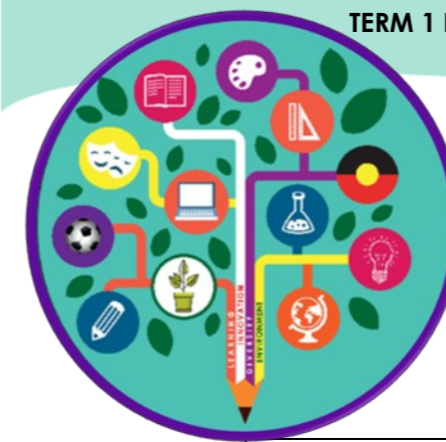


TERM 1 2025 DIARY DATES

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	29/1 Public Holiday	28/1 START TERM 1	29/1	30/1	31/1
WEEK 2	3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2	7/2
WEEK 3	10/2	11/2 AGM 3.30 - 4.00pm	12/2	13/2	14/2
WEEK 4	17/2	18/2	19/2	20/2 Odyssey Team work BA1 & BA2	21/2
WEEK 5	24/2 Odyssey Surf LP4 & BA3	25/2	26/2	27/2	28/2
WEEK 6	3/3 Odyssey Surf LP4 & BA3	4/3	5/3	6/3	7/3 Student Free Day
WEEK 7	10/3 Adelaide Cup Public Holiday	11/3 Parent Teacher Interviews	12/3 NAPLAN	13/3 NAPLAN	14/3 NAPLAN
WEEK 8	17/3 NAPLAN	18/3 NAPLAN Catch up	19/3 NAPLAN Catch up	20/3 NAPLAN Catch up	21/3
WEEK 9	24/3	25/3	26/3	27/3	28/3 Sports Day
WEEK 10	31/3	1/4	2/4	3/4 Odyssey Hike BA1 & BA2	4/4 Morning Tea Nunga rm 9-10am
WEEK 11	7/4	8/4	9/4	10/4	11/4 12.30pm Final Assembly 12.30 2pm Finish



CHRISTIE DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Principal Message

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1 2025

11/2

Tues week 3
AGM
3.30-4.00pm

17/2 - 21/2

Dental Visit

7/3

Fri Week 6
Student Free
Day

10/3

Mon Week 7
Public Holiday
Adelaide Cup

11/3

Tues Week 7
Parent
Interviews

11/4

Last Day
Term 1
2.00pm Finish

Dream
Believe
Achieve

Dear Families,

Welcome to the start of a new school year at Christie Downs Primary School! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. As we embark on Term 1, I am excited to see our school community come together once again, filled with enthusiasm and a shared commitment to learning and growth.

Welcome to the South Australian Curriculum

We are excited to introduce you to the South Australian Curriculum, a comprehensive framework designed to provide your children with a high-quality education. Our curriculum is tailored to meet the diverse needs of students, ensuring they develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in the 21st century.

Key Features of the SA Curriculum:

Holistic Development: Our curriculum focuses on the all-round development of students, encompassing academic, social, emotional, and physical growth.

Core Learning Areas: Students will engage in a variety of subjects, including English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Arts, Health and Physical Education, and Technologies. Each area is designed to build a strong foundation of knowledge and skills.

Critical and Creative Thinking: We encourage students to think critically and creatively, fostering problem-solving abilities and innovation.

Cultural Understanding: The curriculum promotes an understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures, preparing students to thrive in a global society.

Personalised Learning: Recognising that each child is unique, our curriculum supports personalised learning paths to cater to individual strengths and interests.

Community and Environment: Students will learn about the importance of community involvement and environmental stewardship, encouraging them to become responsible citizens.

How You Can Support Your Child:

Engage in Learning: Take an active interest in your child's schoolwork and discuss what they are learning.

Encourage Curiosity: Foster a love for learning by encouraging your child to ask questions and explore new ideas.

Stay Informed: Keep up-to-date with school communications and attend parent-teacher meetings to understand your child's progress.

We are committed to working in partnership with you to ensure your child receives the best possible education. Together, we can inspire a lifelong love of learning and equip our students with the skills they need for a bright future.



Principal Message continued next page...

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Principal: Gail Evans

Senior Leader 1 Engagement for Learning and Well Being: Todd McGrath

Senior Leader 1 Disability Unit: Leanne Jacobs

Student Wellbeing Leader: Jo Swift

Elizabeth Road, Christie Downs, SA 5164

Tel: (08) 8382 3266

Fax: (08) 8382 2205

Principal Message continued

New Beginnings and Opportunities

This term marks the beginning of many new opportunities for our students. We are thrilled to welcome new staff members and student's especially our new receptions to our school community. Our dedicated teachers have been preparing engaging and enriching learning experiences that will inspire and challenge our students. As of week 3 Thursday we will also be starting a regular Gymnastic classes in the gym, thank you Jodie Puttner, parent & member of Governing Council.

Focus on Wellbeing

At Christie Downs Primary, we prioritise the wellbeing of our students. This term, we will continue to implement our wellbeing programs: Berry Street and we are continuing with our action research project on building resilience in our students. We will continue to foster positive relationships, and promoting a supportive school environment. We encourage families to engage in these initiatives and support their children in developing these essential life skills.

Communication and Involvement

We believe that strong communication between home and school is vital for student success. Please keep an eye out for regular updates via Seesaw, website, and newsletters. We also invite you to participate in our upcoming:

- Governing Council Annual General meeting on Tuesday 11th February at 3.15pm in staff room
 - Parent-teacher meetings Tuesday 11th March 2025 from 3.15pm till 6pm
- More info will come out later and school events. Your involvement is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Looking Ahead

As we look forward to the term ahead, I am confident that together we will create a positive and productive learning environment for all our students. Let us work collaboratively to ensure that every child at Christie Downs Primary School has the opportunity to thrive. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of our staff.

Warm regards,
Gail Evans
Principal

EALD - English as an additional Language or Dialect

Hoan nghênh	Asalaamu alaikum	Welcome	Selamat datang
Bem vinda	አንኳን ደህና	Karibu	Benvenuto
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Welcome to 2025! I would like to introduce myself to the new parents, carers and children at Christie Downs Primary School. My name is Jo McGill and I am the EALD (English as an additional language or dialect) Teacher. We are very fortunate to have an increasing number of overseas students join our school and I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you all to Christie Downs Primary School. We greatly value the opportunity to learn about and embrace different cultures and religions here at Christie Downs. I will be working with many students with English as an additional language or dialect this year. In addition to this, there will be Assemblies and Multicultural weeks celebrating the many cultures and religions we have here at Christie Downs Primary School. We are always looking for parent and carer support and ideas for these events so please come and find me if you can support us in our celebration of culture. I look forward to supporting your child in their learning and helping them to share their experiences and ideas with their classes. We wish you and your child a very happy and successful year.

Jo McGill - EALD

Aboriginal Education Team 2025



Hello all and welcome back to 2025.

Niina marni, Ngai nari (my name is) Clinton Calyun, after a successful year for 2024, I will be continuing in the role of ACEO at Christie Downs Primary School and I am delighted to share that I have now been made permanent. I am still based in the Nunga room, drop in for a yarn and cuppa! We will be having a morning tea to meet our Aboriginal families in the Nunga room towards the end of term 1, on Friday April 4th. Details will be sent home closer to the time.



Hello, to our new families, my name is Trish Hendrick, and I am the Aboriginal Education Teacher (AET) here at Christie Downs Primary school. This year I will be working Monday to Friday, across all year levels, with our Aboriginal students. Clinton and I will be working as a team to ensure that the needs of all our Aboriginal students are met. I will be focusing on Literacy and Numeracy and Clinton will be focusing on aligning cultural goals with our student's One plans. We are currently busy planning our 2025 program, which will reflect this year's **Reconciliation theme- Bridging Now to Next** and the **NAIDOC theme- The Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy**.

First Nations Art Expo

We were delighted that our Aboriginal students exhibited their Art works and showcased their culture, talent and hard work at the First Nations Art Expo in December. This was a collaboration with the City of Onkaparinga council and was a very successful venture. Students chose a local Aboriginal place name, researched it's meaning and painted a picture in response. There was great pride connecting to country and a fantastic turnout to support our students.



Trish Hendrick AET & Clinton Calyun ACEO

Inclusive Education

Welcome to 2025. I am looking forward to supporting students, families and teachers along this year's learning journey.

This year I am continuing in my role of Inclusive Education Leader across all classes. In this role I will:

- Support teachers in differentiating learning tasks to meet student needs
- Liaise with members of the Support Services team including the Special Educator, Speech Pathologist, - Psychologist and Behaviour Coach in regards to:
 - student learning needs
 - small Class Special Options High School Placement Process for year 6 students.
- Support teachers and families with the One Plan Process
- Support teachers in the writing of applications for additional support funding

To support your child's learning journey it is important that school staff have the most up to date assessment reports, therapy reports and health care plans. These include reports and plans from psychologists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech pathologists, developmental educators, paediatricians and any other outside professionals who provide support and strategies. Sharing these reports and information encourages consistency in strategies between home and school which support students learning. Updated reports can be given to your child's teacher, brought into the front office or emailed to me on leanne.jacobs929@schools.sa.edu.au.

One Plan meetings will be arranged in the near future. If you would like any members of your child's NDIS/ support team to be involved in these meetings please let your child's teacher or myself know. Meetings involving Non Education Service Providers can be held in person or via Teams.

Non Education Service Providers/ Therapy Sessions

As a site we do not provide for therapy sessions by Non Education Service Providers to be held on site. We are happy to engage in meetings to discuss goals and strategies with therapists and families as we value the team around the child approach to ensure there is consistency between home and school. We are flexible in understanding that parents may need to drop their child off late or pick them up early to enable sessions to be held at home or in therapy offices.

Please contact me at school if you have any further questions.
Thankyou
Leanne Jacobs - Senior Leader



Printing Newsletter

In 2025 we will be moving towards becoming a more eco friendly site, therefore you will not be receiving a printed copy of the Newsletter after this issue. We will be emailing the Newsletter to families which will be much more beneficial for our environment by saving on paper wastage. You will also be able to access each copy on our schools website <https://cdownssch.sa.edu.au/>

If you haven't already, please ensure you have an updated email address on our system so we can send you a copy.
If you need to update your email address please fill in the form below and return to the Front Office. If you need a hard copy printed please come in and see our friendly admin staff and we will be able to print one for you.

Front Office

Parent/Caregiver 1 _____ Child/ren Name _____ Class _____

Parent 1 Email Address _____

Parent/Caregiver 2 _____

Parent 2 Email Address _____

Engagement for Learning

My name is Ellen Barr, and I am excited to serve as the Curriculum Leader for the upcoming school year. I am dedicated to fostering an engaging, supportive and nurturing learning environment where students can play, grow and take risks in their learning. I look forward to getting to know both you and your child as we collaborate throughout the year.



Part of my role at the school is ensuring that we provide relevant and engaging educational experiences enabling all students to become effective learners in English and Mathematics.

English

We support students in learning phonics through the 'Read, Write Inc.' program which is a systematic and structured approach used globally to build strong foundational literacy skills. The program emphasises phonics teaching through sequenced lessons with engaging activities.

Some of the programs many benefits are:

- It effectively monitors student growth in reading
- It identifies gaps and provides immediate support
- It caters to diverse individual needs by allowing students to progress through groups as their current rate of learning



Our goal is for students to read independently and after that happens we focus on enhancing their comprehension, spelling, and writing skills. We believe Read Write Inc. equips students with the literacy skills necessary for academic success and fosters a lifelong love of reading and writing.

Mathematics

This year we are fortunate to collaborate again with Maureen Hegarty, a mathematics consultant. Maureen will work closely with teachers to develop learning sequences that will extend students' mathematical thinking through hands-on, authentic learning experiences. Our goal by the end of 2025 is to develop a consistent whole-school approach to teaching mathematics and a Mathematics Agreement.

Kitchen/Garden

Our wonderful Kitchen/Garden program will continue this year with Alicia as our Kitchen specialist and JP as our Garden specialist. Students throughout the year will learn to cook a variety of foods such as lentil curries, apple crumble and carrot muffins. Students last year were even brave enough to try green ants, caviar and oysters!



I am so excited about the fantastic year of learning and fun we're going to have together at Christie Downs.

Ellen Barr – Senior Leader

School Card

Applications for School Card Assistance are now being processed. You can either apply for School Card online at www.sa.gov.au and follow the links for school card assistance. Alternatively you can come into the office and fill in a paper form and it will be processed.



Front Office



Welcome to 2025 and the new school year! I look forward to getting to know our new families and re-establishing connections with our ongoing students and families. 2025 is shaping up to be another big year for students and staff at Christie Downs Primary School.

Dream Believe Achieve Parliament

I am excited to announce that this year we will have a Student Parliament. Student Parliament will be a genuine decision making body for students. Students will have a genuine voice as outlined in **Article 12** of the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**.

Our Student Parliament will be called the **Dream Believe Achieve Parliament**. Every student and Educator will vote for a **Student Prime Minister**. The Student Prime Minister will be selected from the Year 6 senior cohort and will be responsible for leading the Parliament and liaising with the Ministries, Governing Council and our Principal.

There are other roles in Student Parliament for non-elected students, including **Speaker**, **Treasurer** and **Ministers**. Here is an outline of our Ministries and a brief idea of what students will be working on throughout 2025. Educators will also play an important role as **Advisors**. Educators will also join a Ministry.

Dream Believe Achieve Parliament

Kindness Collective Ministry: Bullying. No Way! Week of activities, Odyssey, Hopgood Theatre Performance, Parent Community Workshops, Special Days Fundraising Events and Enterprise Education.

Unity in Diversity Ministry: NAIDOC/ Reconciliation, Harmony Day, World Autism Day, R U OK? Day, World Down Syndrome Day, Children's Week, LGBTQIA+ Day.

Learning League Ministry: Student Voice in Learning and Berry Street Education Model in classrooms.

Digital Leaders Ministry: Podcasts, Lunchtime Radio and Journalists.

Berry Street Education Model

The **Berry Street Education Model** is embedded into our teaching practice. We have adapted Berry Street strategies to address student needs for healing, growth and achievement. All Educators have been trained in the Berry Street Education Model. New Educators to our school will be supported in Berry Street strategies to support our students. Here are some strategies that we have put into place:

Each class has their **morning greeting** on the classroom door. This might include a fist bump, a high 5, a hand shake, a dance, or a 'hello', just to name a few.

Circle Time

Students are welcomed into the classroom every morning by their Educator or student leader. Classes start the day with Circle Time.

Circle Time is a positive and fun start to every day.

Students stand in a circle in their classroom and work through the list below.

Greeting (high 5, handshake, smile, fist pump)

Positive Primer (quick game, funny YouTube video/song/dance)

Values/Expectations (talk about school values, attendance and behaviour)

Announcements (including birthdays, special events, school news)

WWW (What Went Well- during break times and during learning times)

Educators also take part in Circle Time at the beginning of staff meetings and training and development days.

Classes will also be having **Brain Breaks** throughout the day.

Brain breaks are short, energised bursts of activity that boost blood flow, send oxygen to the brain, and help students better retain information. Brain breaks can also be relaxing, quiet activities that can have similar benefits. Brain breaks also reduce stress and anxiety, making it easier to focus on important tasks. Ask your child about what brain breaks they did throughout the day!



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open every day and is located in our gym. Huge thanks to JP for running such a great Breakfast Club. Head down to the gym from 8:15 every morning and grab a bite to eat!

Attendance

Going to school on time every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school, every day.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school on time each and every day.

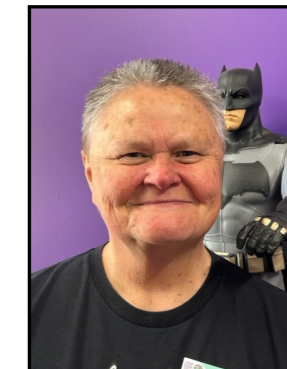
If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. It's important that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school. Remember, Every Day Counts!

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom Educator know, or pop in and see me so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: The Australian Parenting Website: raisingchildren.net.au Department for Education; Helping children and young people learn. Website: education.sa.gov.au Kids Helpline Phone and Web Counselling Phone 1800 55 1800 Website: kidshelpline.com.au Please feel free to contact myself on 83823266 or pop in for a chat.

Jo Swift
Student Wellbeing Leader



At Christie Downs Primary School, we are committed to providing an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students. A key part of this commitment is the role of the Autism Inclusion Teacher (AIT), a position dedicated to enhancing the educational experience for all neurodivergent students.

The AIT role plays a crucial role in developing and implementing strategies that cater to the unique needs of neurodivergent students. By working closely with teachers, support staff, and families, the AIT ensures that each student receives personalised support tailored to their individual learning style and requirements.

As the AIT, I am dedicated to empowering all our students to achieve their full potential by creating a supportive and inclusive educational setting. Through collaboration and innovation, I am supporting staff to ensure that every student can succeed and thrive.

In 2025, we will be continuing to provide students with Lunch Time Groups that foster friendships, teamwork and collaboration. Additionally, I will be organising a Parent Group each term, offering information, support, and guest speakers.

Looking forward to a fantastic year
Nicole Guy-Rees - AIT



AITs support teachers to

Understand autism and support evidence-based practice in autism

Build relationships and promote autistic student voice and agency

Share evidence-based resources and training

Suggest sensory and environmental adjustments