



Poonindie Community Learning Centre Newsletter

WEEK 1, TERM 1 2021

From the Principal

Hello and a very BIG welcome back to this brand-new school year! I trust that your holiday break was well enjoyed with your families and that your children are ready to embrace the learning opportunities provided at the Poonindie Community Learning

Centre for **2021!** I would like to especially welcome the following students and their families who have recently joined our exceptional learning community, taking our numbers to 121. We hope that your time with us is rewarding and enriching.

RECEPTION: Leon Carbine-Buller, Taya Christian, Robert Haling, Harlee Hollett, Kujo Joyce, Adeline Menzel, Noah Modra, Sage Murray, Noah Parker-Dunchue, James Pertzelt, Jax Prouse, Hudson Sweet, Rani Tempest, Jakob Trevor, Logan Trezise and Isabella Turvey.

YEAR 1: Xavier Tempest and Aria Coleman

YEAR 3: Patrick Luscombe

YEAR 5: Noah Luscombe

2021 CLASS STRUCTURES/STAFFING: We have 5 composite classes for this year, including 2 with new teachers appointed. Please make welcome Briony Tempest (from Angaston Primary School) R-1 and Hamish Rowsell (from Lincoln Gardens PS) for the 3-4 class. They are both "super excited" to join our team and bring with them broad teaching experiences in a range of settings including international schools, great expertise in literacy and numeracy, sporting pursuits and digital technologies. They will definitely 'value add' to our school with their fresh ideas and innovative approaches. We also welcome Kim Francis as the Aboriginal Education Teacher for 2021. Kim is currently teaching part-time at the Kirton Point Primary School and has worked at Poonindie previously in this role and more recently as a relief teacher.

Reception/Year 1: Teacher Briony Tempest (22 students)

Year 1/ Year 2: Teacher Emma Anderson (26 students)

Year 3/ Year 4: Teacher Hamish Rowsell (28 students)

Year 5/Year 6: Teacher Brea Letton (22 students)

Year 6/Year 7: Teacher Clint Beard (23 students)

A big focus for the teachers in 2021, will be collaborative planning and team teaching approaches within year levels, so that students experience consistent and strong practices in literacy and numeracy, and in particular around our current writing improvement focus.



*School Values: *Accountability * Innovation * Respect * Resilience*

Student Wellbeing and Specialist Teachers: Emma Anderson will continue with the role of Student Wellbeing and inclusion Coordinator on a Friday. Grant Eckermann will continue to teach Science across the school, Luke Frears ARTS and HASS (History and Social Sciences) and Sara Ling Indonesian on a Wednesday.

COVID-19 Protocols: Last year we were thrown into the fire with the unforeseen onset of COVID-19 across communities in Australia and the various restrictions that were imposed upon us. It certainly was a steep learning curve for us all, yet we have adapted and now it seems like the 'new norm'. Whilst there are no current active community transmissions in SA, we are still required to be vigilant around COVID-19 at Poonindie CLC. The following is the latest advice from the Department of Education SA:

The following activities can resume/continue providing government health advice and physical distancing requirements are strictly followed:

- Parents, volunteers, departmental support and other service providers may enter school grounds
- Schools will receive a unique QR code for parents to check in with on their mobile devices when entering the site (this will be activated next Wednesday, 3rd of February)
- Hand sanitiser and strict handwashing routines to continue to be implemented in classrooms
- The following activities can be conducted:
 - School Assemblies
 - Intrastate camps and excursions (SA Health approval is not currently required)
 - School sport competitions, sports days and carnivals, including inter-school competitions
 - Inter-school choirs, bands and other performing art activities

As we experienced last year, the changing landscape of the pandemic may require us to be flexible and resilient at any time! Fingers crossed we can get through the first term without too many hiccups!

Have a wonderful first week back! Sally Cormack (Principal)

I'm really excited about the opportunity to teach at Poonindie Community Learning Centre. I was raised on the LEP and completed my schooling here before heading off to Adelaide for study and then internationally for work and travel. Previous to teaching I worked as a tour guide for 8 years in outback Australia, Kangaroo Island and Turkey. Since returning home in 2012 I have worked across all year levels at Lincoln Gardens Primary School and have been the SAPSASA cricket coach since then too. I am a lover of sports and passionate about developing kids socially, emotionally and academically. I look forward to meeting you all and becoming a part of your thriving community.



Welcome Mr Hamish Rowsell



I am excited to be offered the wonderful opportunity of teaching the R/1 class at Poonindie School in 2021. My family and I are moving to the Eyre Peninsula from our home in the Barossa Valley to experience sea-change.

I have been teaching at Angaston Primary School for the past 9 years in Junior Primary from R-Yr3. My son Xavier & daughter Rani will also be attending Poonindie along with me next year. We are all looking forward to making new friends, sharing our love of learning and becoming part of the fantastic Learning community at Poonindie this year.

Hello to Ms Briony Tempest

SUNSAFETY AND HYDRATION

In line with the sites Sunsafe practices, students and staff must wear a hat when outdoors before school, recess/lunch and PE activities in TERM 1 and TERM 4. Please ensure your child has a broad brimmed hat in their bag, labelled with their name ready to go. We have sunscreen in the classroom, but we do encourage students to apply it in the mornings before coming.



In the interests of minimising headlice transmission, hats are stored separately in every classroom rather than in a combined storage system. In some classes, they will be kept in bags which means it is the student/family's responsibility that they are returned each day.

Students need to be drinking water regularly at school. Chilled water bottles must be provided by parents/caregivers which will be housed inside the classroom and available at breaks. Whilst the water fountain is unavailable due to COVID – there is a refill tap and cups available at all times in the yard, *which was introduced last year.*

Please chat to your classroom teacher or me if you have any further questions or queries. We do strive to provide a healthy and safe environment at all times for our students.

Back to school reminders:

Arrival and Attendance: Our school times are 8.50am – 3.20pm. Students who are not travelling on buses are to arrive in the morning at 8.30am please. Students who are travelling on buses after school, will be supervised in the library by a yard duty teacher until the bus arrives. All other students will need to be promptly collected at 3.20pm, in fairness to staff who have other teaching responsibilities including training to attend. Our school prides itself on a culture of high attendance – we need to keep this up and improve even further.



We have set a 92% attendance target for 2021, following 2 years of 89%! We need your support to get there! The state benchmark is 95%!

There is a clear link between regular attendance and the academic and social outcomes of students. **On Monday the 1st of February we have our school census day.** We must strive for 100% attendance so we can secure our funding entitlements for the year! Parents must inform the school of their child's absence and the reason for the child's absence. This may be done by either a note in the child's diary, a letter to the child's teacher, phoning the school, personal approach to the teacher or via the Skoolbag App and Seesaw. Thank you for your cooperation!

Nut -Free site: We have a student with an allergy to nuts; In the interests of the student's safety and future enrolments with similar allergies – please pack foods **without** nuts ie peanut paste.

Parent concerns: We work very hard to be approachable and work collaboratively with parents to maximise the outcomes for every student. The school has a Grievance Procedure for parents, which should be followed if a concern arises that needs to be discussed. Parents are encouraged to make a suitable time to meet with class teachers as the first point of call to discuss any concerns. If the matter isn't resolved at this level then parents must see Mrs Cormack (Principal) as a follow up measure. Posting grievances on social media platforms is not an acceptable way of resolving issues and can be undermining to the reputation of a teacher or school. Thankyou for your cooperation 😊

SKOOLBAG and SEESAW – our main forms of Communication.

Please make sure you download the SEESAW family app and scan the QR code provided by your teacher ASAP, so you remain in touch with all of the class happenings and your child's learning journey. You will also need to download/activate SKOOLBAG to receive whole school notices and newsletters in weeks 3, 6, and 9 of term.



SkoolBag 

Don't forget to download our school's SkoolBag app to ensure that you are kept in the loop on:

- School newsletters
- Notices
- Events
- Cancellations
- Reminders
- ...and more!

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS → Just download the "SkoolBag" app on your phone, open the app and add our school!

BUSHFIRE SAFETY

Poonindie Community Learning Centre is a **R2** site which means on a forecasted **CATASROPHIC** day, we are **CLOSED**. We also do not run excursions on any day where there is a total fire ban.

We have developed a communication system for bushfires/catastrophic days which is our BUSHFIRE tree. All of our Governing Council Members have delegated families to ring so that we are not clogging our main lines into the school.

We practice Emergency Drills every term and **twice a term in the Bushfire season**. Our staffroom is the designated bushfire safe building where water and other emergency supplies are housed. This year we will have the installation of a more effective sounding system to raise alert across the site which is a significant improvement to what is currently in place.

BUSES AND BUSHFIRE SAFETY

In line with current policy and guidelines for students that travel to our school or Port Lincoln by school bus, the following is provided for your information.

The threat of bushfire during extreme conditions is real and unpredictable. There is potential danger to passengers travelling on a bus in these conditions. The safety of all in the bushfire danger season is our highest priority.

Where a bus run is cancelled after the beginning of a school day, Students will be housed safely during and after school until a parent or family member is able to collect them safely from the school.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- During the bushfire season ensure that you are at the designated stop, to drop off and collect children.
- Ensure that you have made prior arrangements for your child to be collected from the bus if you are not available.
- Ensure that children take water with them on the bus.
- Maintain communication about the situation by keeping your radio tuned. Remember that during bushfire, electricity may be lost, and you will need a battery powered back up radio. ABC is the official CFS station = AM 1485, 639 or 891.
- Keep the CFS app on your mobile device.
- It is policy to always check and notify our office before taking your child/ren out of the school on any day but especially important on a Bushfire Day.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.





Poonindie Community Learning Centre – Term 1 2021 Calendar

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Pupil Free	Australia Day Public Holiday	27th of January Day 1 Term 1 2021! Welcome back on deck! Newsletter	28th of January	29th of January
2	1st of February Fire Drill and Invacuation practice week	2nd of February	3rd of February	4th of February	5th of February Helen Schramm Pastoral Care Worker 60 th Birthday! Congratulate her!
3	8th of February	9th of February	10th of February Newsletter	11th of February Governing Council 7pm	12th of February Assembly: 2.50pm Mr Beard's 6/7 class & Mr Eckermann (Science) presenting
4	15th of February	16th of February	17th of February ACQUAINTANCE EVENING (SRC/ School /House Captains induction ceremony) 5.30-7pm	18th of February	19th of February
5	22nd of February	23rd of February	24th of February	25th of February Aquatics 6/7	26th of February Aquatics 5/6
6	1st of March Fire Drill and Invacuation practice week	2nd of March	3rd of March Newsletter	4th of March PROPOSED AGM 7-8pm All Parents Welcome	5th of March Assembly: 2.50pm Mrs Letton's 5 class & Mr Frears HASS/Arts presenting
7	8th of March Adelaide Cup Public Holiday	9th of March	10th of March	11th of March	12th of March Proposed Sports Day TBC
8	15th of March Swimming lessons 3 /4	16th of March	17th of March	18th of March	19th of March
9	22nd of March	23rd of March	24th of March Newsletter	25th of March Governing Council 7pm	26th of March Assembly: 2.50pm Mr Rowsell's 3/4 class & Ms Sara Ling (Indonesian Teacher) presenting

10	<i>29th of March</i> Parent Interviews	<i>30th of March</i> Parent Interviews	<i>31st of March</i> Parent Interview	<i>1st of April</i> Parent Interview	<i>2nd of April</i> Good Friday Public Holiday
11	<i>5th of April</i> Easter Monday Public Holiday	<i>6th of April</i> R-2 Swimming Lessons	<i>7th of April</i> R-2 Swimming Lessons Newsletter	<i>8th of April</i> R-2 Swimming Lessons	<i>9th of April</i> Last Day Term 1 2.20pm dismissal