

# SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING



## Jordana Congdon

I am proud of myself for doing my best drawing in Art because the pictures look really good and I tried really hard.

My favourite subject is Science because I like learning about what dogs eat and how they learn tricks.

I look forward to doing Fitness at school because it makes me really strong and healthy. I like to run the most.

By the end of the year I hope to be able to play basketball because I want to be in a sport club and be good at it.

A skill I would like to develop is writing neatly because I want my work to look nice.

A goal for myself this term is to learn all the numbers up to 500 because then I can help other people with their numbers.

So far this year I have loved doing swimming lessons because I love it and I like to practise. *Jordana, Year 2*



## Jade Beckett

I am proud to have made more friends and learnt new games because I had not played the games before. Getting new friends makes me happy.

My favourite subject is PE because we play games outside and I learn how to get along with everybody.

I loved our swimming classes because I wanted to learn how to swim.

By the end of the year I hope to be able to help others and make nice friends and never give up on my classwork.

A skill I would like to develop is running fast enough to take a placing of 1st, 2nd or 3rd because it will make me happy and excited. It will also make my mum and dad happy.

I would like to be able to get the Class VIP this term because it will mean that I have not let others distract me from work and listening to the teacher.

So far this year I have loved doing Fitness with Miss Edwards and PE with Miss Clothier because I love playing new games. *Jade, Year 3*



## Charlie Roach

I am proud of myself for getting Yellow Sports Captain for 2019 because it is a big achievement. I have wanted this position

for years!

My favourite subject is PE because PE keeps our bodies working and healthy. I also like working with others while learning to play different sports.

I look forward to Combined Schools Sports Day because I love doing athletics sports and being a good sport to others.

By the end of the year I hope to be able to know my times tables off by heart because it takes me a bit to work with multiplication.

A skill I would like to develop is running. At the moment I can't run very far without puffing out because of my asthma. If I practise and work hard, I will train myself to get further.

A goal for myself this term is to help others and build up my resilience.

So far this year I have loved designing the Year 7 T-shirts because we have a great design! *Charlie, Year 7*



# PADTHAWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

*"Preparing for the future...today"*

Newsletter No 2  
February 21st 2019

Be Respectful  
Act Responsibly

Strive for Excellence



## From the Principal

Last Thursday we had our first Big Write for the year.

Students wrote about 'a great place to be is...' and spent time planning and editing their writing. To help students

with their writing, the topic was discussed beforehand. This was done at home as well as at school in literacy lessons in the days leading up to our Big Write day.

An important part of Big Write is talking. When talking about the topic, your child is generating ideas and developing new understanding that helps them make connections. This means they approach their writing with more confidence, can structure texts correctly because they have enough to write about and they build a wider understanding of the world around them and how to deal with changes. Talk is critical to help children discuss topics, question their understanding, negotiate meaning, clarify their understanding and make their ideas comprehensible to others. It is through this 'talk' that students must use specific vocabulary if they are to focus on the topic at hand.

Through role modelling appropriate 'talk' behaviour, your children are learning how to work with others and learning to respect differing opinions. Remember—children are sponges that soak up everything that happens around them. They are learning first from you as their parents—their primary carers—how to be responsible and respectful children. Isn't using 'talk time' a great place to build on this to develop children that strive for excellence in everything they do? Some tips for ensuring 'talk time' is valuable to you and your child include making sure you set aside time for talking and listening. This could be while cooking dinner or while eating dinner for example. Use the topic to begin your conversations but don't stop there.

Many of the students reported that they just loved the focused time talking to their parents and wished they could do more! Work together to summarise what you have talked about but don't write it down! Students need to build their memory as part of this writing process. Finally, build on what your child is telling you and show your interest by saying things like "tell me more about ..." or "go on, that sounded interesting".

## Governing Council

The Governing Council AGM was held last Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February. We had an excellent turn out with the Governing Council being represented by the required 12 members. Sam Ward was voted in as Governing Council Chairperson and Robert Brooksby as Vice Chairperson for the year. We welcome Emily Congdon and Daniel Hayes to the Governing Council as new members.

The Governing Council is continuing to be more transparent to, and encompassing of, the community. You will notice a new *Governing Council Report* section in the newsletter. All families have been allocated a Governing Council Rep and your representative is another pathway to ask questions or raise concerns with the School. They will contact you before every meeting to ask if you have any questions you would like raised. You can also contact me directly if you prefer.

## Padthaway Bullrush

What an excellent fundraiser on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February! Thank you to Kate McGregor, Bec Weller and their team for a wonderful night. Thank you also to Kate and Thyne McGregor for hosting the event at their beautiful property. Thank you to the Fraser family for the exciting and entertaining bull riding exhibition, especially to Wyatt for the bull riding demonstration!

It was fantastic to see many parents and grandparents at the event and meet family

and friends of our community members as well. Well done to Bob Brooksby who was an excellent MC and kept the night running smoothly. The School really appreciates how generous the community is and thanks those who donated to the night, helped serve food or drinks, worked behind the scenes setting up and tidying or participated in the mechanical bull ride. This just shows the excellent community network that the wonderful people of Padthaway can be part of. Thank you for your support of the School! Funds from the event will not only go towards the boys' toilets which are undergoing an upgrade this semester but to improving learning facilities for all students and providing students with opportunities to build skills in a range of subject areas.

## Enviro Warriors

Congratulations to the 2019 Enviro Warriors. Junior Primary representatives are Felix Bell and Amethyst May, Middle Primary representatives are Alex Charlick and Matthew Robertson while Upper Primary representatives are Blake Healy, Xavier Rothe, Will Turner and Ned Ward. The students will be working with Miss Clothier to make changes to the school environment. One idea already has been a scarecrow for the vegetable patch. I would love to see what else they come up with!

## Premiers Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge has begun for 2019. Each student has received their recording sheet and this has become a focus for each Class during reading time. The completion of the recording sheet is the responsibility of the students. Please speak to your classroom teachers if you would like any more information. Books can be read at home and if you are looking for age appropriate books in our Library, these are marked with the Premier's Reading Challenge sticker in the top right corner. Happy reading!

*Olivia*

## Dates to Remember

**27 February**  
SAPSASA Swimming Trials

**7 March**  
Student Free Day

**8 March**  
Student Free Day

**11 March**  
Adelaide Cup Holiday

**18 March**  
6:30 pm Governing Council

**19 March**  
World of Maths

**20 March**  
Young Leaders' Day—Year 7s:  
Adelaide

**29 March**  
Combined Schools Sports Day:  
Frances

## Tuck Day

**26th February (Week 5)**  
**Quiche and Salad**

Helper  
Kate McGregor  
\*Muffins—Cate Orton

**5th March (Week 6)**  
**Chicken Tender Wraps**

Helper  
Lissy Orton  
\*Muffins—Vicki Heym

Tammy Mathews, Kirilie Turner  
Tuck Day Coordinators  
Ph 8765 5028

## School Information

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Principal:  
Olivia English

Governing Council Chair:  
Sam Ward





## What Have We Been Up To In Preschool?

We have been learning about steps when making things. We have enjoyed making playdough together at Preschool and have coloured it blue and pink. We explored lots of different vocabulary like soft, squishy, roll, flatten, cut and squeeze. This is developing the children's literacy understanding of the world around them. The children love to be creative using cutters, rolling pins, scissors and lots of other interesting materials.

*Hayley*



## R/1/2 Garden Project

This term our Class is doing a gardening project. We have got some different tools to help us make the school gardens look cleaner. Miss Brookes made sure we have rakes, hand trowels, gloves, buckets and watering cans that are all the right size for us to work with.

We are going to start by cleaning out the playground and garden beds. Using our new tools we are going to get rid of all the leaves and bark and then do some weeding.

The Class is cleaning our gardens so that we can plant new things in the garden beds next term. It's going to be great to take care of our school together.

We are going to be collecting bulbs, seeds and plant cuttings for us to use in our garden projects in Terms 2, 3 and 4. Please let Miss Brookes know if you have any that we could use.

*Amethyst, Year 2*

## 5/6/7 News

In Science this week we have been learning about organisms. We learnt how to sort organisms and what organisms are. Organisms are any living thing and there are over 2 billion types of organisms in the World right now.

In Technology we were wondering why Australia produces so many materials, crops or food types. We are researching how different materials, crops or foods are produced and how this impacts Australian citizens.

This year for Indonesian we have a new teacher. Instead of Pak Sanky we have Ibu Teresa.

In Literacy we have recently started our guided reading groups. We can read to self, listen to reading, read to someone or work on comprehension. We do this after recess each day except Fridays.

*Harry, Year 5*

## Miss Clothier News

In the JP class for the last week we have started practising our skills for Combined School Sports day and learning about healthy eating.

I am proud of myself during our PE lessons with Miss Clothier because I am trying my best. I have really enjoyed PE lessons because we are able to go outside and practice our Sports Day skills. I am really looking forward to running the marathon track because I love running. Jumping over the hurdles is a skill I would like to improve on because then I can improve and go faster.

*Felix, Year 2*

## Cricket Clinic

On Monday Jon Allcock from SACA came to Padthaway and held a cricket clinic. All classes participated in the clinic on the oval. We played some games which involved practising to throw the ball accurately. We learnt to aim and throw the ball to the bottom of the stumps. We also played some games to practise our coordination. We had to hit the ball and if we missed it was like T-ball with a strike.

*Ben, Year 6*



## SRC News

In the SRC meetings everyone has had lots of brilliant ideas. Each Class has a weekly meeting and issues raised are discussed at our SRC meetings on Tuesdays.

We have made some rules for Cricket and Four Square for our recess and lunch times and discussed fundraiser ideas. Mrs English keeps us informed about what is happening in the school. Next week there will be an engineer coming to assess the undercover shelter so we can have the cover put back on. In the classes some students have come up with the idea to have a Water Fun Day each semester with water slides and water pistols. The SRC are thinking we might do this at the end of Term 1 as a fundraiser.

*Bailey, President*



## Sports News

The last game of cricket was last Saturday. Padthaway played Western Flat and Western Flat won by 59 runs. There were some amazing catches and hits.

On Monday Jon from SACA came to our school and held a Cricket Clinic. All the Classes played cricket related games to learn new skills or develop the skills we already had. Jon was really nice and had an accent because he was from the UK. We had fun!

Netball training starts on Thursday 21/2/19.

*Ned, Year 5*

## Year 3/4 Library News



I help the Class to return and borrow books. I try to help and clean up after our Class has been in there. I make sure that everything is neat and tidy. I like that when you visit the Library you can borrow and read new books.

*Bryce, Year 3*

I like going to Library because there are heaps of books in there. I like that I get to read interesting books, such as books about dinosaurs.

*Henry, Year 3*

I like going to the Library and reading monster truck books. It's a comfy place with pillows and beanbags where you can lay down to read. The best book that I've ever borrowed from the Library is *Hot Dog*, because it's fun to read and it has lots of funny characters.

*Jack, Year 3*



## PCW Spot

It's a funny feeling being back in a primary school after many years, but it hasn't taken me long at all to feel right at home at Padthaway School!

My main aim these last 4 weeks has been getting to know the students and I have done this by 'floating' through the school, visiting different classrooms, and hanging out with the students in the yard at break times.

The school is a buzz of activity, and can be a noisy place. I have learnt though, that when you listen closely (behind the noise of the lunch time play and the reciting of times tables and spelling words) there are quiet words of encouragement from a teacher, older children helping younger ones tie their shoe laces and peers encouraging each other on the great job they did at sport on the weekend.

One of the greatest noises I heard was on my very first day at Padthaway (and I have heard it a number of times since) is students reciting the 'golden rule' which is "treat others as you would like to be treated." What a fantastic rule to take with us throughout life! How can we live out the golden rule this week?

*Lisa*

## School Hats

Please be aware that hats with under neck straps and toggles are not allowed to be worn at school due to the possible choking hazard.

## VCOP Gang—Connie Connective

Each newsletter we will introduce another VCOP Gang character. Your child will be learning to extend their writing through the VCOP programme.

**Connie Connective**—Connie is an Aviator Mechanic and enjoys travelling between places. She has pockets full of tools like wrenches, spanners and screwdrivers. This is because she likes joining and connecting things together using things like screws, nuts and bolts, just like how a connective can join

sentences together but we need to be careful, like a mechanic, and choose the right connective in order for the sentences to make sense and work. Also, we can't use too many nuts and bolts (connectives) in the one sentence or it could become weak and break.



## Governing Council Report

The Governing Council Annual General Meeting for 2019 was held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February at the school with an excellent School representation.

Following the AGM a meeting was held with the new committee. Olivia summarised the Site Improvement Plan with the 2 School Improvement areas being reading comprehension and writing for R-7. The 2 Preschool Improvement areas are developing a concise learning cycle focusing on individual student growth in literacy and numeracy and improved communication to families in the associated programme and playgroup. The staff are working to explicitly plan and develop learning across the board. There was also discussion about the Big Write and VCOPs programme for writing. The road upgrade in front of the school as funded by DPTI and the Tatiara District Council will begin in the Term 1 holidays. This will improve student safety on Vogelsang Road in front of the school. The development plan is on display at the school. The next meeting will be in Week 8, 18th March.

*Governing Council*

## Community News Padthaway Playgroup

Playgroup is held on Friday of the odd weeks of term from 10:00—11:30 am. Playgroup is held during the Preschool session and allows greater social opportunities for children.

Next Playgroup date is Friday 1st March.

## Padthaway Medical Centre

Consulting hours with Dr Sarah Willoughby are 9:00 am—5:00 pm every Monday and from 2.00 pm Thursday afternoons in the Padthaway Medical Centre. To make an appointment please phone Robe Medical Clinic on 8768 2012 or Padthaway Medical Centre (Mondays and Thursday afternoons only) on 8765 5063.

## Frances Folk Gathering

The Student Talent Quest on Sunday 25th February is open to two categories—Junior Primary and Mid/Upper Primary children. They can perform in any genre of their choice; eg sing a song, play an instrument, recite a poem or perform a circus trick. The event takes place at midday on Sunday in the main tent. There will be a panel of judges. The prize for each category is a new ukulele, donated by the Frances Folk Gathering committee.

There is no need to apply. Children simply need to be there on Sunday.

## Naracoorte & District Hockey

Are you interested in a sport with a difference? **We are seeking new and experienced players to join us and play on our brand new artificial turf.** Hockey is a fun family game with most games played in Naracoorte on Saturday's.

Grades are: U/9, U/13, U/16, Men and Women.

Season starts March 30th!

Some teams are still looking for players, so if interested or for any further information, please contact Anne on 0428 828 991.

SA Dental Service

*Keep your kids smiling*



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Call us now for an appointment!

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Phone: 8762 2614  
[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental)

