

CHRISTIE DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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
School Dental Visit					
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

BA1's Brilliant Start To The Year

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1 2025

7/3

Fri Week 6
Student Free Day

10/3

Mon Week 7
Public Holiday
Adelaide Cup

11/3

Tues Week 7
Parent Interviews

28/3

Sports Day

4/4

Morning Tea
Nunga Rm
9am-10am

11/4

Last Day
Term 1
2.00pm Finish



Dream
Believe
Achieve

What a fantastic start we've had in BA1! We've settled into our routines like champions, setting high expectations and showing our school values in everything we do.

In the classroom, we've jumped straight into our learning, tackling challenges with enthusiasm and teamwork. It's been wonderful to see everyone giving things a go, supporting each other, and embracing new experiences.

Our Kitchen/Garden program is in full swing - our budding chefs and gardeners are getting stuck in, learning about fresh produce and healthy eating. A big highlight has been our friendly chickens, who love a visit from the students and have been busy laying eggs!



We've also kicked off our library visits, where students are discovering new books and growing their love for reading.



With such a strong start, we're excited for all the fun, learning, and adventures still to come this term!

Jasmine La hood - Class Teacher

LEADERSHIP TEAM :

- Principal: Gail Evans
- Senior Leader 1 Engagement for Learning and Well Being: Ellen Barr
- Senior Leader 1 Disability Unit: Leanne Jacobs
- Student Wellbeing Leader: Jo Swift

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Spanish

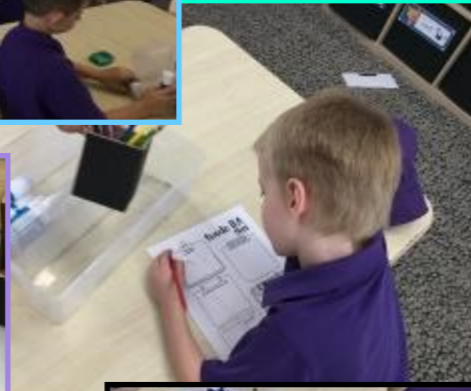
Spanish classes are buzzing with excitement this year as students embrace online learning to reinforce their lessons. Many of our larger classes have had the opportunity to enhance their learning through LanguageNut, an engaging online language program. Students are enjoying exploring Spanish across a range of topics, building their skills in a fun and interactive way.

Where possible, we incorporate literacy genres into our Spanish lessons to strengthen connections with what students are already learning in their literacy sessions. This approach helps reinforce key concepts and supports language development in both English and Spanish.

This term, students in our large classes are exploring the topics *Mi aspecto* (my appearance) and farm animals. Meanwhile, students in our small classes are engaging in highly structured activities tailored to their needs. We've introduced additional tasks to both challenge and support their learning journey. It's wonderful to see so many students confidently introducing themselves and recognising shapes, colours, and parts of the body in Spanish.

In addition to language learning, we are also focusing on building resilience. We encourage students to adopt a growth mindset by using phrases like "I can do tricky things," helping them develop perseverance and confidence in their abilities. We are incredibly proud of their progress and enthusiasm. It's inspiring to watch our students grow in confidence as they develop their language skills!

Carlo Macalalad - Spanish Teacher



Lilly Pilly 2



Lilly Pilly 2 has had a great start to the year. We spent some time as a class thinking about values and behaviours that help us learn and play at school, and what it would look and feel like when we, and others, are showing these.

At the end of Week 1, we joined the whole school in celebrating the first week of 2025. We enjoyed an afternoon of activities such as face painting, an animal farm, Nature Play and a jumpy castle!

We have also attended our first Kitchen/Garden lesson where we cooked soup and began planting seedlings. We were also very excited to see our new school chickens!

Lilly Pilly 2 is now looking forward to an exciting year filled with lots of learning and fun!

Tanya Pennill - Class Teacher



Building a Strong Community in Eucalyptus 4

This term, Eucalyptus 4 has embarked on an exciting journey to foster a strong sense of community within our classroom, across the school, and extending into the wider community. Our collaborative efforts with EU5, BA6, and GR3 have been instrumental in working towards this goal. On Friday, the 21st, we engaged in our first of a series of play-based community-building activities. These activities were designed to enhance skills in sharing, engaging, speaking, listening, and numeracy. Through these interactive sessions, students not only enjoyed themselves but also learned the importance of working together and supporting one another.



Numeracy Focus: Exploring Numbers

In numeracy, our exploration of numbers has been invigorated by the implementation of new strategies. The use of 10-frames has become our preferred method, allowing students to match multiple forms of numbers effectively. This visual tool aids in understanding number concepts and enhances their ability to count both forwards and backwards. Rote counting has been a key focus, helping students to build a strong numerical foundation.



Michael Elts - Class Teacher

Literacy Focus: Enhancing Phonemic Awareness

Our literacy program has been centred around developing phonemic awareness through a focus on letter sounds. This year, we are placing significant emphasis on blending sounds, which is crucial for improving speaking and listening skills, as well as reading and writing abilities. Additionally, we are working diligently to enhance comprehension skills by breaking down set texts. This approach helps students to better understand and engage with the material, fostering a deeper love for reading.

We are proud of the progress our students are making and look forward to continuing this journey of learning and community building throughout the term.



Jacaranda 1

Welcome to Jacaranda 1! We are thrilled to be some of the newest members of our school community. Over the past few weeks, we've been enjoying settling into our classroom routines, developing new friendships, and discovering all the wonderful opportunities our school has to offer. Some of our favourite places to learn include the library and the kitchen garden, where we delight in cooking and tasting fresh produce. Our outdoor spaces provide endless opportunities for exploration and play.

This term, our class is diving into the topic of 'living systems'. Through interactive lessons and outdoor explorations, students have been engaging in hands-on activities to understand the fascinating world of plants and animals. We are excited to share some photos of our learning in action!

Cassie Newbery - Class Teacher



NAPLAN

Next week, Year 3 & 5 students will participate in the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), which is a tool for assessing the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australia. NAPLAN provides insights into student progress and helps schools identify areas for improvement. It is important for parents and guardians to be aware that exemption forms are available from the front office for those who meet the criteria for exemption you believe your child may qualify, please visit the front office to discuss the process and obtain the necessary documentation.

You can find more information at <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>.

**2025 MID YEAR ENROLMENTS
NOW OPEN**

For more information or to book a school tour please contact us on
8382 3266





Dream Believe Achieve Parliament 2025

PRIME MINISTER



Hello everyone my name is Marlie and I am honoured to represent our School Community as **Prime Minister** for our **Dream Believe Achieve Parliament** for 2025. As Prime Minister, I am going to strive for a **Culture of Kindness and Inclusivity**. We will also celebrate our **Diverse School Community**.

I plan to interview kids and discuss the changes they would like to see here at school.

An example: starting up clubs at break times. This is just the beginning. I am super excited for the year ahead. I will also have a regular newsletter article keeping our School Community updated on our adventures. We will also start podcasting and interviewing lots of interesting people. Stay tuned!

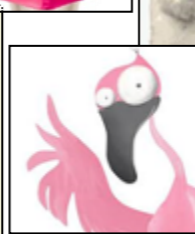
Both Mya and I would like to be the **Prime Minister** and **Deputy Prime Minister** kids can approach in the yard. A listening ear. This year we are going to be giving students more of a voice through our four Ministries. Our Ministries also have our Educators as Advisors. Our whole School Community is involved. I look forward to working with all the Ministers and being part of each Ministry.

Dream believe Achieve Parliament will also have a voice on **Governing Council Meetings** and regular briefings with our Principal Gail.

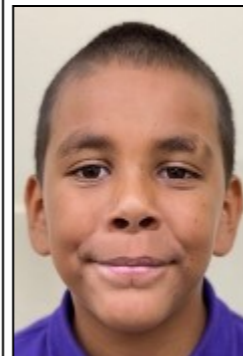
Some Info about your Prime Minister!

I am a very creative person I love to dabble in all kinds of art! I also Love eating, my most favourite things to eat are, meat patties and lasagne and of course chocolate! In my spare time I like to read books and watch TV and I can recite my favourite sayings from a drop of the hat! My favourite animals are... the Flamingo and the drama llama!

Thank you!
Marlie
Prime Minister



MINISTER FOR KINDNESS COLLECTIVE



The Minister for the **Kindness Collective Ministry** is Jyden. This Ministry will have a focus on our Term 3 School Performance, Special Fundraising Events

throughout the year and the Bullying. No Way! Week of Awareness. More ideas to follow! Jyden is keen to have some soccer lines painted on the oval and wants to fundraise to make it happen.

MINISTER FOR LEARNING LEAGUE



The Minister for the **Learning League Ministry** is Binayak.

Binayak will lead the Ministry in developing Student Voice in learning. Learning will be the focus and how we can make positive change in learning is the dream!

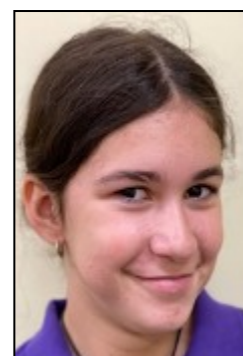
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER & SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE /TREASURER

Mya is our **Deputy Prime Minister**. Her role is to support the Prime Minister and all 4 Ministers and Ministries. Mya will strive to make sure that everyone is supported and included in 2025.

And of course we have the **Speaker of the House** and **Treasurer**, Bailey. Bailey will be leading all meetings and ensuring everyone's voice is heard and ideas are supported. He will also keep a close eye on our finances and report to our **Governing Council** and our **Principal**.



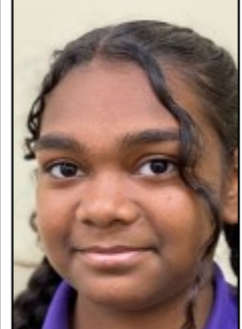
MINISTER FOR UNITY IN DIVERSITY



The Minister for the **Unity in Diversity Ministry** is Charlii. This Ministry will have a focus on NAIDOC Reconciliation, World Autism Day, World Down Syndrome Day and Children's Week. More ideas

to follow! Charlii wants all members of our School Community to feel valued and included. Everyone should be proud of who they are.

MINISTER FOR DIGITAL LEADERS



The Minister for the **Digital Leaders Ministry** is Avah.

Avah will lead her Ministry in developing our **Podcast Station** and lunchtime **Radio Station**. These will be up and running in Term 2. Excited!

Congratulations to our Dream Believe Achieve Parliament Members!

A huge round of applause to all the students who worked so hard and showcased their passion, determination and creativity to earn their positions. Your commitment and enthusiasm has truly paid off, and I am very proud of each and every one of you! It's the beginning of a journey where your ideas can turn into reality. Through your hard work, imagination, and dedication, you'll have the chance to make a real difference in our School Community. Your voices matter, and this is your opportunity to shine and inspire others. I am excited to see what amazing ideas you will bring to life. Keep believing in yourselves and continue to dream big-the sky is the limit!

Congratulations once again. I look forward to seeing your leadership in action!

Jo Swift
Student Wellbeing Leader.

