored human movement and anatomy.

And also in the Hub, Ava put her skills to the test at the Paramedicine stall, performing CPR in a realistic training scenario and learning more about emergency care.

The day provided our students with valuable insights into university life, study options, and career pathways, and plenty of inspiration for the future. We're proud of how they represented our school and made the most of the opportunity to explore what life beyond school might look like.

Lauran Fornarino | Yr 12 Connect Teacher
Kat Thompson | Learning Culture Leader

10-12





Discovering
our past together



Back in My Day... A Cross-Age Adventure at the Balhannah Archives

On a crisp winter's day, our Reception/Year 1 and Year 12 students shared a special excursion to the Balhannah Archives, celebrating the Reception students' milestone of 100 days at school. This unique cross-age learning experience embraced our school values of Connection, Respect, and Responsibility, as the youngest and oldest members of our school community worked and explored side by side.

The visit was hosted by the wonderful Di and the Friends of the Balhannah Archives, who curated a fascinating exhibition about childhood and schooling in South Australia over the decades. A special display showcased pieces from Oakbank School dating back to the 1930s, sparking interest and reflection in our year 12 students as they prepared to write recounts of their own early schooling for a young audience.

All students enjoyed a treasure hunt, matching pictures on a worksheet to historical items in the displays, and the year 12s were especially captivated by vintage toys—including French knitting (also known as "spool knitting" or "corking"), which many were delighted to try for the first time.

Our walk to and from the archives was chilly but cheerful, with all students demonstrating responsibility, respect for local community members, and kindness toward one another. A highlight of the day was the old-fashioned lolly shop, where the reception and year 1 students practised their money skills using plastic coins to purchase treats for themselves and their year 12 buddies.

All students represented our school beautifully - polite, curious, and full of enthusiasm. A heartfelt thank you to Di and the Balhannah Archives team for hosting us and helping make history come alive.

Natasha Cairns } R-1 Teacher

Celebrating *Book Week*





Children's Book Week 2025 "Book an Adventure"

This year, our R–12 students enjoyed a range of exciting activities to celebrate Book Week. The theme, "Book an Adventure," inspired creativity, teamwork, and a love of reading across the school.

All participation in events earned points for our school teams, with the winning team to be announced at the next whole-school assembly.



Monday

On Monday, our primary students brought in cakes from home decorated around the theme of a book. The creativity was outstanding, and it was wonderful to see families working together on these amazing creations. Congratulations to our student-voted winners:

- 1 **Aria M's** Stitch Cake
- 2 **Olena N's** Horse Land Cake
- 3 **Charles B's** Dragon Volcano Nest
Addie H's Minion
Logan E's Willy Wonka

Tuesday

On Tuesday, the primary students took part in a Read Around. They were mixed into multi-year-level groups and enjoyed listening to staff from across the school share their love of reading through some of their favourite picture books.





“ ..the turnout was fantastic, with a wonderful variety of creative and colourful costumes on display from throughout the school! ”

Wednesday

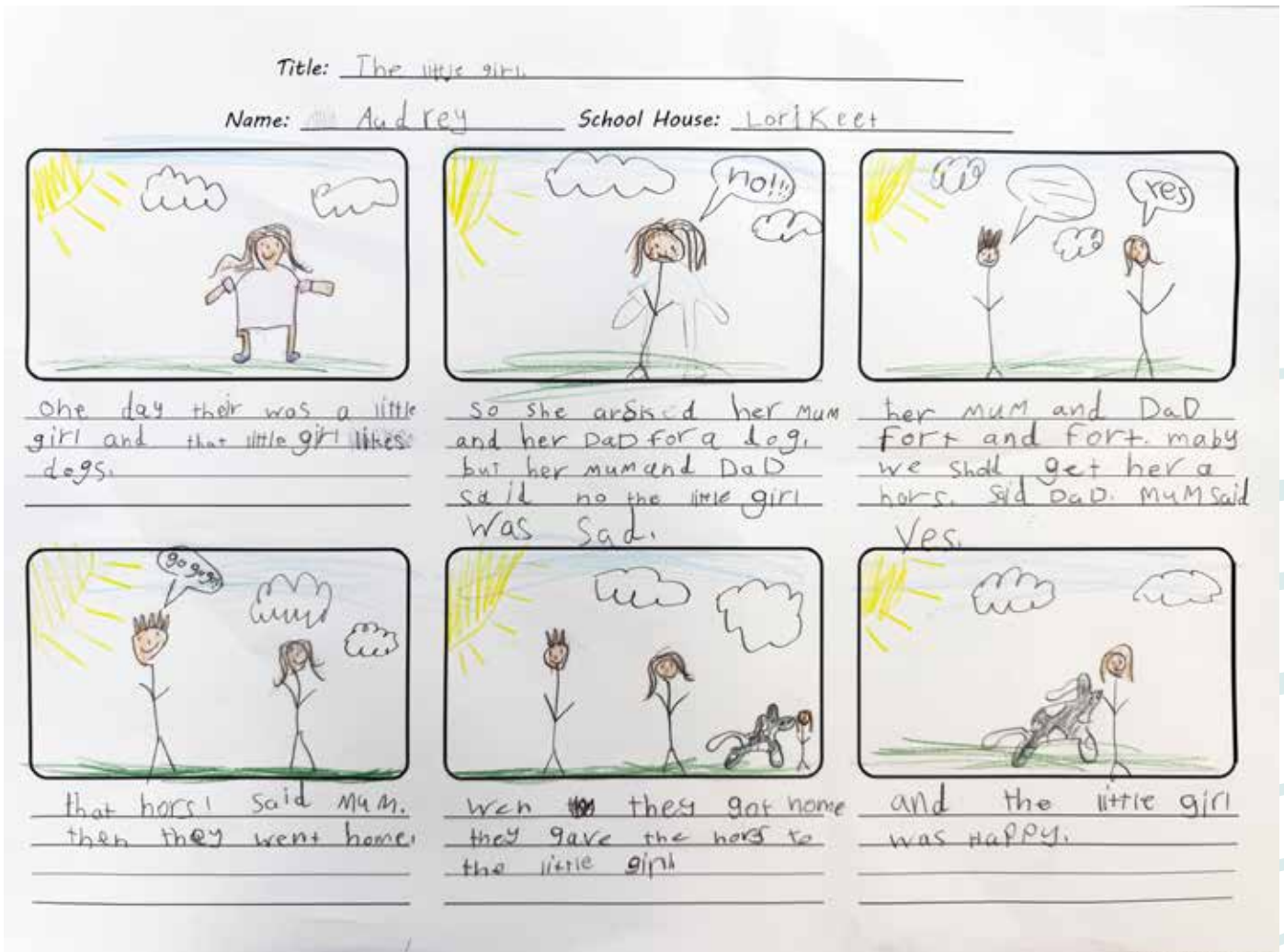
On Wednesday, staff and students dressed as characters from their favourite books. The turnout was fantastic, with a wonderful variety of creative and colourful costumes on display from throughout the school!

Congratulations to our best-dressed students:

- R/1 **Theodore S**
- 1/2 **Charles B**
- 3/4 **Monika P**
- 5/6 **Candela A**
- Secondary **Jacob R, Adia G, Pelayo A**

Thursday

On Thursday, our R-2 students created an original story on a storyboard with some beautiful pictures and writing to add detail to their creations. The year 3-6 students were tasked with stretching their creative skills by writing a story that was exactly 100 words long. This meant being efficient with their word choices and telling a complete story with some interesting imagery. Both groups had to base their work on the writing prompt ‘Going on an Adventure’.





Friday

On Friday, the R-6 students had to design and create a map from a fictional world. The R/1 class made a map for the story 'Rosie's Walk' which they have been learning about in their Technologies lessons. We also saw a range of creative and beautiful maps from some other fictional worlds. Winners for our story and map creations will be decided next week to give students more time to polish their final products.

Our secondary students also had plenty of opportunities to get involved throughout the week.. They entered competitions such as a 100-word story challenge and designing a map from a fictional world. They could also create a book trailer or test their knowledge in a book-themed quiz.

Nikki Kearton

Oakbank School Book Week covenor

Mila 3/4

The adventurous Islads





OAKBANK
SCHOOL

Meet the new



Daymap Companion

Daymap have released their new and improved **Daymap Companion** app for parents & caregivers, offering a more user-friendly experience.

Search in your device's store for "Daymap" to download.

Sign in by searching for "Oakbank School" and signing in with your existing Parent ID and password*.

Need to reset your password?



Try the Daymap Quick Connect Guide
oakbank.sa.edu.au/guides



dl.0762.icthelp@schools.sa.edu.au





Science
Week



Science Week

As part of Science Week this year, primary students had the exciting opportunity to buddy up with high school science classes for a series of hands-on, interactive learning experiences. This cross-age collaboration allowed younger students to explore scientific concepts with the guidance and support of older peers, while high school students stepped into leadership roles, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm for science.



Curiosity with chemistry: Creating chemical reactions with our R-1 and year 10 students

Our R/1 students were back in the lab again, being lead with great care by our year 10 students. Our primary students had the opportunity to mix several household acids and bases, creating chemical reactions as they wrote messages in invisible ink, and made magically coloured potions using red cabbage, lemon juice and bicarb soda (Violet was very excited to make her favourite rainbow colours!). They also made some very glittery biodegradable plastic shapes out of milk and vinegar!

Our year 10's demonstrated excellent leadership, being challenged to offer instruction and safety, yet encourage and empower the younger students to fully participate, as they painted, pressed, mixed and stirred together acid and base solutions. They embraced the responsibility of preparing and coaching, and were totally blown away by the excitement and fast learning of their fabulous youngest peers. Some R/1's had declared themselves "nervous" of the "big kids" beforehand, but all were fast to decide that this was unfounded, and they are now keen to work with them again.

So, Ms Cairns and I are already planning...

Sarah Hill | Senior Science Teacher





Exploring physics through aboriginal innovation: Year 7B's spearthrower experiment

Students in Year 7B recently took part in a hands-on science activity that combined cultural learning with physics. As part of their exploration into forces and motion, the class investigated how the use of levers can enhance the distance an object travels.

To simulate the traditional use of spearthrowers by Aboriginal peoples—tools designed to extend the reach and power of a thrown spear—students used modern ball throwers. These devices served as a contemporary analogue, allowing students to compare the effectiveness of throwing a ball with and without the aid of a lever.

The experiment sparked curiosity and discussion, as students observed firsthand how mechanical advantage can amplify human effort. It also provided a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the ingenuity of Aboriginal technologies and their relevance to scientific principles studied today.

Rachel Sant | Learning Culture Leader Yrs 7-9



Investigating innovation & automation in agriculture

Our year 1/2 and year 7 class worked together to design and model innovative iFarms, using Minecraft and Lego to display their work!

Georgia Noble | 1/2 Class Teacher



Building the ultimate paper plane

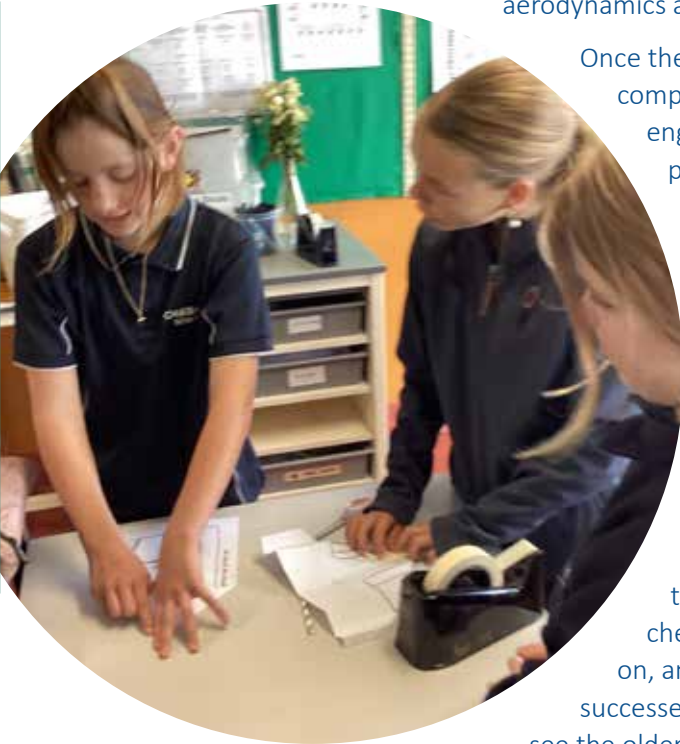
Our year 3/4 students teamed up with one of our enthusiastic year 7 science classes for a collaborative and creative buddy activity. Students were challenged to design and build a paper aeroplane using only a few materials: paper, a paper straw, and paperclips. But there was a twist—their designs had to be unique and go beyond the traditional paper plane shape. This encouraged students to think outside the box, apply scientific principles, and experiment with aerodynamics and balance.

Once their creations were complete, the budding engineers entered their planes into three exciting competition categories: Furthest Distance, Most Airtime, Best Tricks.

The atmosphere was buzzing with energy and curiosity as students tested their designs, cheered each other on, and celebrated their successes. It was fantastic to see the older students mentoring their younger buddies, sharing tips, and encouraging experimentation. The younger students, in turn, brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the table.

This activity not only highlighted the fun and creativity of science, but also fostered teamwork, communication, and cross-year collaboration.

Nikki Kearton | 3-4 Class Teacher





Harnessing the power of air

Budding scientists in our Year 5/6 class teamed up with the Year 10s and Mr. Buxton for a dynamic and hands-on exploration of physics in action. The buddy activity focused on harnessing the power of air and Newton's third law of motion: For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Students worked in small groups across three engaging challenges, each designed to test their creativity, teamwork, and understanding of physical forces. The goal? Use the force of air expelled from a balloon to move an object from one point to another.

The first challenge involved propelling a straw along a string using balloon power. Students timed how quickly their straw could travel between two points, experimenting with balloon size and placement to improve speed.

Next, the groups constructed balloon rockets, aiming for maximum distance and stability. Finally, they built bottle rocket cars, using balloons as engines to drive their vehicles forward. Each group refined their designs, testing and tweaking to achieve greater speed or distance.

Throughout the activity, students demonstrated impressive problem-solving skills and scientific thinking. They explored how changes in design affected motion, and how Newton's third law played a key role in their success.

Maddy Abfalter | 5-6 Teacher





Primary Science Activities

Science Week drew to a close with a special event just for our primary students—a dedicated Primary Science Activities session that turned classrooms into hubs of hands-on discovery.

Four interactive science stations were set up, each designed to ignite curiosity and encourage experimentation. The stations included:

Rainbow Lightning - Baking Soda Volcanoes - Suspended Bubbles and Paper Rockets.

Students rotated through each station, engaging with scientific concepts in a playful and memorable way. The activities were not only fun but helped students deepen their understanding of key science principles through direct experience.

This vibrant session was a highlight of the week, celebrating scientific thinking, creativity, and collaboration. It left students buzzing with excitement and inspired a sense of wonder that will carry on well beyond Science Week.





Exploring *Careers in tech*



Lot Fourteen Careers Awareness Program

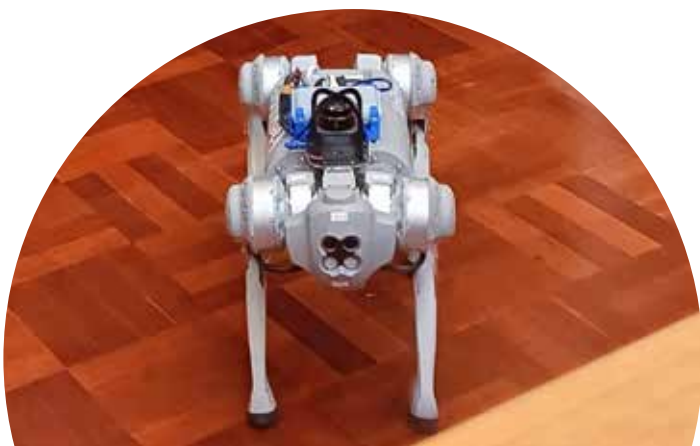
Students from years 7-12 were given the opportunity to visit Lot Fourteen, located in the centre of Adelaide. By participating in the program, students were provided with an insight into potential future careers associated with technology and artificial intelligence.

Students first participated in a small workshop which demonstrated the amazing capabilities of artificial intelligence (AI). This group of students were also fortunate enough to meet researchers who are currently working in the AI industry. Many students enjoyed the interactive activities.

“Lot fourteen was very interesting and fun, in the AIML area we got to look at a robot dog and see some cool software and we got some cool stress balls. In the aerospace area we learnt some cool facts and got to do some very fun interactive stuff and saw a machine that could point to satellites in real time.” Rylan - Year 7

The students who attended the program conducted themselves in a respectful and courteous manner and demonstrated excellent listening skills. We are so proud of the way in which these students interacted positively with the activities offered and with the wonderful staff who facilitated the program itself.

Sarah Hill



“ Lot fourteen was very interesting and fun... we learnt some cool facts and got to do some very fun interactive stuff...

Rylan ”



Work
experience



Work experience opens doors for year 10 students

In the final week of Term 2, our Year 10 students stepped beyond the classroom and into the world of work, participating in a wide range of work experience placements across the Adelaide Hills and beyond.



This invaluable week gave students the opportunity to explore potential career pathways, develop real-world skills, and gain insight into the working world.

From retail and hospitality to trades, health, and the arts, students were immersed in environments that allowed them to test their interests and apply their knowledge in meaningful ways. For many it was a week of inspiration and, in some cases, the beginning of exciting opportunities. A number of students impressed their hosts so much that they were offered part-time work or invited back for school holiday shifts.

Marley spent the week at **Treble and Bass** in Mount Barker, where she learned how to re-string guitars, assist with customer service, and gain hands-on experience in a local music shop. Her confidence and enthusiasm were evident throughout the week.

Hudson took on a placement at a jeweller, where he was able to work with tools and materials to create actual products - a rare and rewarding experience that showcased his careful attention to detail and creativity.

We are proud of all our year 10 students who engaged in work experience and for their professionalism shown during this week. Work experience plays a vital role in helping students shape their future goals and develop a deeper understanding of the world beyond school. Thank you to all the businesses and mentors who supported our students and welcomed them into their workplaces.

Kat Thompson
Learning Culture Leader 10-12



Open Boys Basketball

On Monday 28 July, our Open Boys Basketball team travelled to the Murray Bridge Basketball Association courts to compete in a series of games against Murray Bridge, Birdwood, and River Mallee. It was a challenging day on the court, and whilst their efforts were not rewarded with victory, our students gave it their all and demonstrated great perseverance.

The day opened with a tough match against host team Murray Bridge, followed by games against Birdwood and River Mallee. Despite not taking home a win, there were plenty of moments to be proud of.

Micah Mrazek led the team in scoring, showing consistency and determination across all three games. **Seth Heffernan** made a triumphant return to the sport after a significant break, quickly finding his rhythm on the court. **Bailey Potezny** sunk several impressive three-pointers and, in one memorable moment, stood his ground as a towering opponent completed a dramatic dunk overhead. Leroy showed excellent composure throughout the day, confidently sinking several three-point shots and

keeping calm under pressure to land key free throws.

Our youngest student of the team, year 9 **Bodhi Potezny** held his own against players several years older and taller, displaying impressive composure and hustle. **Harry Schulz** kept team spirits high with his constant encouragement and positive energy, ensuring that the team remained united and upbeat throughout the day. **Isaiah Pridham** showed fearlessness under pressure, managing to get shots off against much taller opponents, and **Harry Denny** impressed with his positioning and team play, always ready to support from the wings.

A big thank you to **Cohen O'Shea**, who helped with scoring duties throughout the day. As is tradition, the day ended with a well-deserved team stop at McDonald's an excellent way to wrap up a day full of effort, laughter, and camaraderie.

Well done to all players for representing the school with pride.

Kat Thompson



PARENTS AND CARERS

We want your feedback!



Department for Education 2025 School Parent Engagement Survey

You're invited to complete the 2025 annual
Public Education Parent Survey.

The 2025 parent survey opens late July and closes midnight
Sunday 7 September 2025.

During the survey window you should have received an email or SMS from
the Parent Survey Team with a unique link to participate in the survey.

If you have not received an email or SMS with your unique survey link,
please check your spam or junk folders. Otherwise, please contact **education.
ParentSurvey@sa.gov.au** and include our school's name in your email.

A new survey will be sent to you.

The survey takes less than 10 minutes and will help us understand:

What we're doing well ●

Where we can improve ●

What's important to you ●

It has been coordinated centrally so that added administration
workload isn't placed on the school.

Your answers will not identify you or your child.
Only collated feedback will be provided to our school.

Information collected will inform school improvement planning
and activities at the school.

The survey closes midnight **Sunday 7 September 2025.**

Feedback or support

If you have specific feedback
about the school or an
issue that you would like to
discuss about your child,
contact Oakbank School
directly.

8388 7200

[dl.0762.info@](mailto:dl.0762.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

schools.sa.edu.au

For questions or to provide
feedback about the parent
survey, email education,
contact
[education.parentsurvey@](mailto:education.parentsurvey@sa.gov.au)
sa.gov.au.



Wellbeing Focus

Building Healthy Friendships

WHAT DOES A HEALTHY FRIENDSHIP LOOK LIKE?



YOU ENJOY SPENDING TIME TOGETHER

YOU CHECK IN WITH EACH OTHER



YOU RESPECT EACH OTHER'S DIFFERENCES

YOU ARE ABLE TO TALK TO & TRUST EACH OTHER



YOU SUPPORT EACH OTHER

YOU WANT THE BEST FOR EACH OTHER

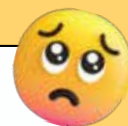


WHAT DOES AN UNHEALTHY FRIENDSHIP LOOK LIKE?



YOU ARE NOT HONEST WITH EACH OTHER

YOU EXCLUDE EACH OTHER



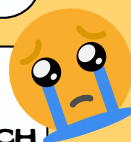
YOU RESPECT EACH OTHER'S DIFFERENCES

YOU ARE ABLE TO TALK TO & TRUST EACH OTHER



YOU DON'T FEEL GOOD AFTER SPENDING TIME TOGETHER

YOU DON'T RESPECT EACH OTHER'S PERSONAL BOUNDARIES



YOU SUPPORT EACH OTHER

YOU WANT THE BEST FOR EACH OTHER



YOU SAY NEGATIVE THINGS ABOUT EACH OTHER

YOU DON'T FEEL SUPPORTED BY THEM



Conflicts

We can all feel nervous about conflicts because they might seem like confrontation or fighting. But not all conflicts are bad, what matters most is how we handle them. Sometimes, working through a disagreement can even make a friendship stronger.

Common signs of interpersonal conflict:

- Aggressive body language
- Heated arguments
- Negative facial expressions
- Repetitive disagreements
- Anxiety
- Anger
- Lack of honesty

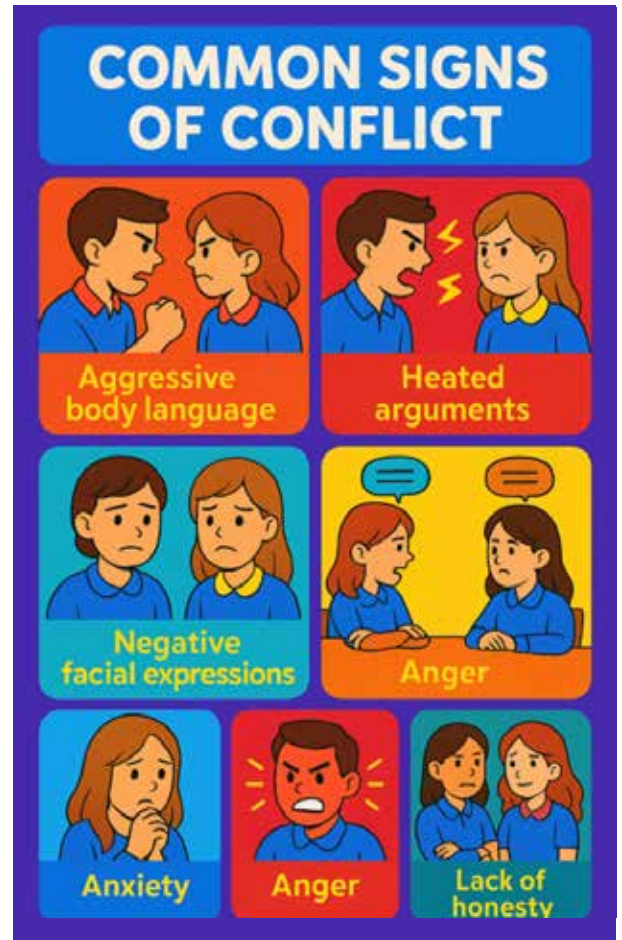
How to Resolve Conflicts?

- **Active listening:** Give the other person your full attention without interrupting, so they feel heard.
- **Mutual perspective-taking:** Remember that your friend's actions may mean something different to them than they do to you, ask about their perspective.
- **Avoid blaming:** It's natural to feel hurt, but try to express your feelings without pointing fingers. Use "I" statements instead of "you" statements to avoid sounding accusatory.
- **Focus on common ground:** Look for what you agree on rather than dwelling on differences.
- **Stick to facts:** When you disagree, base your discussion on facts instead of opinions.
- **Avoid a 'winner-loser' mindset:** This can leave one person feeling resentful.
- **Seek help if needed:** Use a mediator, if you can't resolve it yourselves. (Wellbeing members or any faculty members)
- **Prioritise safety:** Leave the situation immediately if you don't feel safe.

“

Just because we're in conflict doesn't mean we can't be kind to each other.

”



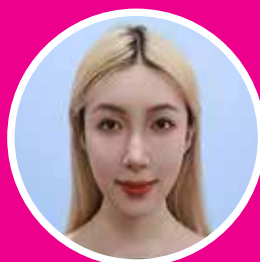
Oakbank School Wellbeing Team



Jasmin Ferraro
Wellbeing Leader



Liz May
Counsellor



Finn Zhang
Counsellor



Alyssa D'Onofrio
Counsellor
(Flinders University)



Ryan Matulick
Pastoral Care
Worker



OAKBANK SCHOOL

School & Community Information

SEASON 25/26

LOBETHAL TENNIS CLUB

REGISTRATION DAY

SUNDAY AUG 24

10 am - 12 noon

**LOBETHAL RECREATION GROUNDS
TENNIS COURTS**

**HOT SHOTS + JUNIORS (FRI/SAT)
SENIORS (SAT)
NIGHTS (TUES/WED)**

**New members
welcome**

Open courts

**Merchandise
available**

Sausage sizzle

**scan code to
register**





MINITILLIES LET'S PLAY!

4-11 YEARS

Adelaide Hills Hawks
FOOTBALL CLUB

1 Hutchens Rd
Woodside, SA

9:30AM - 10:15AM

SAT: 16/8 - 20/9

\$ 560.00

MINIROOS.COM.AU/MINITILLIES



REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN



MAVERICKS

2025/26 YOUTH DISTRICT LEAGUE TRIALS

Sunday 24 August 2025, St Francis De Sales College

JUNIOR DISTRICT LEAGUE

Age Group	Time
U12 Girls (Born 2015 & 2016)	8.00am - 9.30am
U12 Boys (Born 2015 & 2016)	8.00am - 9.30am
U14 Girls (Born 2013 & 2014)	9.30am - 11.00am
U14 Boys (Born 2013 & 2014)	9.30am - 11.00am
U16 Girls (Born 2011 & 2012)	11.00am - 12.30pm
U16 Boys (Born 2011 & 2012)	11.00am - 12.30pm
U18 Women (Born 2009 & 2010)	9.30am - 11.00am
U18 Men (Born 2009 & 2010)	12.30pm - 2.00pm
U21 Men (Born 2006-2008)	12.30pm - 2.00pm
U23 Women (Born 2004-2008)	12.30pm - 2.00pm

UNDER 10s COME & TRY

Age Group	Time
U10 Girls (Born 2017, 2018 & 2019)	8.00am - 9.30am
U10 Boys (Born 2017, 2018 & 2019)	8.00am - 9.30am



ENROL NOW!

Teach a skill for life



Become a Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety

Mt Barker Swim School

(Theory held first at Jurlique)

Saturday 30 August and Sunday 31 August 2025

8:30am to 5:30am



Enrol today www.austswim.com.au



OAKBANK
SCHOOL

Applied for
School Card?
Want free*
access to a
student laptop?

Is your
student laptop
struggling?
Running slow
or broken?

School card
families can now
access a modern
laptop for **free***!

*Secondary
school students
must have a suitable
laptop, charged &
ready to learn.*

A free* laptop?

From 2025 Oakbank School, in partnership with the Department for Education School Device Program, offers families who apply for and are eligible for School Card free* access to a laptop device for the school year for secondary (years 7 - 12) students.

Devices remain the property of Oakbank School and are returned at the end of the loan period.

How do I apply?

- 1 Apply for School Card
sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard
- 2 Fill out a Laptop Access Scheme (LAS) Device Agreement Form at
oakbank.sa.edu.au/byod
- 3 Pay the \$100 refundable deposit*
- 4 Collect and set up your laptop from Oakbank School IT Services.

Other options:

See our BYOD Handbook at
oakbank.sa.edu.au/byod for details

- 1 Purchase a Recommended Laptop from LWT
- 2 Purchase or bring a laptop that meets our minimum requirements
- 3 Emergency Day Loan & Special Circumstances (SCL) Short & Long-term loans*

When the unforeseen happens, limited numbers of day, short or long-term loan* laptops are available on application for special circumstances or during repairs.

* Refundable deposits apply of \$100 (LAS, SCL Long Term) & \$50 (SCL Short Term). See loan applications for full details.

Need help? Have questions?

oakbank.sa.edu.au/byod
8398 7200
dl.0762.icthelp@schools.sa.edu.au



Government of South Australia
Department for Education