



NARACOORTE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

PO Box 534, Naracoorte SA 5271 **Phone:** (08) 8762 2277, **Fax:** (08) 8762 1677 **Email:** dl.0309.admin@schools.sa.edu.au, www.naracoorteps.sa.edu.au
Principal - David Adams, **Deputy Principal** – Rob Sandercock, **Assistant Principal** – Andrea Lawrie, **Chairperson** – Diana Armfield

Term 1 ~ Thursday, 2nd April 2020

Coming Events

- **3rd April** – Casual Clothes Day
- **6th to 9th April** – **PUPIL FREE DAYS**
- **10th April** – **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**, Easter Friday
- **27th April** – Term 2 Commences

We would like to thank you for your continued support in these difficult times. Next week the staff will be planning their term's work for what schooling may look like for all of our children.

Parents are constantly asking, "Are schools closed next term?" No, we will be open. However, everyone is being asked by the Government and Health Department to keep children home if they are capable to do so. Not all parents are in a position to stay at home or supervise their children; such as parents working in essential services. Consequently, schools will stay open.

However with this massive uptake in home learning while brick-and-mortar education is paused, many parents are having to take on a variety of new roles in becoming makeshift teaching assistants.

The following are some ideas that you can look to implement to support your children during this time.

1. Check the goals and set goals with your child: Teachers will set learning goals for all their learners. Please check these but also negotiate your clear expectations and your learning goals with your child. You may even want to check the "OurLearningSA" website for extra material – it is a great resource for parents and teachers. Can we also suggest that your child keeps a daily journal as a reflective exercise. This will become an extremely rewarding booklet when we all reflect back on this unusual time.

2. Set a schedule: An effective home learning environment requires students of all ages to take much more ownership of their learning. That autonomy can bring challenges, so the need for parents to establish a daily routine at home is key. For example:

"We're still getting up at the same time every day for school, and getting dressed in our school top and having breakfast. We're keeping our routine going. If my kids had it their way, they'd sleep till noon and then get to work. That's not happening." (quote from a parent doing online learning presently).

Some flexibility should also be built into that schedule: If a student doesn't want to work on math right now, then let them work on reading, or have them work on something that may interest them more at that time. Just remind the student that the teacher will have expectations of what needs to be completed by the end of the week.

3. Set up a workspace: You can help normalise the experience for a student by providing a consistent place at home to work. Look for a space where they can work without being interrupted by other things happening in the house.

4. Stay upbeat and positive: Students are impressionable, and if a parent gets frustrated that's likely to rub off. Parents should maintain an open mind, keep body language calm and use a lot of patience.

5. Resist the urge to do too much: An important thing for parents to understand is that it is alright if your child struggles at some point. It's equally important to let them try to work through an issue on their own. That's part of the learning process. Parents want to be hands-on but also resist the urge to solve every problem a student encounters. There's a fine line between helping too much and not helping enough.

6. Communicate with teachers: Teachers are ready and willing to respond to any question parents have. Please use Class Dojo/SeeSaw or email to provide the questions to your teachers. Remember there is no such thing as a dumb question in these times.

7. Plan for 'brain breaks': Too much screen time or staying buried in a book too long without a break for physical exercise can be a bad recipe. Parents should allow for exercise time, or at least some time away from lessons during the day.

We face many challenges but together as partners in learning we will get through this successfully. We look forward to working with you during this time.

Please note that the holiday period for children is now extended to three weeks. Teachers will be working at school next week planning for online learning in Term 2.

Have a restful holiday break.



The Leadership Group

– *David, Rob, Andrea, & Nat*

OUR NEW FRONT OFFICE IS OPEN!

We are excited to announce that the NEW front office is open and we are thrilled with the end result. Entry is now via the doors at the front of the school and we look forward to welcoming you to our beautiful new space in the future. Please note: if you do happen to enter the building from the canteen side, you will need to come through the glass door on the left of the courtyard. Thank you.



STAND LIKE STONE VOUCHERS



On Thursday 26th March, Sally Close, a Stand Like Stand Stone Foundation Board Member, presented David Adams with some back to school vouchers. The vouchers are distributed annually to public schools in the Limestone Coast by the Stand Like Stone Foundation thanks to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) and local donors. They are used to support students with their education. Thank you!



HARMONY DAY

Last Friday, 27th March, our students wore a splash of orange and celebrated Harmony Day. Each student decorated a hand in a symbol of unity. Thanks to everyone who worked to put this awesome piece together.



Reminder: Last Chance for Birthday Book Club forms To be submitted.



ASPIRE AWARDS

Mr Adams presented Aspire Awards to the following students on Monday 23rd March. Well done!



Matilda Doolan



Lisa Tate



Lachlan Withers



Mitchell Langford



Georgie Midwinter



Eli Watts



Sadie Brewin



Archie Ludvig



Ashlyn McBain



Tahlia Maresch



Porsha Robinson



Josh Garrod

ASPIRE AWARDS

Mr Adams presented Aspire Awards to the following students on Tuesday 31st March. Well done!



Annabel Menzel



James Lanquibo



Eva Tierney



Max Williams



Ruby Kelly



Alice Mott



Chelsea Meynell



Braiden McBain



Maddie Bellman



Paige McRostie



Lissy Kelly



Pippa Rasheed



Mr Adams presenting Aspire Awards in The Pond



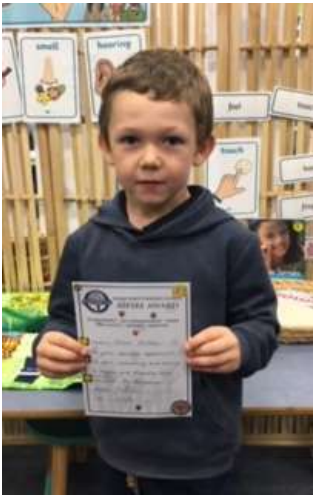
Janieve Isidto



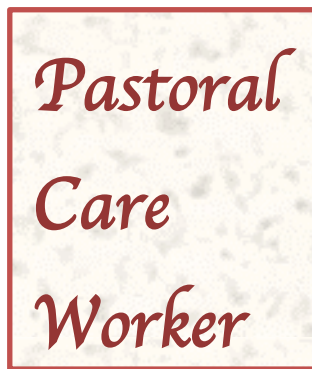
Jawaher Hassani



Evelyn Riggall



Oliver Aitken



Dear Strong, Resilient and Brave Parents,

You are doing a wonderful job, keep it up.

Why not enjoy family dinners around the table as you switch off all technology, and take a break from the news (avoid watching the news last thing at night or first thing in the morning or limit to just 5 minutes per day).

As we enter into the holidays let's reflect on what we are grateful for...

fresh air, hot water, washing machines, fresh fruit and vegetables maybe even home grown! Why not start a gratitude wall with the person who thinks of the most things they are grateful for winning the choice of board game that day or one on one time with Mum or Dad.

During school time, establish routines with regular outdoor play time, indoor school time, breaks and rewards. Find out what

rewards will work for each child. Use **non**-permanent marker to write up the schedule on the fridge and involve your child as much as you can in designing the schedule and rewards.

Give yourself permission to breathe, to relax, to laugh and enjoy these special family times as you can't get a single day back. Cherish moments that don't happen all the time. Take the pressure off yourselves to be perfect parents and enjoy this time. If you need creative inspiration have a look at these Easter activities (see link below).

<https://theeducatorsspinonit.com/12-easter-stem-activities-for-kids/>

If you would like to watch an Easter presentation with interactive games and cartoons that is children friendly or attend an online Church service, please send me your email and I will forward you the links.

If you start to feel overwhelmed or anxious or just want to talk please don't hesitate to contact me via the school phone, 8762 2277 or via my email below

tessa.webb529@schools.sa.edu.au.

In perfect peace, **Tess - Pastoral Care Worker**
Naracoorte Primary School



We have not included the Canteen roster for Term 2 as we are unsure of what will be happening at school as yet.

Thank to all of our volunteers that helped out in Term 1 and we look forward to seeing you in

Term 2 at some stage.

Helen & Kellye

To keep up with the happenings of our school you can:



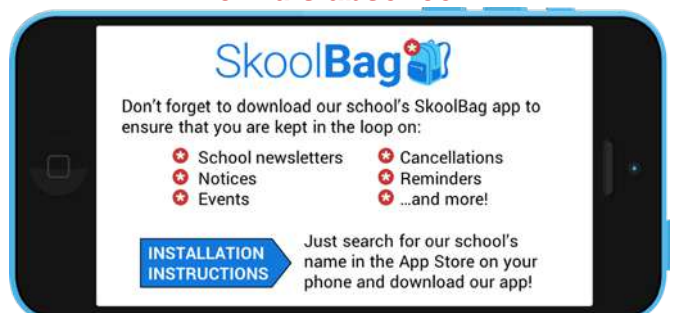
Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/NaracoortePS

and download the Skoolbag App



Use Skoolbag eforms to inform us of your child's absence.





LIBRARY NEWS



Birthday Book Club

We have celebrated 15 birthdays over the last fortnight. Violet Bennett turned 5; Hurley Sinclair and Tommy Woosnam turned 6; Mia Walter turned 7; Barney Logan and Cooper Mott turned 8; Archie Olsen, Hannah Hutchesson and Lucy Lock turned 9; Charlie Cox and Lily Mutton turned 10; Jasmine Tidy and Mitchell Johnson turned 11; Ella Andrews and Sam Davies turned 13.



Lucy Lock



Jasmine Tidy



Violet Bennett



Lily Mutton



Barney Logan



Mitchell Johnson



Archie Olsen



Sam Davies



Ella Andrews



Mia Walter



Charlie Cox



Hannah Hutchesson



Hurley Sinclair



Tommy Woosnam



Cooper Mott

We have a lot of new books in our library.



This week in the Library, the Reception to Year 4's have been participating in Easter activities. From everyone in the Library, we would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Easter.



Please ensure that you have downloaded the SkoolBag App. We are publishing a lot of important information on there at the moment and don't want you to miss anything.

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed

SkoolBag

SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

- #### 1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication


- #### 2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.
- #### 3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.


- #### 4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.


- #### 5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.



SkoolBag

TIME IN NATURE HAS NOT BEEN CANCELLED

25 THINGS TO DO IN SOCIAL ISOLATION



- 1 Camp out overnight in your own backyard! Pitch a tent or sleep under the stars.
- 2 Start a nature journal - sketch or paint leaves, fungi, flowers or other nature finds.
- 3 Collect leaves and make a nature crown or necklace. Pointy leaves are perfect!
- 4 Try star gazing - what's the first star you see in the night sky? How many can you count?
- 5 Make a "campsite" in your backyard with a cubby (try and make it waterproof) and pretend campfire.
- 6 Get on your bikes or scooters and head out for a family ride, around your neighbourhood.
- 7 Plant out the vege patch with seasonal vegetables.
- 8 Go on a photo safari. Choose a subject (or colour scheme) and see what you can "capture".
- 9 Go geocaching around your neighbourhood! if you've never tried a digital treasure hunt before, visit the ["Things To Do - Geocaching"](#) section of our website.
- 10 We're going on a bear hunt! Place a teddy in your front window so passersby can see them. How many can you see in your neighbourhood?
- 11 Get artistic with sidewalk chalk. Draw a hopscotch or rainbow on the footpath outside your house!
- 12 Use a notebook to press nature treasures. Collect leaves or flowers, and write notes to remind you of when and where you found them.
- 13 Discover more fun ways to play outdoors. Download the [Nature Play WA app](#) to get started.
- 14 Break out the card & board games. Snakes & Ladders, Monopoly, UNO and Pictionary: let's play!
- 15 Learn a new skill. Who in your family can teach you how to knit, sew, bake, garden or build?
- 16 Go on a bug hunt! What creepy crawlies can you find in your very own back yard?
- 17 Create a "boho" picnic experience in your backyard - use couch cushions and floor rugs, with bedsheets hung off your swing set as a canopy.
- 18 Learn how to service your scooter or bike. Check for damage, punctures & give it a good clean.
- 19 Create a living tepee. Fasten together sticks or bamboo & plant a climber (peas or beans).
- 20 Cook on backyard fire pit. Snags in a frypan or toast on a toasting fork. And who can forget the toasted marshmallows? (Check for fire bans first!)
- 21 Go on a family bushwalk. Check the ["Things To Do - Hiking"](#) section on our website for trails. Be sure to check for any park closures before you go.
- 22 Write a letter. Find out your friends' addresses, write to them, or send a picture you've drawn.
- 23 Try cloud watching. Can you see animals or shapes? Tell a story about them as they float across the sky.
- 24 Cook together. Make jam or preserves using seasonal fruit. Design your own label for your jam.
- 25 Try mindfulness. Choose a spot outside to spend 5-10 minutes each day. What sights & sounds do you experience? Do the change from day to day?