



Allendale East Area School Newsletter

Courage Excellence Respect

To build strong, diverse futures for all of our young people by providing quality education driven by needs, skill and aspirations.



HARMONY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Term 1 Week 10

2025

On Thursday, 20 March 2025, our school community came together to celebrate and embrace the rich cultural diversity that makes us unique. Students and staff wore orange to symbolise harmony and inclusivity. In the Performing Arts Room, students participated in a unique Passing the Note Vocabulary Activity. Sitting in a large circle, they sang a chant while passing secret words. When a note was opened, a question was asked, and those with the answer joined the outer circle with instruments, adding to the rhythm of the chant. This activity not only enhanced students' vocabulary but also deepened their understanding of why we celebrate Harmony Day. Afterward, students contributed to our Harmony Tree by adding their handprints as leaves, symbolising unity and belonging. Our whole school collaborated on a beautiful artwork that represents the diverse cultures within our community. We also enjoyed a delightful tasting of cultural foods, allowing everyone to experience flavours from around the world. This celebration is a reminder of the strength and beauty found in our differences. Our students truly enjoyed these creative ways to share the message of Harmony Day, where EVERYBODY BELONGS. Let's continue to celebrate and respect each other's cultures every day.



IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

- 10 Summer Disco - 6-9pm
- 11 End of Term 1 - Early Dismissal 2:15pm
- 28 Student Free Day
- 29 First Day of Term 2 - Tuesday

MAY

- 9 Cross Country - Naracoorte

MAY

- 21 National Simultaneous Story Time
- 30 Biggest Morning Tea

JUNE

- 3 Moss Piglet Excursion
- 4 Jam Band
- 9 King's Birthday - Public Holiday

Allendale Contact Information

Principal - Ms Kylie Smith

Assistant Principal - Ms Suzie Mitchell

Governing Council Chairperson - Mrs Kylie Lannigan

Phone: (08) 8738 7218

Fax: (08) 8738 7321

Office Hours: 8:15am - 4:00pm
dl.0751.info@schools.sa.edu.au

INTERSCHOOL 2025

On the 14th of March, the annual Interschool Athletics Competition was held at Kangaroo Inn Area School, bringing together talented athletes from Allendale East Area School, Kangaroo Inn Area School, Kingston Community College, and Lucindale Area School. The day was blessed with perfect weather, featuring light winds and warm temperatures, setting the stage for an outstanding day of competition. The event was a showcase of athletic prowess and school spirit, with numerous examples of our core values: Courage, Excellence, and Respect demonstrated throughout. Our student's remarkable sportsmanship was noted by many watching on, which is always fantastic feedback to receive. Once again it was Kingston who took out the day, finishing well ahead of all other competitors, followed by Lucindale, Kangaroo Inn and Allendale. Although finishing in fourth, we proudly took home the Junior Improvement Shield, a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students. We also had some outstanding Individual efforts. In the Sub Junior Girls division, Alyrah Kayee and Joey Kemp achieved impressive results, finishing second and third overall, respectively. In the Junior Girls division, Skyla Hopgood also shone brightly, securing second place overall. Well done girls! A heartfelt thank you goes out to our staff for their support leading up to the event. Also, a special thanks to Dani Tulak for her exceptional efforts, which are always greatly appreciated. The Interschool Athletics Competition was not only a day of great competition but also a celebration of community and collaboration. We look forward to hosting the competition next year! - **Mr Mark Rumbelow**



WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE DAY

Wednesday 2 April 2025 is World Autism Acceptance Day. This global event has been celebrated since 2007 to **raise awareness, acceptance and appreciation of autistic people**. At Allendale East Area School we are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported. Our Autism Inclusion Teacher promotes inclusion and diversity by sharing best practices and resources through the AIT initiative. The poster included shares some considerations that have been made by the autistic and autism communities around some respectful ways we can promote autism awareness, acceptance and appreciation. **On Wednesday 2 April 2025** we will be celebrating neurodiversity with a Sparkle Day. **We encourage students to come dressed in sparkles or their favourite bright colours**. We will be running a variety of different activities during the week to celebrate diversity and inclusion. - **Ms Tanielle Brooksby**



Allendale East Area School Is Celebrating

Neurodiversity
with our very own
Sparkle Day

We will be celebrating that we are all unique and different and that we SPARKLE and SHINE in our own way and in our own time!

• Wednesday April 2nd •

Please come dressed in your own SPARKLES or your favourite Bright Colours



Promoting Autism Awareness



AUTISM INCLUSION TEACHER INITIATIVE

World Autism Awareness Day is April 2nd

Since 2007, the United Nations has observed this day to affirm the rights and freedoms of autistic people. Today we have moved beyond raising awareness to promoting acceptance and appreciation of autistic people and their contributions to society.

Below are some considerations around respectful ways to raise awareness and promote acceptance and appreciation. To be inclusive when referring to an autistic learner, you can understand and respect their identity by recognising their unique strengths and abilities. Celebrate and affirm your learner however they choose to identify. We have presented the preference of the majority of the autistic community, however we encourage you to use respectful curiosity to learn and affirm each individual preference.



We use the infinity symbol to represent autism.

The infinity symbol also represents neurodiversity and the infinite ways of being. It can symbolise the infinite potential and possibilities. The continual loop represents the continual need for support, understanding and acceptance.

We avoid using puzzle pieces as they can suggest that autism is puzzling, or needs to be solved, or that autistic people need to fit in.



We use rainbow or gold to represent autism.

Rainbow represents the spectrum, diversity and that all colours are included. Gold represents value and worth. The chemical symbol for gold is Au.

We avoid using blue, as it represents the stereotype that it's more common in boys. The 'light it up blue' campaign is associated with an American organisation that wanted to fix or cure autism. Many people in the autistic and autism communities avoid associating with this.



Try using identity-first language and avoid diagnostic terms.

'Autistic student' is an example of identity-first language, versus 'student with autism'. Autism is a valuable and important part of someone's identity, which is why many people prefer to use identity-first rather than person-first language.

Try using terms such as 'autistic' and 'autism'. ASD is a diagnostic term. Unless you are specifically talking about a diagnosis, autism is not seen as a disorder. Similarly, we recognise that everyone's ability varies between every area of living. This is a dynamic view of functioning, versus describing someone as a high or low functioning autistic.



We are inclusive.

Attending education, having needs and engaging in interests is something that everybody has and does. Having a disability might make those things different, but not special. Inclusive education is a fundamental human right of all learners (UNCRPD, 2016).



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Monday 31 March 2025

Dear parents and caregivers,

A friendly reminder that The Department for Education's student use of mobile phones and personal devices policy has been updated and commenced in February, 2023.

The updated statewide policy will ensure we help promote:

- safe environments with reduced negative impacts from inappropriate use of devices at school, such as cyberbullying or exposure to harmful content
- classroom environments where teachers can teach and students can learn free from distractions caused by personal use of devices
- use of breaks as quality time away from screens, encouraging physical activity, play and meaningful face-to-face connections.

The updated policy means students must keep their mobile phones and other personal devices, such as smartwatches, off and away for the whole school day.

Students will only be able to use personal devices during school hours if they have received an approved exemption from the principal due to extenuating circumstances, such as managing a medical condition, or for another specific purpose that has been agreed by the school. This also applies while students are attending school activities including camps and excursions.

All South Australian government schools must use the department's updated policy by the start of term 3. Many schools have already been operating with this policy in previous years and have begun the 2023 school year with this in place.

Our school made the decision to implement the policy in Week 2, Term One, 2023

Further information about the department's policy update can be found on the department's [mobile phones and personal devices at school](#) webpage.

If you have any questions or concerns about the department's policy, contact the mobile phone policy helpline:

Phone: 8463 5605

Email: education.mobilepolicy@sa.gov.au

Please contact Kylie Smith if you have any specific questions about the policy, would like to read a hard copy, or if you need to discuss a request for exemption for your child due to extenuating circumstances.

Kind Regards

Kylie Smith



Allendale OSHC Vacation Care Program

Monday 14 April	Tuesday 15 April	Wednesday 16 April	Thursday 17 April	Friday 18 April
Nature walk Painting stones	Science day Volcano building and Fizzing painting	Games days Obstacle course Board games	Easter craft Easter baskets	Public Holiday
Monday 21 April	Tuesday 22 April	Wednesday 23 April	Thursday 24 April	Friday 25 April
Public Holiday	Creative arts day Painting	Pizza and Lego building competition	Slime making	Public Holiday

For Bookings, please call: 0447 414 652 or (08) 8738 7218

Return to front office: Please write your child/ren's name on which day you'd like to book them into Vacation care and circle if you'd like just morning, afternoon or full day.

Week 1	Monday 14/4	Tuesday 15/4	Wednesday 16/4	Thursday 17/4	Friday 18/4
Child/ren's Names:					Public holiday
	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM/PM
Week 2	Monday 21/4	Tuesday 22/4	Wednesday 23/4	Thursday 24/4	Friday 25/4
Child/ren's Names:	Public Holiday				Public Holiday
	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM/PM

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION

As of this year, Uni SA and Adelaide University (the 2 largest universities in South Australia) are now merged. The new name is Adelaide University. A group of 8 interested students from Year 9-12 took up the opportunity on Tuesday to listen to the University representative, Olivia Hocking, who spoke about the new courses, what university life can look like, how to get an offer into Uni through ATAR, Guaranteed entry, Grade-based entry, GPA, STAT options, VET entry and how the SATAC admissions system works. She outlined what type of accommodation is available in Adelaide for students, gave a general summary of the main fields of study and spoke particularly about what is on offer at the Mount Gambier campus. There are a range of Scholarships that can be applied for to support the expense of study. A booklet of course and University information was given to all students. The Mount Gambier Campus Adelaide Uni Open day is scheduled for Sunday August 3rd. The Adelaide campus Open Day is scheduled for 27th July. It is recommended that these days are attended by students and their families. This presentation is a starting point for understanding University pathway options. - **Mrs Suzie Mitchell**



SAPSASA ATHLETICS

The Lower Southeast SAPSASA athletics carnival was held at Grant High School on Friday the 21st of March, showcasing the talents of young athletes from around the region. It was great to have seven students from Allendale East Area School participate this year, with four in particular achieving some outstanding results. In the 11-Year-old Boys Division, Taj Vandeppeer demonstrated exceptional skill by securing 3rd place in both the 100m and 200m races and achieving 1st place in the Long Jump. Hunter Livingston excelled in the High Jump, taking home 1st place. In the 12-Year-old Boys Division, Kade Grosvenor dominated the field events, winning 1st place in both Shot Put and Discus. Meanwhile, in the 12-Year-old Girls Division, Skyla Hopgood showcased her endurance and speed, claiming 1st place in the 800m race. These talented students have now been nominated to represent the Limestone Coast at the SAPSASA athletics day, which will be held in Adelaide later this year. We wish them the best of luck as they compete on a larger stage. - **Mr Mark Rumbelow**



Grace Moore

Taj Vandeppeer

Kade Grosvenor

Skyla Hopgood

Niko Slotegraaf

Austin Hopgood

BELLUM HOTEL - THANK YOU

Every now and then, a real-life guardian angel appears, and today, we are thrilled to share some heartwarming news. Meg from The Bellum has generously chosen Allendale East Area School as the recipient of the profits from their Friday night raffles. This incredible gesture of community support is truly inspiring, and we are immensely grateful for their kindness. At Allendale East Area School, we believe in the power of collaboration and community spirit. With the funds donated by The Bellum, we are excited to engage our students in brainstorming sessions to explore the best ways to utilise this generous contribution. Whether it's enhancing our learning environment, supporting extracurricular activities, or investing in new resources, the possibilities are endless. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Meg and everyone at The Bellum for their support. Your generosity not only benefits our school but also strengthens the bonds within our community. Together, we can achieve great things! Thank you for showing such kindness and for believing in the potential of our students. We look forward to sharing the positive impact of your donation in the near future.



THANK YOU

We are thrilled to express our heartfelt gratitude to **Ben and Nora Pettingill** for their **generous donation of four bales of hay** to our School's Agricultural Program. Your support plays a crucial role in enhancing the learning experiences of our students. We are incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated supporters who believe in the value of agricultural education.

SUMMER DISCO

Get ready to dance the night away at our Summer Disco Beach Party! Join us on **Thursday 10th April 2025** from **6 PM - 9 PM** at the **Allendale East Area School Gymnasium**. It's going to be a fantastic evening filled with beach-themed excitement! **Tickets are just \$5.00 each**, so grab yours for a night to remember. Dress in your best beach attire and get ready to groove to the beats! Don't miss out on this exciting event. We look forward to seeing you there!



CANTEEN SPECIAL / INFORMATION

The 'Special' Lunch order deal for Monday, 7 April 2025 is **Fried Rice Small \$2.50 or Large \$4.50, Mini Apple Pie \$2.00, Ice Cream \$1.00, Choice of Chocolate or Strawberry Milk (\$2.50)**. Please place orders by Friday, 4 April 2025 to guarantee your deal.

Canteen Lunch Specials each Monday will not be continuing in Term 2, however, Canteen will be operating Monday - Friday. We sincerely thank everyone who has supported the Lunch Special success. We are excited to announce a new offering for the upcoming term. Kylie L will be preparing delicious **take-home meals every Tuesday** night, open to School families and the wider Community. These meals will be available for pick-up from the Canteen on Tuesday afternoons. The menu for the take-home meals will be posted on the Governing Council Facebook Page each week, allowing families to plan ahead and enjoy a convenient and tasty dinner option. Orders for the upcoming Tuesday will need to be placed by Friday 2pm. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to providing you with this new initiative. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to reach out to us.