



OAKBANK  
SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER



Connection | Respect | Responsibility



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

TERM

3

WEEK

10

SEP 2025



OAKBANK  
SCHOOL

# Upcoming Dates

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



OAKBANK  
SCHOOL

*End of  
Term 3*

Connection  
Respect  
Responsibility.

**26  
SEP**  
Friday 26 September  
Last day of term 3  
2.15 early dismissal

**13  
OCT**  
Monday 13 October  
First day of term 4

|                |                   |  |
|----------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>WEEK 10</b> | <b>26<br/>SEP</b> | <b>End of Term 3</b><br>Friday 26 September<br>2.15pm Early Dismissal      |
| <b>WEEK 01</b> | <b>13<br/>OCT</b> | <b>Start of Term 4</b><br>Monday 13 October                                |
| <b>WEEK 02</b> | <b>24<br/>OCT</b> | <b>Year 12 breakfast &amp; last day of<br/>formal lessons for year 12s</b> |
| <b>WEEK 05</b> | <b>10<br/>NOV</b> | <b>Year 7 Transition Parent<br/>Information Night</b>                      |
| <b>WEEK 06</b> | <b>20<br/>NOV</b> | <b>Presentation Night</b><br>Ukaria Mt Barker                              |



[oakbank.daymap.net/daymap](http://oakbank.daymap.net/daymap)



[oakbank.daymap.net/  
daymapconnect](http://oakbank.daymap.net/daymapconnect)

Having problems with Daymap? Call us or try our guides on [oakbank.sa.edu.au/guides](http://oakbank.sa.edu.au/guides)

OAKBANK SCHOOL R-12 Education  
[oakbank.sa.edu.au](http://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,*

Term 3 has seen our students involved in many authentic learning opportunities, both within the classroom and outside of the classroom environment. Inside this issue you'll find a small selection of some of these programs, activities and learning experiences.



**\$16** million

## Targeted Uplift Project Update

Oakbank School's targeted uplift project has begun the planning phase. Building works are scheduled to be complete in mid-2028.

It has been designed to ensure that we have the facilities, programs and staffing to meet the aspirational educational needs of all local families. Our goal remains to grow enrolments from 350 to 550 over 5 years. This growth will provide more opportunity for students to access a variety of learning programs that meet their future pathways.

We have recently met with the architects to begin to bring our ideas to life. We are looking to update **performing arts facilities, outdoor learning - agriculture and sports, wellbeing and inclusion facilities** and ensure an accessible and inviting **front reception area**.

We are also working with the Department for Education on looking at **bus routes** to best meet the needs of families, now and in the future.

There are some very exciting times ahead!





## Royal Adelaide Show & Agriculture

This year I thank many staff for ensuring that our students had a successful time at this year's Royal Adelaide show.

Taking our Merino sheep team to the show resulted in winning 3rd out of 42 in the “**Most Professional Team**” competition and a **Highly Commended award** for the fundraising work the team did for the **Dolly's Dream Foundation**. I am very proud of our students for this win as this was about them as a team, and how they carried themselves at the show. It is based on how they interacted with the animals, with each other and with show officials. This shows what amazing young people we have here at Oakbank.

“

Agriculture is an important part of who we are at Oakbank School.

”

In particular I thank **Ryan Garnett**, Agriculture teacher, for working with us at short notice and leading the team at the show. **Louise Spencer**, our new Business Manager for going over and above in using her farm knowledge to assist in logistics and supporting the students. **Bob Buxton** and **Heath Perrott** for ensuring all the admin and final touches to the sheep were ready. I also thank year 11 student **Katie Hudson** for providing student leadership to the young team, mostly year 7 and 8s. What a great experience it was for them.

The show team was truly a whole school effort this year and the qualities of collaboration, resilience and high expectations were demonstrated across the school by students, staff and with the fabulous support of families. You will enjoy many photos of the show in this edition of the newsletter.

In addition, I thank, **Rachel Sant** and **Faris Al-Hilli** for their oversight of the laying chickens this term. We will be de-stocking our layers for the summer and restocking again in 2026. So, look out for an opportunity to purchase our very healthy laying chickens.

Agriculture is an important part of who we are at Oakbank School. This term we have successfully welcomed 14 lambs into our flock for the spring season. We look forward to further enhancing our agricultural and horticultural programs in 2026 to meet the future vision of our school and the needs of future industry.

We have invested in the employment of a farmhand, **Dan Chapman**, who will focus on renewing our farm area (including the orchard, vineyard and pastures) to ensure that we have a sustainable and innovative farm for years to come.



## Connections with primary and preschool

We have been very excited to welcome the Oakbank Kindy children and staff to our site, every Thursday fortnight, to participate in Farm (and bush!) Kindy.

They have had a wonderful time exploring our winter creek, cooking damper on the open fire and building in nature. We are very spoilt as our school has such wonderful grounds including native vegetation areas to explore and link to authentic learning experiences.

Our local primary schools have also been visiting us this term to participate in “high school” learning experiences in Agriculture, Science, Digital Technologies and Art. We have welcomed students from Woodside Primary and Uraidla Primary, following on from Lenswood, Mylor and Nairne earlier in the year. These tasters give the students and primary school staff an insight into the rich learning experiences we provide our students at Oakbank.



## Ski trip 2025

This year saw Oakbank School senior school students participate in our second annual ski trip after our inaugural trip in 2024.

The trip once again attracted strong interest from our community and this year students were able to choose between skiing and snowboarding. This provided a unique opportunity for 26 of our senior school students to experience life in the snow for a week.

I thank our staff, **Kat Thompson, Cameron McNicol and Lauren Lee**, for the tremendous amount of work they put into making this complex camp happen. I also thank the volunteer supervisors who accompanied them, making the trip possible- **Rod Thompson and Damien Havriluk**. We look forward to many more to come in future!

Enjoy some more photos of the trip later in this newsletter.

Finally, I wish you all a safe and fulfilling break time whilst your children are on school holidays. It's a great opportunity with the lovely (even if a bit wet this year) spring weather to tap into all the hills has to offer.

Warm regards  
**Lee Knight**  
Principal





OAKBANK  
SCHOOL

Are you  
following  
our socials?



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



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

# Dave Binney

## Learning Culture Leader 8-9

### Aboriginal Education Teacher



Being new to Oakbank in 2025 I've loved joining the team and working with staff, students and families. Having spent the last 12 years in the Riverland working at Berri Regional Secondary College, this year has been a fresh start with plenty of learning for me along the way.

I grew up in Strathalbyn, my wife Belinda, who is a speech pathologist, grew up in Hahndorf, so it has been nice to get back to the hills and embrace the community. We also have three primary school aged children who keep us very busy!

I love working with young people each day to try and help them achieve their best. I've enjoyed being involved in the Yarning Circle project this year. Ryan has done an amazing job working with Damien and engaging our First Nations students. Reconciliation is a huge passion of mine and I look forward to seeing all of our Oakbank students getting a chance to learn about Aboriginal culture in their classes and utilise the Yarning Circle space. In Berri I was a leader in Aboriginal Education for 10 years and having the opportunity to learn from the oldest living culture in the world has been an amazing experience and I am enjoying my role as the Aboriginal Education Teacher so far this year.

We have a diverse range of wonderful young people, and I see staff at this school go above and beyond to support them. Our staff are awesome!

Our SSOs and Admin staff do exceptional work to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment.

Our teachers deliver engaging learning experiences and offer a wealth of opportunities, including camps, excursions, and extracurricular activities—there is so much on offer at Oakbank. I'm looking forward to the next few years at Oakbank, there are some exciting ideas in the pipeline for our school! It's a pleasure to be part of such a vibrant and supportive community.

**Dave Binney**

“ I love working with young people each day to try and help them achieve their best.

”

Dave's 4 loves!



**Watching  
Football or Cricket**



**Spending time  
with my family**



**Being active  
in the outdoors**



**Ultimate  
Frisbee**

# Celebrating *Connection*





## Oakbank School Yarning Circle Opening Ceremony

We recently held a beautiful ceremony to mark the opening of our Yarning Circle. Issy Campbell led a moving Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, providing a meaningful way to open the space and offering our students a deeper understanding of First Nations culture.



As part of the celebration, Sarah Booth and her daughters delivered a captivating contemporary dance performance, sharing stories through movement. This memorable experience allowed everyone present to connect with First Nations culture and storytelling in a powerful way. Sarah's husband, Damien Shepherd, has also played a key role in mentoring our students and helping to design and construct this incredible space.

Our Aboriginal students, student leaders, parents, staff, and Governing Council members all enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the significance of the Yarning Circle and how it supports connection and learning with the world's oldest living culture.

We are deeply grateful to have this space at Oakbank—one that welcomes First Nations students and families, as well as non-Aboriginal students, to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and learn about Aboriginal culture. We look forward to sharing it with more students, parents, and community members in the future. A big thanks to all our students, staff and community members who's hard work, passion and dedication made this place a reality.

**Dave Binney**  
Aboriginal Education Teacher



“

We are deeply grateful to have this space at Oakbank School—one that welcomes First Nations students and families, as well as non-Aboriginal students, to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and learn about Aboriginal culture.

”



## 12 Food and Hospitality Three Course Dinner

On Monday of Week 6, Year 12 Food & Hospitality students collaborated to design and prepare a three-course dinner for 20 staff members at the school.

The students incorporated seasonal and locally grown produce into their dishes, showcasing creativity, teamwork, and professional presentation.

This activity provided students with an opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world industry expectations. By engaging with contemporary culinary trends, students not only refined their practical cooking skills but also deepened their understanding of sustainability and local sourcing. They thoughtfully considered diverse dietary requirements and the importance of healthy eating practices while planning and preparing a modern Australian-style dinner.

Working diligently behind the scenes, students ensured that meals were prepared and served on time, demonstrating strong teamwork and professionalism.

Guests enjoyed a creative menu that captured the essence of modern Australian cuisine while embracing cultural influences.

A special thank you goes to our two Year 11 Food & Hospitality students, **Joshua Hanckel** and **Jackson Crewe**, who generously volunteered their time to assist with service on the night. Their contribution helped ensure smooth delivery and a positive dining experience for all.

**Feifei Ghandar**  
Food and Hospitality Teacher



Jinx, Rylie, Lincon, Aleisha  
and Ryder prepared:

**Meatballs with spiced  
tomato sauce & chorizo**  
**Gnocchi al Pomodoro**  
**Mixed berry sorbet**

Keenan, Seth, Lochlan  
and Charlie prepared:

**Cheese balls & mini pizza scrolls**  
**Steak with red wine sauce and  
seasonal vegetables**  
**Caramel lava cake**



Justine, Darcy, Duncan, Josiah  
and Max prepared:

**Vegetable samosas & avocado  
and feta canapés**  
**Buffalo chicken parmigiana with salad**  
**French crème brûlée**



# 11 Child Studies Morning Tea for Children Aged 5–7

The Year 11 Child Studies students recently worked in small groups to plan, prepare, and host a special morning tea for reception/ year 1 children.



This hands-on learning experience gave students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of child development, nutrition, and safe food practices.

The menu was carefully designed to ensure all food provided was safe, age-appropriate, and appealing to young children.



Students focused on texture, portion size, and presentation to meet the needs of this age group, while also considering possible allergies and choking risks.

Through this activity, students developed practical skills in menu planning, preparation, and teamwork and also gained insight into how healthy eating contributes to the wellbeing of young children.

Thank you to Reception/Year 1 teacher **Ms. Natasha Cairns** and **Learning Culture Leader R–4 Ms. Nikki Kearton** for their support.

**Feifei Ghandar** | Child Studies Teacher

# Building Skills Through Movement & Meaningful Activities



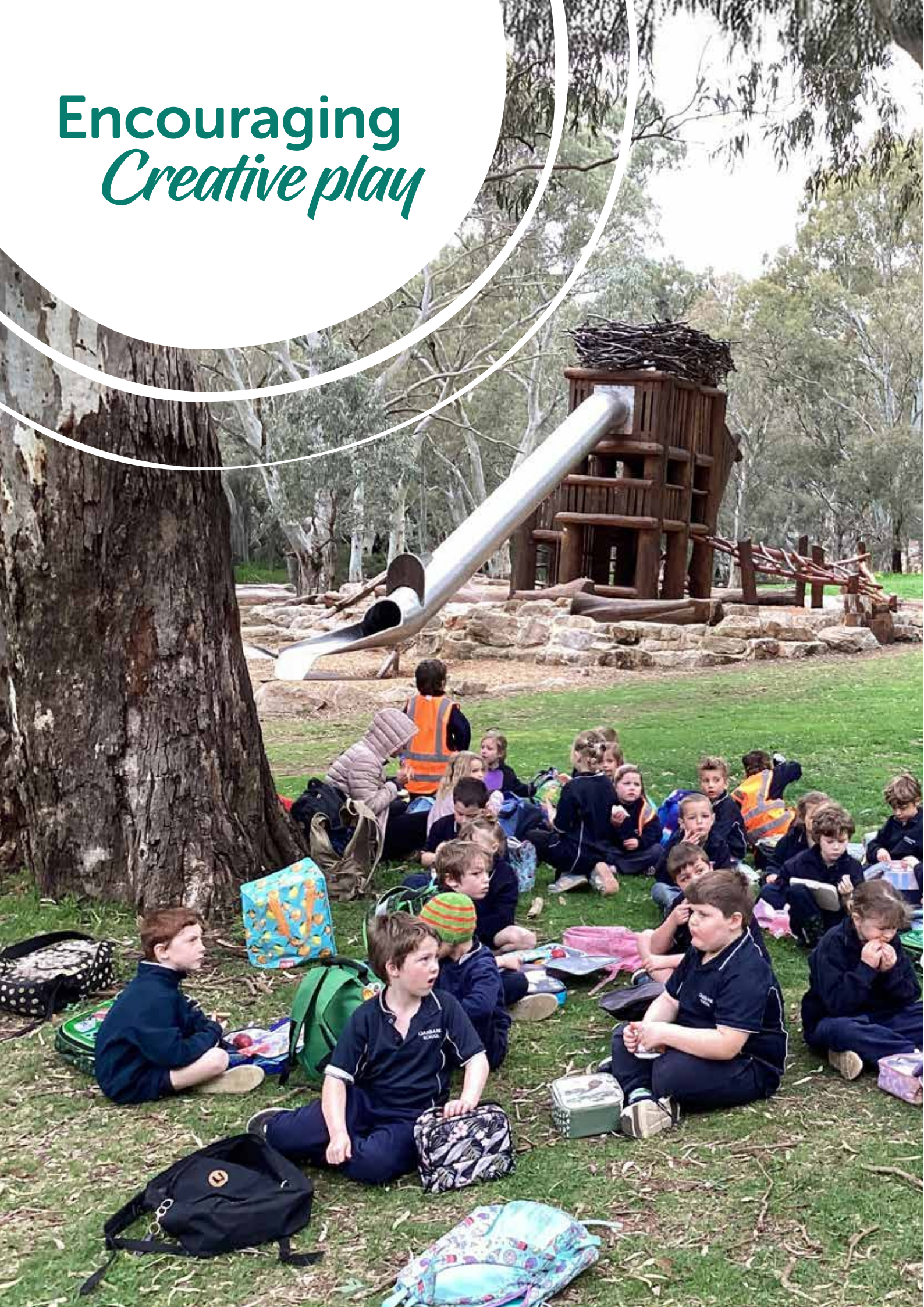
Throughout this term, year 10 student Daniel has been using the Alber E-Fix system, a product that converts his manual wheelchair into a power chair.

Daniel has been practicing using the joystick control unit to navigate the school more independently. Along with supporting Daniel with his gross motor coordination, we've made practice more meaningful, and fun, by combining it with one of Daniels favourite activities, putting rubbish in the bin. This has allowed him to work on his manoeuvring skills while also contributing to keeping our school environment clean. It's been a perfect match — skill-building through purposeful, real-life tasks promoting independence, engagement and pride.

**Heidi, Meagan and Ruth**  
School Services Officers



# Encouraging *Creative play*





# Nature playgrounds enhance student creativity

On Monday 25 August the R/1 and 1/2 classes embarked on an exciting excursion to Mukanthi Nature Playground and Thorndon Park Playground. This adventure was not only a day of fun but also a unique learning experience for our students.

Upon arrival at Mukanthi Nature Playground, the students were greeted by Simon from Climbing Tree. Simon shared fascinating insights into the design process of the playground, highlighting how local schools contributed ideas for what they wanted in a nature playground. This involvement allowed students to see the impact of their voices in community projects.

Simon explained the numerous benefits of nature playgrounds, particularly how they enhance student creativity. The students were eager to ask questions, engaging in a lively discussion about the playground's features and design.

After exploring Mukanthi, the students moved on to Thorndon Park Playground. Here, the students were brainstorming ways to improve the playground. Ideas flowed on how to make equipment bigger, add new features, and even replace existing pieces.

**Georgia Noble & Natasha Cairns**  
Year 1/2 Teacher & Rec-Year 1 Teacher





**2025**  
*Ski Trip*



## 2025 Year 10-12 Ski Trip Perisher NSW

On Saturday afternoon, 30 August, our year 10-12 students set off on the long journey to Perisher Ski Resort in New South Wales. After a lengthy overnight bus ride of nearly 14 hours, there were plenty of restless travellers, but the excitement of what was ahead kept spirits high.

By Sunday morning, students were fitted with their gear and headed straight for the slopes. The sun was shining, providing a perfect first taste of the mountain. Each day, groups participated in two-hour ski and snowboard lessons, and by the second full day, many students were confidently navigating the green runs.

One of the highlights of the week was night skiing on Tuesday, which brought the added thrill of skiing in the dark, even as strong winds rolled across the mountain. By Thursday, the conditions had intensified into a full blizzard, with one run reporting winds of 135km/h at the summit. While challenging, this wild weather delivered the best reward – by Friday, the mountain was blanketed with 7cm of fresh snow and clear blue skies.

“

Ski trip was a memorable experience that I got to share with my friends and new ones I made along the way. We all got to learn and help each other through new skills and experiences, making it one of my highlights from high school so far.

Year 10 Niamh

”

“

I loved ski trip so much that I didn't want to leave at the end of the week. My favourite parts were hanging out with my peers and teachers in a more fun setting, connecting with people I don't usually spend time with, and experiencing the snow. Seeing how quickly we learned to ski and board was amazing. It definitely inspired me to go on more adventures in the future.

Year 11 Jett

”

With the best conditions seen in 26 years, students made the most of the entire mountain being open. Some tested their skills on jumps and tree runs, while others ventured onto double blue and black runs, pushing themselves to new limits.

Evenings were filled with games, laughter, and plenty of pool-table competitions, strengthening friendships and creating lasting memories.



This trip wouldn't have been possible without the ongoing support of **Principal Lee Knight**, volunteer teachers **Cam McNicol** and **Lauren Lee**, and additional volunteers **Rod Thompson** and **Damian Havriluk**. Their time, care, and encouragement ensured our students had a safe, challenging, and rewarding week on the snow.

The ski trip continues to be a highlight of the school year – a chance for students to build resilience, step outside their comfort zones, try something entirely new, and connect with peers in unique ways. Watching students improve daily, embrace the challenge, and even try (unsuccessfully!) to beat me down the mountain is one of the great joys of running this trip each year.

**Kat Thompson**  
Learning Culture Leader 10-12  
Ski Trip Coordinator



“ Ski trip was a very fun experience. I got to learn how to ski (albeit improperly) pretty quick. I liked going down all the runs and seeing my progress, and hanging out with the boys. Another great part was having a group of people talk and interact with others that typically wouldn't associate. Ski trip was FIRE!

Year 12 Duncan ”

# Farm *Kindy*





# Bush & Farm Kindy Program Oakbank Kindy & Oakbank School

Over winter, Oakbank School has been very excited to welcome the Oakbank Kindy children and staff to our site, every Thursday fortnight, to participate in Farm Kindy.

Farm Kindy offers an opportunity to meet animals, explore our winter creek, cook damper on the open fire and build in nature. It's been great to share our school's wonderful grounds (including native vegetation areas) and facilitate authentic and enjoyable learning experiences. What fun!



# Celebrating *Music*

arena





## Festival of Music Oakbank School Choir

On 15 September, 12 students from the Oakbank School Year 5/6 class travelled to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre to perform in the Festival Choir.

Students rehearsed at school from the beginning of the year then joined over 1000 students on stage to sing together as a mass choir. The students all put in an amazing amount of effort and time which showed in their enthusiastic performance on the night.

A special mention goes to **Addison Hocking**, who performed one of the solos at the performance. Addison auditioned and won the role competing with over 50 other students. Her singing was beautiful and she represented Oakbank by showing professionalism, courage and dedication.

Well done to all of the 5/6 students involved!



**Rachel Sant**  
Learning Culture Leader 5-7  
Choir Coordinator



Creativity  
& Science



# Bringing Lifecycles to Life Art & Science

This term, our Year 1/2 students have been immersed in the captivating world of lifecycles, exploring the transformations of bees, butterflies, and frogs.

Their learning journey began with paintings that illustrated each stage of their chosen creature's lifecycle, from egg to adult. These artworks showcased not only their scientific understanding but also their creativity and attention to detail.

Taking their learning a step further, students then applied their knowledge by constructing three-dimensional lifecycle models. Using a variety of materials, they brought each stage to life in tactile and imaginative ways. These hands-on projects deepened their comprehension and allowed them to express their learning through both science and art.

The classroom has been buzzing with excitement and curiosity as students proudly share their creations and discoveries. It's been a wonderful example of integrated learning in action!

**Georgia Noble-Sheavills**  
1/2 Teacher





**Exploring**  
*Civics &  
Citizenship*



## Civics & Citizenship

This term our Year 9s have been diving into Civics and Citizenship with energy and curiosity. We began by exploring the foundations of our Constitution and even held our own mock referendum, giving students a hands-on experience of democratic decision-making.

From there, we investigated how laws are made, bringing this learning to life through a mock parliamentary debate. Students enjoyed stepping into the shoes of politicians, testing their ability to argue, persuade, and listen respectfully to opposing views.

Alongside these activities, students worked diligently on their advocacy letters, identifying issues that mattered to them and sending carefully crafted letters to appropriate representatives at the federal, state, and local levels. This authentic experience not only strengthened their writing and critical thinking skills but also helped them to see themselves as active and capable citizens with a voice in our democracy.

The highlight of the unit was our excursion to Parliament House in Adelaide. Students toured the historic chambers, then took part in a mock vote and debate—this time donning wigs to add some extra authenticity and fun! The experience gave them a real sense of the processes that shape laws in South Australia.

As we head into the final week of term, our focus will shift to the judicial system, where students will learn about civil and criminal cases. To cap things off, we plan to hold a mock trial – “Tragedy at the Medieval Fair” – giving students the chance to role-play judges, jurors, lawyers, and witnesses in a courtroom setting.

It’s been a fantastic term of active learning, and we are incredibly proud of the effort, enthusiasm, and civic agency our students have demonstrated throughout the unit.

**Valerie Isakova & Nathaniel Brookes**  
Teachers





## Active Citizenship Convention

Monday August 18 saw a group of our year 10 students proudly attended the inaugural Active Citizenship Convention at Adelaide Oval with Mrs Isakova.

This event brought students and educators from across South Australia together with experts, government officials, and community leaders to explore the future of democracy and active participation in civic life.

The convention, announced by the Premier, the Hon Peter Malinauskas MP, in August 2024, is part of nation-leading reforms in civics and citizenship education. Its goal is to strengthen young people's understanding, hope, and trust in our democratic system while equipping them with the skills needed

to be active, informed, and compassionate citizens.

The 2025 theme, "Our Voice. Our Impact.", guided the program of inspiring activities. Students engaged in youth-led learning experiences including keynote speakers, interactive panels on youth influence and digital engagement, and creative workshops reimagining what it means to be an active citizen today. A highlight was the "Lunch with Legends and Leaders", where students had the rare opportunity to connect with inspirational Australians from politics, sport, the arts, and community life.

A particularly proud moment for Oakbank was when **Amber Stevens** and **Cohen O'Shea** were selected to stand alongside Premier Malinauskas during his press conference, representing their school and peers at the highest level.

Congratulations to our student representatives: **Niamh Burgoyne, Marley Foster, Elise Wise, Amber Stevens, Cohen O'Shea, Lucy Brown, and Ruby Chapman**. They returned from the convention inspired, motivated, and ready to bring their voices and ideas into action within our school and community.

“

Oakbank students Amber Stevens and Cohen O'Shea were selected to stand alongside Premier Malinauskas during his press conference, representing their school and peers at the highest level.

”

**Valerie Isakova**  
Teacher



# South Australian Schools Constitutional Convention

Oakbank School was proudly represented at the 2025 South Australian Schools Constitutional Convention, held on Friday, 19 September at Parliament House, by year 11 students Taylor Ramsay and Harry Schultz.

The SA Schools Constitutional Convention has been running since 1995 as a joint initiative between the Department for Education and the Parliament of South Australia. It provides students with an opportunity to learn about Australia's Constitution, engage with key issues, and share their views on what it means to be an active citizen in a democracy. This year's topic asked students to consider whether the Australian Constitution should be easier to change.

Throughout the day, Taylor and Harry engaged in presentations from expert speakers, participated in workshops and respectful debates, and took part in a mock referendum held in the House of Assembly Chamber. They also had the chance to join a Q&A session with Members of Parliament, including the Minister for Education, the Hon. Blair Boyer MP.

The program not only encouraged students to explore diverse perspectives and develop evidence-based arguments but also supported them in practising respectful debate and embracing their roles as active citizens.

We are incredibly proud of Taylor and Harry for embracing this opportunity and representing Oakbank School at such an important event.

**Kat Thompson**  
Learning Culture Leader 10-12



“

It was interesting to be a part of the debate and understand everyone's different perspectives — their arguments were really engaging.

Harry

”

“

It was a really valuable opportunity because we were able to ask questions directly to Blair Boyer, the Minister for Education, and learn more about how the Constitution works.

Taylor Ramsay

”



Sports  
*focus*



## Year 4-6 Lightning Carnvial

On Thursday, September 11, our enthusiastic Year 4, 5 and 6 students proudly represented Oakbank School at the inter-school Lightning Carnival, held at St Francis De Sales College.

The Lightning Carnival is a vibrant three-day sporting event that brings together schools from across the Adelaide Hills region. It's designed to promote participation, engagement, and physical activity in a fun and inclusive environment. Students compete in a variety of sports, playing multiple 15-minute games against different schools in a fast-paced tournament format.

Our students showed incredible team spirit, sportsmanship, and resilience with their commitment to fair play, team work and collaboration evident throughout the day.

We were especially proud of the way our students supported one another and showed our school values. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to build confidence, strengthen friendships, and enjoy being active outdoors.

**Madeline Abfalter**  
Year 5/6 Teacher





## Year 9/10 Boys Basketball

On Friday 19 September, a large team of 11 students represented Oakbank School in the Year 9/10 Boys Basketball competition at Mount Barker High School. This was one of the biggest groups we've ever taken to the event, and the boys showed plenty of energy, teamwork, and resilience throughout the day.

Our first match was against Mount Barker High School. We held steady through the opening quarter, but their experience eventually saw them take control. In our second game, we faced Goolwa in a low-scoring contest that stayed close for much of the first quarter. Although we were beaten in the end, the boys kept their heads high and continued to work hard for each other on the court.

There were some fantastic individual highlights across both games. **Henry Thomas** held his own when paired up against the tallest player in the competition.

**Bodhi Potezny** impressed with some excellent three-pointers, while **Brodie Sleep** stepped up to play in a higher division as a Year 8.

**Connor Johnson** proved to be the dark horse of the day, coming out of nowhere to drain free throws under pressure.

The full team included:

### Year 10s:

Loxton Havriluk, Tyler Rioflordio, Connor Johnson, Cohen O'Shea, Lachie Atkin, Isaiah Pridham, Ollie Rawson

### Year 9s

Bodhi Potezny, Alex Jamieson, Henry Thomas

### Year 8s:

Brodie Sleep

While the scoreboard wasn't in our favour, the highlight was the way the team stayed positive, showed great sportsmanship, and represented Oakbank School with pride. A big well done to all players!

**Kat Thompson**  
Learning Culture Leader 10-12  
Basketball Coach





OAKBANK SCHOOL

R-12 Education



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

Where dreams find fertile ground.

Enrol now for the new year!



oakbank.sa.edu.au

Book a Principal's Tour



oakbank.sa.edu.au

Fill out an Enrolment Enquiry



oakbank.sa.edu.au/enrolment

General Enrolment Information



education.sa.gov.au/enrolment



5th birthday



Starting school



Time in reception



When can my child start school?

My child turns 5...

Before 1 May

Between 1 May and 31 October

After 31 October

Starts school in term 1 (that year)

Starts school in term 3 (that year)

Starts school in term 1 (next year)

Completes 4 terms of reception (terms 1-4 the year they start)

Completes 6 terms of reception (terms 3 and 4 the year they start, then all 4 terms the next year)

Completes 4 terms of reception (terms 1-4 the year they start)

Starts year 1 (and each year after) in term 1



# 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

We have sent out an EdSmart form to all parents to fill in to confirm key information to ensure we bring across the most current data- thanks to those who have returned this.



#### 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 us up to date with any changes to your contact details throughout 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**





OAKBANK SCHOOL

# School & Community Information



Webinar:  
**Helping teens  
thrive online**

29 Oct 2025 | 4:00pm - 4:45pm | Via Zoom

**For young people, screens are a central part of life, shaping how they learn, connect, and relax. However, technology use can also bring challenges for wellbeing, leaving parents and teachers wondering how to best guide teens through the digital world.**

Join us for a free webinar bringing together researchers, educators, and parents. Together, we will unpack the latest insights on teens and technology, explore both the risks and opportunities, and share practical strategies carers and parents can use alongside each other to support healthy digital habits.

#### Our expert panel:

Facilitator: Dr Kristine Kafer – Clinical Psychologist, Senior Psychology Content Developer & Facilitator at Black Dog Institute

Speaker: Atia Fatimah – Psychologist and PhD candidate at Black Dog Institute

Speaker: Dr Lyndsay Brown – Senior Researcher Officer at Black Dog Institute

Panellist: Kayla Grant – School Teacher & Wellbeing Advisor

#### Details:

**When?** Wednesday, 29 October, 4:00pm - 4:45pm (AEDT)

**Who's it for?** Parents, Carers and Teachers of high-school students

**Where?** Online (Zoom)

**How long does it go for?** 45 minutes

**Cost?** Free

**Register at:** <https://education.createsend1.com/t/d-l-gmtrjl-dhkrxjyv-j>



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](http://oakbank.sa.edu.au/guides)



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

