

# CHRISTIE DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**BA2 - Blasts Off to a Busy and Brilliant Start!**
**IMPORTANT  
DATES FOR  
TERM 2  
2025**

6/6

**Student Free  
Day  
Friday Week 6**

9/6

**King's Birthday  
Public Holiday  
Monday Week 7**

10/6 - 13/6

**Reception to  
year 5  
Swimming  
Week 7**

26/6

**BA1  
Space  
Discovery  
Excursion  
Week 9**

4/7

**Last Day  
Term 2, 2pm  
Dismissal  
Friday  
Week 10**

**LEADERSHIP TEAM :**

Principal: Gail Evans

Senior Leader 1 Curriculum: Ellen Barr

Senior Leader 1 Inclusive Education: Leanne Jacobs

Student Wellbeing Leader: Jo Swift

It has been a busy and positive start to the school year for the students of BA2, our enthusiastic Year 5/6 class. The classroom has been buzzing with energy, curiosity, and a strong commitment to learning across all subject areas. In Mathematics, a large portion of the term was dedicated to mastering the four operations - addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. This focus has helped lay strong foundations for students to build upon as we move into more complex topics in the coming terms. Students have shown determination and growth, with many developing greater confidence in applying these essential skills to solve problems.

Our English program has also had a strong start, with the new spelling and writing groups working smoothly. Students are engaging with targeted instruction suited to their learning needs, and the results are already beginning to show in their written work. From imaginative stories to persuasive texts, BA2 has been writing up a storm!

Science has been a particular highlight this term, with our focus on plants and animals capturing the students' interest.

Investigations, discussions, and hands-on learning experiences have sparked curiosity and deepened understanding. The term concluded with a much-anticipated excursion to Urrbrae Agricultural High School, where students had the opportunity to see real-life examples of what they had learned in class. We are now turning our attention to Earth and Space systems, an exciting new topic that has already begun to generate a great deal of interest.

Students are exploring the movement of Earth and other planets in our solar system, as well as the relationship between the Sun, Earth, and Moon. To support this unit, we are in the process of organising an excursion to the Australian Space Agency, with more details to be released shortly.

Overall, Term 1 has set a strong tone for the year ahead. The students of BA2 should be proud of their achievements so far, and we look forward to continuing the learning journey with the same enthusiasm and effort in Term 2.


Chris Hocking - Class Teacher



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	TERM 2 2025 DIARY DATES				
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	28/4 Start Term 1	29/4	30/4	1/5	2/5
WEEK 2	5/5	6/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	7/5 Lilly Pilly Unit Excursion 'Dream Big' Breakfast Club/Wheelie Club	8/5 BA2 Urrbrae Ag High school Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	9/5 Special Persons Breakfast/Stall
WEEK 3	12/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	13/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	14/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	15/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	16/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club
WEEK 4	19/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	20/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	21/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	22/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	23/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club
WEEK 5	26/5 Sorry Day  Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	27/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	28/5 Reconciliation Week Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	29/5 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	30/5 LP1 & LP2 Odyssey Animal Encounters Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club
WEEK 6	2/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	3/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	4/6 Small Classes Odyssey Animal Anonymous Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	5/6 Odyssey Glenthorne Park LP1 LP2 Primary small classes-Space Unit Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	6/6 Student Free Day
WEEK 7	9/6 Kings Birthday Public Holiday	10/6 Rock the Spectrum Small Classes JP Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	11/6 Reception - Yr 5 large classes Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	12/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	13/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club
WEEK 8	16/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	17/6 Rock the Spectrum Small Classes UP Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	18/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	19/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	20/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club
WEEK 9	23/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	24/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	25/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	26/6 BA1 Space Discovery Excursion Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club	27/6 Breakfast Club/ Wheelie Club
WEEK 10	30/6	1/7	2/7	3/7	4/7 End Term 2 2pm Dismissal



## Lilly Pilly 4



The students in **Lilly Pilly 4** have truly embraced the spirit of *dreaming, believing, and achieving* this year. Our dynamic and vibrant learning environment has provided a fantastic foundation across the first two terms, where each student has focused on becoming a **resilient, resourceful, reflective, and curious learner**. It has been incredibly inspiring to witness the children developing and refining new skills across all subject areas. Their commitment to personal growth and a love for learning shines through in everything they do. I'm excited to see them continue to thrive. - Miss Britton

**Math:** The learners have been exploring number and diving into place value.



**English:** To start the term, our learners delved into the rich narrative of *Charlotte's Web*, embracing all the wonder and connection to life cycles it offers. This engaging story has helped guide us into our exciting, immersive learning topics. Building on this, students are now exploring *George's Marvellous Medicine*, making meaningful connections to inquiry learning and the dispositions.



**Inquiry/Arts:** We've been exploring life cycles, materials, and energy while deepening our connection to Country. Our excursion to Hahndorf Farm Barn and Imagine Live, brought *Charlotte's Web* to life, and *George's Marvellous Medicine* inspired creative, resourceful learning. Learners also explored the symbolic art of Holly Sanders, using her work to understand how animals and Country can be represented through story and culture. It's been two terms full of imagination, inquiry, and meaningful connective learning!

Carmen Britton - Class Teacher

## Kitchen-Garden

Step into a world where learning comes alive through the vibrant colours and flavours of our Kitchen-Garden initiative! Here, students embark on an exciting journey, transforming seeds into bountiful harvests and crafting mouth-watering meals. This hands-on program is more than just gardening and cooking—it's an adventure in sustainability and healthy living.

Thanks to the passion and creativity of JP and Alicia, the Kitchen-Garden has blossomed into a beloved part of our school week. Students eagerly roll up their sleeves, connect with nature, and savour the delicious rewards of their hard work nurturing both minds and bodies!

JP - Garden Specialist



## Attendance

### Christie Downs Primary School—Attendance Matters

Just arriving a little bit late or leaving a little bit early doesn't seem much but.....

Your child is only missing just....	That equals.....	Which is.....	Over 13 years of schooling that is.....
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Almost 1.5 weeks per year	Almost half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Almost 2.5 weeks per year	Almost a whole year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Almost one and half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and half years

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](http://raisingchildren.net.au)

Department for Education; Helping children and young people learn.

Website: [education.sa.gov.au](http://education.sa.gov.au)

Kids Helpline Phone and Web Counselling

Phone 1800 55 1800 Website: [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

Please feel free to contact me on 83823266 or pop in for a chat.

Jo Swift - Student Wellbeing Leader





## Exploring Our World in Banksia 6

This semester, students in Banksia 6 have been on an exciting journey of discovery, learning all about their local community and the wider world around them. Through a variety of fun and interactive activities, our students have deepened their understanding of how people, places, and planets are all connected.

We began the year by exploring what makes up our school and local community, looking closely at places to visit, local businesses, and sites of cultural significance. This helped students develop a greater appreciation for the people and places that make our community unique. Our learning was supported through stories, songs, artworks, and hands-on learning tasks designed to embed key knowledge in creative and meaningful ways.

One of the highlights was a special visit from the local fire department. Students had the opportunity to climb aboard a real fire truck, try on firefighter gear—including the coat and helmet—and even use the fire hose! It was an unforgettable experience that sparked lots of excitement and curiosity.

As our learning expanded beyond our community, we turned our attention to the solar system. Students explored our planet Earth and learned about the other planets that share our solar system. They created beautiful Earth sun catchers and used salad spinners to design swirling Earth-inspired artworks. These artistic expressions helped bring science to life in our classroom.

To deepen their scientific understanding, students took part in a variety of engaging experiments. They created season-themed sensory bottles to explore how Earth changes throughout the year and marvelled at the "magic galaxy milk" experiment, which combined colour, movement, and a touch of cosmic wonder.

It's been a fantastic semester of learning, creativity, and exploration in Banksia 6, and we can't wait to see where our curiosity takes us next!

Nicole Guy-Rees - Class Teacher



## HASS - BA1 & BA2

The class HASS project focused on significant Australian historical figures, culminating in an engaging PowerPoint presentation. They demonstrated thorough research, highlighting the contributions and impact of their chosen historical figures. Students then had the opportunity to share their knowledge with their peers at the end of the unit of work.

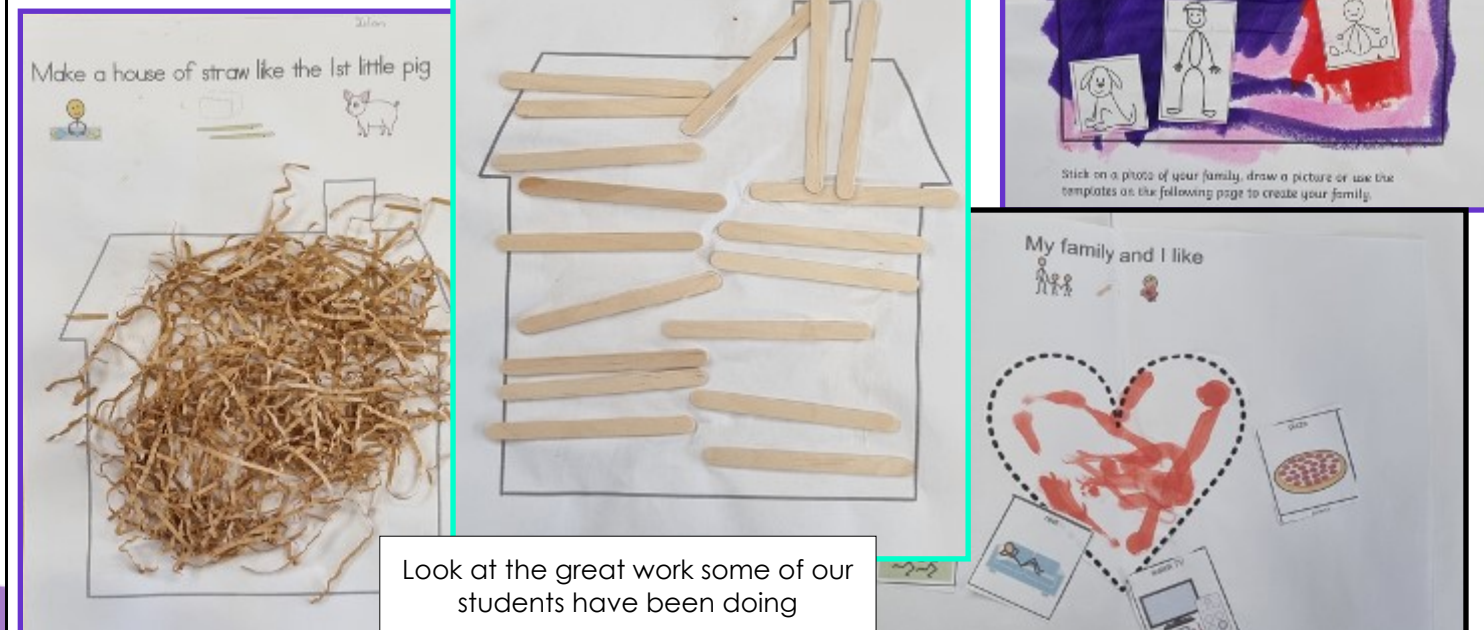
Nikki Greenham - HASS NIT Teacher



Koby, Bailey and Elizabeth proudly presenting their unit of work to their peers.

During term 1 the small classes and junior primary classes focused on the theme of My personal World – myself and my family, from the history strand of the SA Curriculum. They explored their identity, their family, other families and read and shared stories about families. Below are some photos of some of their pieces of work during this theme.

Ruth Fauser - HASS NIT Teacher



Look at the great work some of our students have been doing



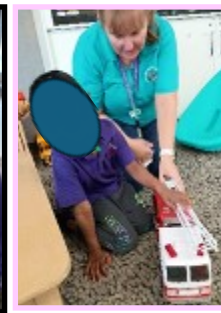
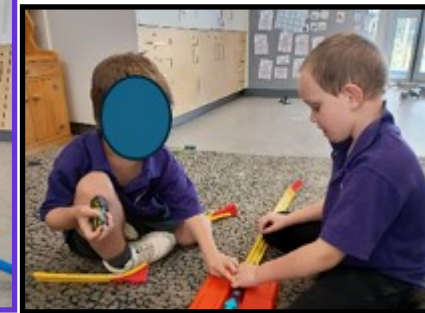
## JA2 - Our Adventures with Moving Things



This term, we've been having a lot of fun with our theme of "Moving Things." The students have been exploring all sorts of objects that move, like toy cars, balls, and wind-up toys. These hands-on activities are packed with sights, sounds, and textures to keep everyone engaged and excited. Our aim is to create a welcoming space where each child can explore movement at their own pace, with lots of support and encouragement from our team.

We've also been using technology to bring movement to life. Interactive videos and apps show how things move in nature and in our daily lives, making learning both fun and visual. Simple games that let the kids start movements themselves have been a big hit, helping them understand cause and effect. By focusing on movement, we're building important skills like observation and interaction, all while making sure every child's unique needs are met.

Adele Vowles - Class Teacher



## Reconciliation Garden

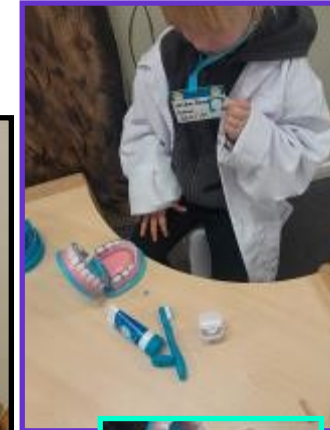


During Reconciliation Week, a Foot Bridge was added into our Reconciliation garden as part of our Building Mob Project. This Bridge ties in with our Reconciliation theme (Bridging Now to Next)

## What's Happening in the Library

Tuesdays in the library have been buzzing with excitement! During outdoor learning time, our Lego Club run by Miss Vidau has been a hit, with kids building incredible creations and letting their imaginations soar. The fun continues with Julian offering a fantastic selection of board games that keep everyone laughing and thinking. But that's not all - this term, the library has transformed into a world of make-believe with our brand-new role-play kits! The children have absolutely loved stepping into the shoes of nail technicians, dentists, patients, and clients, bringing creativity and collaboration to life in the most delightful ways.

Ros Hewitt - Librarian



## Art in Grevillea 3 - Symmetry Portraits



In terms 1 and 2, the students in Grevillea 3 have been learning about symmetry in art – One side of a picture being the same as the other. We have looked at lots of different symmetrical pictures and animals, such as butterflies, and have practiced drawing symmetrical shapes and characters. The students in Grevillea 3 created these symmetry portraits. Half of their face is printed in black and white, and the other half is drawn by hand! We are very proud of them and hope you enjoy them!

Howie Collins - Class Teacher

## Learning Together Communities Playgroup

Come and join us for playgroup!

**When:** Tuesdays and Fridays  
9:30-11am (during the school term)

**Where:** Learning Together Communities. Enter via Justin Cres OR Christie Downs Primary School, near the rear disability car park.

**Phone:** 8382 5950 for more info.

**Cost:** Free

Playgroup will give your child the opportunity to develop the following skills- literacy, numeracy, social/emotional, fine and gross motor. It will also help them become familiar with routines and develop dispositions like curiosity, resourcefulness and confidence.



Learning Together Communities