



# SNOWTOWN



## PRIMARY AND PRESCHOOL NEWS

**TRUST**

**RESPECT**

**HONESTY**

**KINDNESS**

**LISTENING**

Term 1 Week 1— 14th March 2025

### PRINCIPAL NEWS



#### SNOWTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL SHOWCASED AT SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LEADERS DAY

Snowtown Primary School was in the spotlight at the 2025 South Australian Leaders Day, where our innovative approach to learning improvement—aligned with the Public Education Strategy—was showcased to over 1,000 leaders across the state. A special highlight was a clip from our school, demonstrating our commitment to developing powerful learners and meaningful community connections.

In addition to this recognition, Snowtown Primary has been selected from our portfolio of schools and invited to participate in Learning Expeditions, a prestigious professional learning project with renowned educator Ron Berger (Expeditionary Learning, USA) and Gwyn ap Harri (XP Schools) in the UK. This experience will further strengthen our focus on partnering with families and the community, ensuring our learners are engaged in deep, authentic learning and creating beautiful work that reflects their growth and potential.

We look forward to sharing our journey and the impact of this opportunity on our learners with our powerful learner community and also with the Teaching Directorate.

#### STRENGTHENING SPELLING INSTRUCTION THROUGH PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Our Year 3-6 educators have been actively engaged in ongoing professional learning this term, deepening their understanding of spelling and morphology. This has led to refinements in our daily spelling routines, with a strong focus on explicit instruction. Consistent gesturing, partner learning, daily review and choral reading—strategies grounded in current research—are now embedded in our practice to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes.

On Tuesday, our educators participated in a full-day workshop exploring how to maximise learning minutes in our morning English block. The focus was on strengthening connections between spelling, reading, and writing, ensuring a more meaningful and productive approach that empowers our learners.

We are excited to see the impact of these strategies in our classrooms as we continue to refine and enhance our literacy instruction.

#### THANK YOU

Thank you to Glen (Chippy) Wilkinson for tidying up the edges of our cricket pitch. This will greatly assist us to play cricket as part of Health and Physical Education and during break times.

### UPCOMING DATES

Harmony Day  
Ride or Walk to School/  
Preschool  
Tuesday, 18th March

Colours Day  
Monday, 24th March

Sports Day at Port  
Broughton Area School  
Monday, 31st March

Supervision of children in the yard is available from 8.30am to 3.15pm on school days. Parents are asked not to send children to school, or drop them off at school, before 8.30am.

Prior to that time the school is unsupervised and children are at risk.

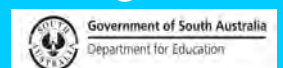
#### HATS

Students are required to wear broad brimmed hats from August - April.

#### CONTACT US

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# SAPSASA



On Tuesday 25th of February Millie, Sid, Ollie, Jy and Paul participated in the SAPSASA Summer Hub. Millie and Paul went to tennis, Ollie went to cricket and Sid and Jy played softball. As you can see, we are very sporty.



In cricket I made thirteen runs in the first game at the Clare oval. I had to retire after 5 overs though and didn't go back in at the end of the game so all the other players could get a bat. In my bowling innings I got 1 wicket that knocked the bails off the stumps and gave the stumps a cherry. This means the ball left a red mark on the stumps. My second game was at Clare High School, and I didn't make as many runs as my first game, but I did still get a wicket for my team. We lost by 2 runs and 1 wicket, but at least we had an audience from the high school kids at the lunch break watching us playing cricket on their oval. - Ollie



In SAPSASA tennis Millie and I had to play for Balaklava in Clare. It was very fun to play the singles. I won sometimes but it does not matter if I lost or not, it just matters that we had fun. Millie made it into the second round. Ollie played cricket.—Paul

On Tuesday me and Paul went to Clare to try out for the tennis SAPSASA team for Mid North. I lost 2 doubles and won 1 and, in my singles, I won all of them. At the end of the day, I was hot and exhausted. And I got into the next round of SAPSASA which is in Term 4. - Millie



We went to Balaklava Primary School to train for SAPSASA Softball. We then went to Clare Primary School to play a game. We played against kids from Blyth, Riverton and Clare. Mr. Brice taught us the rules of softball and we played in a team with Balaklava kids. We loved getting out and meeting kids from other schools but we were told that they are only picking girls, so we won't get to do anymore softball. - Sid & Jy



# Student Leadership Team 2025

## 2025 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Charlie Wilkinson

Ollie Stringer

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

### R/1/2 Class

Morris Wilkinson  
Elka McCormack

### 3/4 Class

Frank McCormack



**THINK!**

**ROAD SAFETY**



Government of South Australia

### 25km/h speed limit applies:

- Between school crossing (koala crossing) when the lights are flashing as indicated by a Children's Crossing sign.
- When a child is within a school zone, which is formed between a school zone sign and end school zone sign. This applies whenever a child is on the road, footpath, median strip, or even on a bicycle including outside of school hours. A 'child' means a person less than 18 years of age, and includes a student of any age wearing a school uniform. A school zone is also marked with zigzag lines on the road where practicable, to show that you are approaching a school zone.
- You must not exceed 25 km/h when passing, in either direction, a school bus that has stopped for the purpose of setting down or picking up children.





# FLUENCY READING WITH THE R-2S



This term in our Literacy block, the R/1/2 students have been engaging in 'Fluency Reading'. Each day, students read a designated passage to their partner, focusing on key elements such as expression, accuracy and attention to punctuation. After reading, partners provide constructive feedback. Every Monday, students receive a new passage, which they record on an iPad, and by Friday, they record themselves again to compare their progress. This helps students recognise their growth in fluency as well as building their confidence and motivation in reading.



"I love reading and we have to make sure we don't read too slow like a turtle or too fast like a rabbit."  
**Mackenzie**



"We do fluency reading every day to improve our reading."  
**Morris**  
"I am reading the letters to start with."  
**Chris**



"I like improving my reading and listening to others read."  
**Chloie**

"I am listening to my Monday recording to see if I improved my reading by Friday."  
**Ned**



"I am reading and Ted is tracking."  
**Zoey**



"It is fun listening to our partners and giving them feedback."  
**Elka and Ted**



## Pancake Day with the R-2s and Preschool

On Tuesday the 4th of March, the R-2s and Preschool children celebrated 'Pancake Day'. We followed a pancake recipe, and each had a turn adding an ingredient or mixing the batter. We then had a play at the Kindy while the pancakes were cooking. We enjoyed choosing our toppings and eating the pancakes together!



"I loved cooking and playing at the Kindy."  
**Chris**

"I got to crack the egg and tip it into the mixture."  
**Chloie**



"We got to mix the mixture. It was fun."  
**Ned and Mackenzie**

"It was fun making pancakes with our Kindy friends and having a play."  
**Zoey**



"I learned the difference between a teaspoon and tablespoon. The teaspoon is smaller."  
**Morris**





# SCIENCE WITH THE R-2S



This term in Science, our class has been exploring the basic needs of living things including air, water, food or shelter.

In Week 6, we started conducting two experiments. The first experiment addressed the inquiry question, 'How does water affect plant growth?' For this, we planted beans in four pots, all placed in the same area of our classroom. Each pot received different amounts of water: one with no water, one with just a few drops, one with the optimal amount, and one with an excessive amount.

Our second experiment explored the question, 'How does sunlight affect plant growth?' Again, we planted beans in four pots, ensuring each received the optimal amount of water. However, this time, each pot was positioned in a different location: one in complete darkness (inside a cupboard), one with limited sunlight, one with optimal sunlight, and one in direct sunlight.

Before starting the experiments, each student made predictions about the outcomes. Over the coming weeks, we will be recording our observations of the plants and working towards answering our inquiry questions. Stay tuned for updates on our findings!



"I loved planting the beans." - **Chris**



"We had to make sure we had 8 pots with a bean in it because we were doing 2 experiments with 4 plants in each." - **Ted**



"This is the plant with normal amount of sunlight." - **Zoey**



"First we filled our pots with some soil, then planted the bean and put a little more over the top." - **Elka**



"I gave this plant lots and lots of water. I predicted that it will not grow"  
**Morris**



"We put all of the water experiment plants in the window."  
**Mackenzie**



"Science is so much fun when we do experiments."  
**Ned**



# SNOWTOWN SCHOOL BASED PRESCHOOL



## Term 1 2025

This term we have been making sure that the children have lots of experiences with mark making. This has included offering painting, whiteboards and markers, note pads, clipboards and paper, textas, colour pencils and oil pastel crayons.

Being able to make marks supports learner identity, confidence and creativity. It also allows time for the learners to develop a positive agency as a writer and author.



## Why is this important?

It is important that early experiences with mark making and writing are positive, helping to build positive attitudes and a growth mindset around being a writer.

We focus on all attempts at mark making being positive and slowly build to exploring upper and lower case letters and the shape of letters.

Formal handwriting and how we produce letters correctly is for when hand muscles are strong enough to hold a writing tool and happens in reception and year one.



## So what does mark making and writing look like at SSR preschool?

- painting, sand play, stand up writing, using paint textas, playdough
- bookmaking, card making, writing letters to friends and family
- pointing out letters in picture books
- looking at illustrations in picture books
- drawing maps
- identifying different fonts in picture books and texts
- having a go
- writing in loopy loops

### At home families can...

- read with their child
- have mark making and drawing resources available to their child/ren
- write with and as a role model for your child/ren
- Praise all efforts
- distinguish between upper and lower case letters
- encourage your child to write their name using a capital for the first letter and lower case letters for all other letters (i.e. Eedie)



# RIDE OR WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

TUESDAY 18TH MARCH  
MEET AT THE FED SHED  
AT 8:30AM



JOIN US FOR A SHARED  
BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL!



# HARMONY *day*

TUESDAY 18TH MARCH  
1:50PM - 3:00PM  
PLEASE WEAR ORANGE

Join us for an afternoon of fun while  
we explore new countries and  
cultures.



# WANTED

The 5/6 class are reading Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone this term. They will be making woodwork owls as a creative project this term. We are in need of the items below.

**Small scraps of wood**

**Jar lids**

**Tin lids**

**Interesting metal or wooden  
objects that could form the  
features of the owl.**

Required by the 24th of March





**FREE**

# KIDS FUN RUN



Join us for fun at the SARRC Clare Valley Running Festival! Kids from Reception to Year 6 can lace up and run, celebration health and community spirit.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 6 | 10AM**

REGISTER ON THE DAY PRIOR TO 9:30AM

All participants receive a race bib & finishers medallion



THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
EST. **Autumn Garden** 2011  
**Festival**

**SUNDAY 6TH APRIL 2025**  
**10AM - 3PM**

CLARE SHOWGROUNDS  
HORROCKS HIGHWAY, CLARE SA  
**GUEST SPEAKERS...**

**COSTA GEORGIADIS**



**REBECCA SULLIVAN**



-PLANT SALES - GARDEN SCULPTURES - BULBS - GARDENING ADVICE  
- MARKET STALLS - KIDS ACTIVITIES AREA



ENTRY \$15 (UNDER 18 FREE)  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY TICKETS

[www.sautumngardenfestival.com](http://www.sautumngardenfestival.com)  
[info@sautumngardenfestival.com.au](mailto:info@sautumngardenfestival.com.au)

**COMING  
soon**

**SAPSASA SPORTS TRIALS  
CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE**

**Boys Netball  
Girls Cricket  
Hockey - Boys, Girls & Mixed**

For students at affiliated schools in the  
Barossa & Light, Gawler or Mid North Districts.

Register your interest NOW via the QR code above.



Pre-registration nominations are open for Year 5 / 6 students interested in playing SAPSASA Hockey (Boys, Girls and Mixed), Girls Cricket and Boys Netball. These three sports are reorganized and three districts (Gawler, Barossa & Light and the Mid North) combine to form teams to compete at the respective State Carnivals. Gawler is once again in charge of Hockey, Barossa & Light will look after Girls Cricket and the Mid North will take care of Boys Netball.

**Further details will be coming as soon as trial venues and dates are confirmed.**



Snowtown Primary School  
Community Library

# Baby Bounce

A program fostering early literacy, social development and bonding through songs, music, rhymes and story books.





Storytime



Music



Rhyme

Every second Wednesday of the school term at 10am.

Term 1 Dates  
26.03.2025  
09.04.2025

Snowtown School Community Library  
31, Glen Davidson Drive  
Snowtown



# DONUT DAY

## WEDNESDAY

Please place orders no later than Tuesday 12pm.  
Orders and payments can be made directly to Kelly's or at School.  
Donuts will be collected with lunch orders on Wednesday.

**\$2.50**  
STRAWBERRY  
CHOCOLATE  
CINNAMON

# ATTENTION WRITERS AND POETS!



*Rocky River Writers*

Laura Literary Awards is now accepting entries

Entries Close  
Friday, 9th May, 2025

## CASH PRIZES



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Open prose & poetry  
Young adult prose & poetry  
Bush poetry  
Primary school prose & poetry  
Junior Primary prose & poetry


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Enter now! [www.rockyriverwriters.club](http://www.rockyriverwriters.club)


# SCHOOL VALUES


**Respect**  
We value respectfully looking after our school, resources, our environment, ourselves and each other.




**Trust**  
We value integrity and being able to safely express opinions, beliefs, thoughts and feelings in a safe environment.




**Kindness**  
We value being kind, helpful and sympathetic towards other people.



**Listening**  
We value communication and listening to all voices.



**Honesty**  
We value telling the truth and taking responsibility for our actions.





# Colours Day

Monday 24th March

DRESS IN YOUR FAVORITE COLOURS OR YOUR SPORTS  
TEAM COLOURS

GOLD COIN DONATION  
towards Backpacks for kids



**BLYTH SNOWTOWN CATS**

**JUNIOR FOOTY & NETBALL**  
**come & try**



**COME AND HELP OUR JUNIOR CATS LAUNCH SEASON 2025**

**TUES 18TH MARCH, 5.30PM**

**BLYTH FOOTBALL OVAL & COURTS**

FREE  
bbq 





**GOOD CLEAN FUN**

**PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK**

# **Blyth-Snowtown Cats**

**Held: Thursdays, 5pm at Blyth or Snowtown**

**Come n Try Session**

**Tuesday 18th March, 5.30pm @ Blyth**





# TERM 1 PLANNER

WK	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
7	10 Public Holiday	11	12 NAPLAN Begins Baby Bounce	13	14
8	17	18 Harmony Day Ride & Walk to School	19	20 Kindy	21 R/1/2 Assembly
9	24 SANFL Cup Tour Visit Colours Day	25	26 Baby Bounce	27	28
10	31 Sports Day at Port Broughton	1. April 3 Way Powerful Learner Chats	2 3 Way Powerful Learner Chats	3 Kindy 3 Way Powerful Learner Chats	4 3/4 Assembly
11	7	8 SCHOOL PHOTOS Governing Council	9 Baby Bounce	10 Anzac Day Service	11 End of Term Early Dismissal

PHOTO  
DAY IS  
COMING

Your School Photo Day is on  
Tuesday 8th April,  
2025

msp  
photography

MSP PHOTOGRAPHY COUNTRY SA  
E admin.countrysa@msp.com.au  
T 08 8523 4480  
www.msp.com.au

Snowtown Primary &  
Pre-School  
HOW TO ORDER



If you have previously ordered with us, please sign in  
with your account details

Otherwise, please follow the steps below

Step 1.

Click here or go to our ordering portal

<https://snowtownps-sa.msp.photos>

Step 2.

Click 'Sign in with Student Details'

Online ordering closes

Tues. 8 April, 2025

An archive fee applies after this date

Enter your child's surname and birth-date and you are ready to  
start ordering. Once logged in, you can also order for family photos.

Please note Sibling Photo orders must be placed BEFORE your  
last photo day.

Separated parents must contact us directly to have their orders left  
at the office for collection.