Sister Pat’s Quote of the week.
I don’t believe in ordering people to do things. You have to sort of grab an oar and row with them. (H.Green)

August 24th – 28th
August 28th
September 2nd
September 4th
September 8th
September 10th
September 11th
September 11th
September 14th – 18th

BOOK WEEK
Footy Colours Day
P & F Meeting
WHOLE SCHOOL CLOSURE
Governing Council Meeting
R U OK DAY ☺
DISCO Evening
3-6 Assembly School Hall 9am
R-6 Interviews optional

R - 2 Sports Day
Recounts from Miss Turner’s & Mrs Pedersen’s 1/2 Class

**R-2 Sports day 2015**

**Sports Day Report:**
**By: Florence**

Last week Wednesday it was sports day. My team was tennis green. The first activity that we did was the under and over. Next we did javelin and long jump. Then we did the hurdles. After we did the hurdles, we played rob the nugget. We played soccer. Last we did a running race, and I won.

**R-2 Sports day 2015**

**Sports Day Report:**
**By: Project**

On Sports Day we did under and over and then we did hurdles and long jump. Then we played rob the nugget. Next we played soccer. Last we did a running race. I won.

**R-2 Sports day 2015**

**Sports Day Report:**
**By: Regan**

On Sports Day, we did under and over, and then we played hurdles and long jump. Then we played rob the nugget. After that, we played soccer. Last we did a running race.

**R-2 Sports day 2015**

**Sports Day Report:**
**By: Flynn**

On Sports Day, we did under and over. Then we played hurdles and long jump. Then we played rob the nugget. Next we played soccer. Last we did a running race.
Sporting Success: Over the past few weeks, our students have been excelling in representative basketball. Our Year 7 Boys and Girls teams both made it to the regional finals in Kadina just over a week ago. They left Roxby Downs at 6am and after being delayed along the way with a tyre problem, they reached Kadina just after 1pm. Despite this, both teams played extremely well, winning their respective finals and winning through to the State Titles in Adelaide on Thursday 17th September. Congratulations to Mr Ball and Deb McKinnon for their efforts in managing these teams, and best wishes to both teams as they play off for the State Title in a few weeks.

Special Congratulations to Julie Greenfield: Julie has reached the final of the Primary section of the SA Excellence in Public Education Awards for 2015. Quoting from the letter:

“Your application was considered outstanding and your enthusiasm to engage with ongoing learning was noted to benefit not only yourself as a professional, but also your colleagues, and the children and young people of your community.” Jayne Johnson, Chief Education officer.

Julie will attend the award ceremony on Monday 28th September. It’s an enormous credit to reach the final. I congratulate her on this achievement, which is a fitting acknowledgement of her dedication to the profession and her skill as a teacher. I’m sure all parents in our school community will join me in wishing her all the best for the final.

Australian School-Based Apprenticeships (ASBA): One of our strategies in the Senior School to engage our senior school students and to individualise their pathways to future employment or study, is through School-based Apprenticeships. Through an ASBA, students combines learning at school with work placement and nationally-accredited training, enabling them to successfully complete their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), while at the same time completing certified training. Students who choose this option will find themselves spending 2 to 4 days at school doing traditional subjects and the rest of their time undertaking paid work, as part of their specific training.

We had meetings early in Term 2 to promote this initiative to local businesses. As a result of these meetings, we have at least six local companies committed to employing a student through the ASBA scheme, with more primed to take up the opportunity. The school is extremely pleased with the community response to this initiative and looks forward to maintaining and building upon those links we have established between school, business and industry, leading to more successful outcomes for our students.

2015 NAPLAN Results: The 2015 NAPLAN results will be posted home to parents of students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 on Thursday 3rd September. NAPLAN is one of the many forms of testing that our school undertakes, to assist us in planning and programming for the individual needs of students. Your child’s teachers have a rich source of data around your child’s progress and NAPLAN doesn’t always paint the true picture as many students can become stressed by the taking of the tests. If you have any questions in relation to your child’s learning progress, I encourage you to ring the school to organise a meeting with your child’s home group teacher.

BYOD: I apologise for sounding like a ‘broken record’, but a strong commitment is needed from parents in relation to our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Computer, as this will enable teachers to incorporate technology strongly within their teaching program. We currently have approximately 30% of students bringing their own computer to school, which equates to 8 students out of 24 in most of our Year 7-12 classes. Two of the three secondary computing rooms will be phased out at the end of the year and so it is imperative that parents organise for their students to have access to a device as soon as possible, but definitely from the beginning of next year. Please contact the school if you need any assistance or advice.

Uniform Update: To assist parents in getting ready for the 2016 implementation of the new uniform in Years 7-12, we encourage families to consider bringing forward your purchases to 2015. To facilitate this:

- A large shipment of uniforms has arrived and so we are now fully stocked with all sizes.
- Our current Year 6 students are able to wear the new Year 7-12 uniform from Term 4, 2015.
- A Facebook page has been set up to assist parents/carers who may wish to buy or sell second hand uniforms.

We are offering parents a ‘lay-buy’ option, with goods set aside until full payment is made.
From the R-6 Principal

Halfway through Term 3 and I appreciate for some families, it may have been a tough one. We are here to support all families so please keep your child’s class teacher informed of any changes that may affect your child at school.

Sports Day
Recently we held a very successful Sports Day for R-2 and 3-6. Thank you to the organising staff and parents who contributed to the success of the day.

Parent Transition Visits
Next Monday is the final parent transition tour that we are offering this year. If you have a child starting in Reception in 2016 you are welcome to attend. This is the last of our parent information sessions for 2016. The next stage of the Transition process will be in Term 4 when children commence their day visits.

Junior Primary Wet Areas
We welcome parents into all our primary blocks in the morning to chat to your classroom teacher and listen to reading. However, if you have younger children with you, can you please ensure that any equipment that is played with in the wet areas/classrooms is tidied up and left in such a way that the space and resources are ‘useable’ for planned lessons. Our teachers work hard to plan many engaging, hands on tasks, utilising the wet area. If these areas are left untidy it impacts on these learning opportunities. Thank you for your cooperation.

Music is Fun
Next Monday (31st August) all classes are attending Music is Fun at 11.40am in the stadium. The cost of this event is covered by the school. Please note, this is not a community performance or an assembly so is only available to students and their classroom teachers.

Primary Disco
In Week 8 (Friday 11th September) the Student Voice are holding a Primary Disco. I welcome all students to attend, see the advertisement in this newsletter. Please note that all students must be collected by an adult and will not be allowed to walk home without a parent/caregiver.

Naplan
Results will be posted on the 3rd of September. Please keep an eye on your post box.

Warm wishes,
Bec Eli

My solo practice at magic millions

On the 25th of August I was lucky enough to fly down to Adelaide with Mrs Winter to squeeze in one more practice at the Magic Millions rehearsal before my big solo at the Festival Theatre on the 17th of September 2015.

My practice time was at 12:30pm on the 25th of August. We left Olympic Dam at 8:15am and we got to Adelaide at 9:45am. I was allowed to watch the group before us perform their songs and I even got to watch the soloist singing “Happy” from the group before mine. It was amazing!

At 12:00pm I was invited to have lunch with Deb Hepworth and Robyn Filmer who are the big producers of the Festival of Music. They congratulated me on winning ‘The Jane Lyall Memorial Scholarship’ and for being chosen to sing a solo.

The rehearsal finished at 3:15pm. Mrs Winter and I went to Harbour Town and did a little bit of shopping to celebrate because Mrs Winter had never been to a Magic Millions rehearsal either. We also celebrated with my Nana and Grandad and went out for hamburgers for dinner with my cousins and Aunts. We had an early night because we had to get up early to fly back to Olympic Dam. We arrived at the airport at 5:00am and our plane took off at 6:00am and we landed in Roxby Downs at 7:30am and went straight to school.

I had an awesome 24 hours away!

by Ella Ramsey 2015 Year 6
3-6 SPORTS DAY RESULTS

GARDNER – 763
FROME – 749
EYRE – 701
TORRENS - 592
7-12 SPORTS DAY RESULTS

EYRE – 908
FROME – 806
GAIRDNER – 493
TORRENS - 487
3-6 SPORTS DAY

On the 19th of August 2015 the 3-6 Sports Day Carnival was held on the town oval in Roxby Downs. The main reason we hold sports day is because it lets kids stay fit, to be more confident in sport and to be themselves, use skills we learn in PE and have fun.

There was a lot of activities for the teams to participate in such as: shot put, long run, 100meter sprint, high jump, discus, running relays and for fun we did tug-a-war and a novelty relays. They were all fun, exciting and competitive activities that everyone did very great effort to participate in.

RDAS has 4 teams: Eyre (red), Frome (blue), Gairdner (yellow) and Torrens (green) they all did amazing!!!, the total scores were Gairdner in 1st place with 763, Frome in 2nd place with 749 Eyre with 701 for 3rd place and Torrens with a total score of 592 in 4th so as you can tell from the results it was very close.

There was a lot of help and support while running the event from our Year 6 House Captains and Leaders, our Student Voice representatives and the teachers. You wouldn’t really know how much effort they put in to create this successful and exiting event for everyone to participate in and have fun.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL PARENTS AND TEACHERS WHO PUT THEIR TIME AND EFFORT TO CREATE THIS AMAZING AND SUCCESSFUL EVENT😊😊

By Jada Wellgreen

Snakes

Snakes with Margaret Wyatt

On Thursday the 20th of August we had Margaret Wyatt & her brother Michael bring in 3 different snakes into Mrs Greenfield’s Year 5/6 class at Roxby Downs Area School. There was a Woma Snake, Jungle Python & a Murray Darling.

The Woma Snake was the smallest snake out of the Jungle Python & the Murray Darling. It had tiny light brown scales that felt so smooth. The Woma Snake was a lot smaller than the other snakes. The Woma Snake had little eyes and large mouth. When the Woma Snake is young it eats wiener mice. A wiener mouse is a baby mouse with no fur or hair.

The Jungle Python was huge it had yellow & black scales and a really big mouth. Its eyes were large and black, you weren’t allowed to touch her head because she might try bite you. When you held the Jungle Python around your neck you could feel their muscles moving.

The Murray Darling snake was shedding its skin. Did you know a snake shreds its eyelids as well? Her scales were grey and black and as smooth as silk scales, underneath the snake was white. It was an awesome activity and we would like to thank Margaret and Michael for making it possible for us to interact like this with their pets.

⁞By Matia Hilder⁞
Operation Flinders

Operation Flinders is a unique wilderness character building program. Where the participants find that the choices they have are limited, in personal and imposed by the situation and the environment but with consequences which are personal and the effects relatively immediate. They learn that relying on others, cooperating, sharing and trust are better than going alone.

Our group of Year 10, Shae Beresford, Bailey French, Adyn McCarthy, Jhy McCarthy, Kail Bingham, Thomas Bourne, Brock Court, Brayden Honner, Wesley Steer and RDAS teacher Mr Shane Hodgson with Operation Flinders staff Conor and Cookie, embarked on an eight day walk in the Gammon Ranges. The students had no phones or watches, just a backpack with a change of clothes a bed roll, sleeping bag, an all-weather sheet and a pack.

Our leader had a compass and we bushwalked over unmarked country, testing physical and mental endurance. Students took it in turns to be captain for the day and they had to look after our mascot Blaze and lead the group.

Our day would begin around 6 in the early morning light where we had to have our packs packed up in 15 minutes, had breakfast then students completed their set jobs before we started the days walk.

Over the eight days we walked over rough scrub, climbed Mt Extension, Mt Rose, Mt Yadlamoora and a 2 hour night walk using the full moon. After 103kms the boys had plenty of blisters and sore muscles to show for their efforts. The boys completed the walk with a lot of team pride and enthusiasm as their accomplishments.

We would all like to thank BHP Billiton for their sponsorship which made this trip possible.
Dear Parents and Friends,

My name is Silvia Vallejo and I am from the Basque Country, in Spain. I am a Spanish Language Assistant in Roxby Downs Area School for the rest of the year and my task here is to assist the Spanish teachers in their classes and to help the students with the language, especially with the oral skills.

I am very grateful to be here and I hope that the students get to know and to understand the Spanish culture better. I believe that learning a new language helps you to develop different skills and gives you the opportunity to understand other cultures as well as your own.

I am sure that I will enjoy my time in Roxby Downs and I know I will make the most of it.

Kind regards,

Silvia
Yakarti Room

NAIDOC Award

The Yakarti room won the Artist of the Year award at the recent NAIDOC celebrations. The award was in recognition for the 2 books that were illustrated and published in 2013 for the Roxby Stories Project. The books were illustrated by students and staff from RDAS.

Some of the illustrations for "Papaditji the Orphan Boy"

![Illustration 1](image1.png)

![Illustration 2](image2.png)
School attendance, does it really matter??

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education.
Students learn new things at school every day — missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important We all want our children 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, ‘every moment counts’. 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 life. There is no safe number of days for missing school — each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement.

Getting in early Attendance patterns are established early — a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day — even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do? The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference. It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

“Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates — ‘every moment counts’

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together. If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

How to communicate: At Roxby Downs Area School we have strategies in place to support you in communicating with the school in regards to attendance. Each day at 11am, 12pm and 1pm (if you are on the phone at 11am it will automatically send you another at the next time for a total of three attempts for the day) an SMS is sent letting you know your child’s/ren’s absence. Alternatively you can let your child’s teacher know via email, diary/contact book note or ring the front office on 86710011. It is a legal requirement that students do attend school and all absences need to have reason marked in on daily roll books — if reasons aren’t given teachers legally need to follow this up with you as the parent/carer. If you have any questions about this process please feel free to contact the school for further details.

Did you know?

• Missing one day a week of school from reception to year 10 means missing two years and one term of schooling.
• There is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement.
• Frequent absences make it difficult for teachers who have to continually re-teach information and skills.
• Being half an hour late to school each day from reception to year 10 equals missing one year and one-and-a-half terms of schooling.
• Patterns of attendance/absence are set up in the early years of schooling.
• Being absent five days a term from reception to year 10 adds up to more than one year of missed schooling.
• Students who are frequently absent from school are over-represented in the juvenile justice system.
• Girls are absent more often than boys.
• Poor attendance makes it difficult for students to form positive relationships with their peers.
• Students who are frequently absent from school are more likely to end up homeless.
• Indigenous students are absent twice as much as non-indigenous students.
• Girls who are frequently absent from school are over-represented in the statistics for teenage pregnancies.
• Research shows that students who are often absent from school are likely to earn less than their peers as adults.

(Taken from DECD Attendance improvement package www.decd.sa.gov.au)

If you or your child are having difficulties getting to school please contact us to work out strategies to help support you and your children, we are here to help.

Thank
Beth Elliott R-12 Wellbeing Coordinator
R-2 Assembly awards Week 5

Rec Wilson – Liam Cooper, Amaliah Hunt, Kalais Lange

Rec Zeptner – Ambika Premkumar, Ryder O’Loughlan, Tessah Grant

Rec Grillo – Danielle Soka, Liam Tovakuta, Caiden Glode

Year 1/2 Boothey/Schipper – Destiny Tapara, Klezshay Orikena-Albert, Justice Marsters

Year 1/2 Turner/Pedersen – Kayla Krause, Senula Meegasdeniya, Dylon Higginson

Year 1/2 Jordan – Lara August, Madison McDonald, Jaxson Crompton

Year 1/2 Gubbin – Ally Stowell, Josh Blieshke, Brumby Dadleh

Year 1/2 Jarman/Christie – Matilda Kemp, Donnell Soka, Jaymian Turner

Special Ed – Max Jarman

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Keep your kids smiling

Dental care is FREE for most school children and ALL preschool children at the School Dental Service.

All children aged 0-17 are welcome.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au or call us now on 8222 8222.
Student Voice Disco

Student voice will be holding a school disco for primary students on Friday Week 8, 11th of September. This as a fundraiser to help raise money to make improvements to the school grounds with ideas being more shade and playground upgrades.

Please note that the original date for this Disco on RDAS original term planner was different. Due to a community event we have decided we would reschedule ours later in the term.

See Disco poster below for details and if you need any further information please contact Beth Elliott, Julie Greenfield or Kate Bennie on 86710011.

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**Primary Disco**

**When:** Friday the 11th September, 2015  
**R-2:** 5.00-6.30pm  
**3-6:** 7.00-9.00pm  

**Where:** RDAS School Hall  
**Entry:** $5.00 per person  
**Dress:** Casual  

*Food and Drinks available on the night!*
ONE TEAM. ONE FIGHT!

FOOTY COLOURS DAY

WE’RE UNITING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Friday Week 6, 28th August. Dress in your favourite sporting team colours. Gold coin donation which will go to the Fight Cancer Foundation to support young children living with cancer.

footycoloursday.com.au  #FootyColoursDay
We are Miss Pearce’s year 5/6 “Soil Soldiers” and we are on a mission to make our school a more tranquil, greener, brighter. We are aiming to beautify our school grounds. We believe this will create a calmer learning environment for all.

We have selected two main areas to begin our project with. The first is an area by our school hall. The other area will be a collaboration with the junior primary classes to rejuvenate a garden bed by the junior primary playground.

Another area we are working on is growing cuttings these will eventually become part of our garden beds and pots.

From the Soil Soldiers
In week 4 The Odyssey Program for Boys and Inspire for Girls worked with our year 7 - 11 students (RDAS and St. Barbs) and presented a parent evening to our community.

The boys covered topics such as masculinity and identity, mate-ship and friendship, respectful relationships and anger management. The girls covered topics such as celebrating uniqueness, friendships, respectful relationships, body Image and media. All skills needed to become respectful and responsible young men and woman. Both programs used activities to reinforce and expand on these topics and provided strategies to build strong self esteem and healthy relationships.

All events were incredible and positively received by everyone who participated.

“While confronting, it was empowering to hear what our children are facing and what we can do to help them. If I were to score it out of 10 I would rate it a 20!!” – Parent

“I liked the advice on how to cool down after you get angry. I learnt how to cool down, advertisements aren’t what you need to look like and how to make good decisions”- Year 8 boy

“I loved everything! It has shown me so much about body image stereotypes – I learnt perfect girls aren’t real, it’s beautiful to be me and be loyal to friends – You are so lovely and fun”– Year 11 girl

You can learn more about The Odyssey Program and Inspire for Girls and the work they do by going to their websites at www.odysseyprogram.com.au www.inspireforgirls.com.au

Sincere thanks also to the Toll Group and the Mining Minds Project for their sponsorship of the program.
Each year The Children’s Book Council of Australia focuses on literature published in Australia in the last year through the celebration of Book Week. The theme for this year was Books Light Up Our World, and students were engaged in a number of activities to celebrate the joy of reading. These activities included making lost dog posters for the book *The Little Lost Dog and the Christmas Wish*, contributing their own special patch to make a quilt from the story *My Two Blankets*, and recess and lunch activities in the library such as making *Pig the Pug* bookmarks, painting emus for our outback landscape based on the book *Emu* and furnishing our library treehouse inspired by the story *A House of Her Own*. Students also enjoyed a Spanish reading of a classic children’s book, colouring in competitions and finding a hidden book character in the library. It was a terrific week to celebrate Australian children’s literature and it was fantastic to
see so many students involved in the various activities throughout the week.

Learning a language =
Advantages PLUS

Employers prefer people who:
- have a global understanding and knowledge of the role of global media and international issues;
- have the capacity to problem solve with different world views;
- have the ability to work in culturally diverse teams;
- be able to communicate with a range of culturally diverse people;
- be flexible;
- know how and where to take the initiative;
- make valuable contributions as a global citizen.

Learning a language =
Potential PLUS

Why should your child learn a language?
Did you know that 34% of the world's population speak a language other than English? This equates to 6.1 billion people! Learning another language opens young people many benefits. These include:
- SCHOOL
  - Learning another language improves your child's overall literacy and cognitive abilities.
  - The skills they gain are transferable across all learning areas.
- WORK
  - Knowing another language makes you more employable.
  - Another language prepares young people to communicate more effectively and relays to others, self-manage and have the confidence to have a go without the fear of making mistakes.
- WORLD VIEW
  - Learning another language enables young people to view the world from a broader perspective as they understand and value their own culture and the cultures of other people here and overseas.

Top 5 languages*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2050</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td>1760</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
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<td>French</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>1600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>1600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data sourced from The Australian Bureau of Statistics

Learning a language =
Opportunity PLUS

Today's students will be tomorrow's global citizens. They will have to know how to negotiate a multitude of perspectives and ways of thinking. Learning a language is the first step in this requirement.

MICHAELE MARIEK
LANGUAGES CHAMPION
School Principal,
Temple Park School, ACT

There is no better and more cost-effective way to prove to a foreigner that you are dedicated and truly interested in them than speaking their language. There are few skills that have such value in today's global marketplace.

MAYA MICHAEL BONE
School Principal,
South Australia, Australia Secondary, ABC

Languages gives
YOUng people
the edge!

GET INVOLVED and become a part of the
languages and careers community at:

DEELESlanguagesCaresers
@languagesedgeNSW

LEARNING LANGUAGES opens opportunities for young people to participate in a rich, global landscape. Opportunities abound and are within their reach – opportunities for diverse friendships, amazing travel experiences and endless, exciting career possibilities.

Department of Education and Child Development
Government of South Australia