SOTA Speak



August 2023 Term 3

Message from the Head of Campus



Welcome back to the second semester of school. So much have happened in the past few weeks at SOTA.

Following a wonderful camp at El Shaddai, we learnt that the Best family is leaving us to begin a new adventure to learn independently – the world is a rich learning place for them to engage and explore. I know the Brumbies team misses their loyalty and contributions to Quiz and the Student Council also misses Mareike's enthusiastic and active contributions as Community Leader. As well, OPFA and CGC will miss Stef's commitment and service to fundraising and event organisation. On behalf of the school, we wish the Best family a safe and rewarding adventure ahead.

With the departure of the Best family, we welcome Isaiah to Miss Morley's Years 3/4 class. Isaiah and his mum spent a couple of hours at SOTA to meet with his new teacher and staff and were excited to be part of the learning community and the dauntless Dingoes. We wish them a good first semester at SOTA.

We also welcome Ms Kiah Payne to work with Miss Jo in the Years 1/2 class. She joins us from Marden campus and is already enjoying the delightful engagement of her little legends. The Years 1/2 are in the good hands of an awesome team of teachers.

Reading is our Site Improvement Plan goal this year. So, we have invested in readers for junior primary students, implemented Sounds Write at the recommendation of SPELD, Sound Waves spelling for the upper primary and Question and Answer Relationship (QAR) to ensure a consistent and coherent whole school literacy approach, as well, in term 2 implemented a trial of daily oral reading fluency (DORF) exercise with the support of OAC speech pathologist. Overall, our collective effort is showing promising results.

We are a pleased to advise that the school's NAPLAN results are encouraging. With over 85% of participating students at or above standard in Reading, our collective effort in supporting students to become capable readers has been worthwhile. Student NAPLAN reports will be sent out by early next week.

Overall feedback from teachers, supervisors as well as DIBELS data are also encouraging us to continue with DORF trial for the rest of the semester. We thank supervisors for their effort in maintaining a daily reading routine that helps students to practise their reading fluency. A lot of learning happens in-between WebEx lessons due to the wizardry skills of supervisors – our big thanks to all supervisors for maintaining your persistence and patience to support student learning.

We have much to look forward to this term. Our librarians have organised author, Tristan Bancks to speak to SOTA students on Friday, 18 August about his books and journey to becoming an author. On Wednesday of week 5 (23 August), we celebrate Book Week. With the theme - 'read, grow, inspire', I know I'll be appropriately dressed but will I win the most creative dress up this year?

Have a good semester of learning and sharing. 6 more weeks till we catch up again in Port Augusta for Mini-School.

Best wishes Lai Kuan Lim



Events

Book Week: 19-25 August

Learning Conversations: 11 September

Mini Schools: 25 - 29 September

Get Together: 8 - 9 December

School Closure Day

September 8th

OPFA and SOTA CGC

Outback Parents and Friends Association (OPFA)

An opportunity for the parents, supervisors and staff of students enrolled with the Port Augusta School of the Air (SOTA) to discuss any aspects associated with the school.

SOTA Committee of Governing Council (CGC)

The SOTA CGC discuss governance issues that require further discussion from OPFA meetings.

OPFA/CGC upcoming meeting dates

CGC: Week 4 (T2) Wednesday 16 August, 3.30pm

OPFA: Week 7 (T2) Wednesday 6 September, 3.00pm

Welcome to term 3! It's been a busy year with Induction, SEW and camp now behind us. And what a success camp was!! I've heard many a child say it was 'the best camp ever!' and many a mum say 'ensuites in every room is the new SOTA camp standard' so thanks to all the families and staff who made El Shaddai one to go down as 'the best'. OPFA and CGC will continue to work hard in ensuring our wonderful little school is well supported by fundraising and discussing ideas and issues at each meeting. The Rowan Ramsey Community Award is coming up so send through any nominations to petierankin@outlook.com. Thanks

Leah - OPFA Chair Petie - SOTA CGC Chair

Revise



What a wonderful day Trish Ellin and I had with the SOTA community at the end of last term. We joined in with the visit

to Monarto, then stayed for dinner and the entertainment for SOTA's birthday celebrations.

There's a saying "It takes a village to raise a child." We certainly saw many examples of this during the day. A mum rocking a baby (not her own) to sleep; govies playing with children from other families; older students helping younger ones from other families. So many examples, SOTA really is a cohesive, caring community. It truly is a pleasure to be involved. Thank you for inviting us along for the day.

We have not had any placements on properties so far this year, but I did work with three students and a govie at Open Access College while their older siblings were in Canberra. That was a great experience. Zoe, the librarian and her staff, were extremely helpful. A different experience for the boys to be on the "other end" of the library session.

Georgy Ewing



Staff Introduction

I am Kiah Payne, and I will be working alongside Miss Jo for the remainder of this year, teaching the wonderful year 1/2 class.

I have just returned from maternity leave after having my son, Finley! This is my 9th year teaching and I have been lucky to have had the opportunity to teach across all year levels and in big and small face to face schools, as well as at Open Access College (and now SOTA!).

I love all things food, travel, and adventure – especially scuba diving or anything to do with the ocean! I also love to have a chat, so feel free contact me if you have any questions. I am looking forward to a fantastic semester working with the wonderful families and staff at SOTA.



Library News

Welcome back to the library for term 3.

This term is an exciting one as we have many things to celebrate in the library.

Week 5 is Book week!!



SPECIAL GUEST: Tristan Bancks



We are gearing up for this with a special visit from kids' and teen author Tristan Bancks on Friday Week 4. Tristan has written over 8 mystery and crime books along with Action/Adventure and the Tom Weekly series of weird, funny and gross books.

Tristan aims to make writing fun for our students as we get a small taste of how he tackles the writing process. No matter what genre you like to read and write, Tristan has tried it all!

Let's surprise Tristan in our session and come dressed in your best CRIME

or ACTION character.



Every single word in these books is true. Except the stuff I made up.





Join the WebEx session on Friday 18th of August at 11:15am here:

https://schoolssaeduau.webex.com/schoolssaeduau/j.php?MTID=mf4023ef4a72a14f299c3e7c3a5258 904

Password: Library123

COMPETITIONS* COMPETITIONS* COMPETITIONS*COMPETITIONS* COMPETITIONS*

There are so many Library competitions for students to enter this term for book week. Please make sure you check out the Library Google Class Competitions and Challenges section.

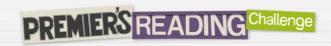
There are 4 main categories to choose from so hopefully everyone has a chance to win a prize and try something new.

- Best Dressed Character
 - Illustrator of the Year
 - Author of the Year- Including: Fiction, Nonfiction and Review writing
 - Creation of the Year- Including: Multimedia talks or presentations or Models/Inventions

Our official book week dress up day will coincide with your Library Assembly on:

Wednesday 23rd of August - 8:30am

Make sure you send photos of your costumes after the day to the 'Best Dressed Character Competition' so we can see all the effort you have put in and our library staff can judge the winners.



Term 3 is also the last chance to finish your Premiers Reading Challenge for this year. Please ensure these are also loaded to the

Library Google Class so we can make sure everyone's entries are sent in by the due date.

DUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 8th 3pm



NEED INFO? Check out the Library Google Classroom page. JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED TERM here: https://classroom.google.com/c/NTg1NDcwNDY0NDAx?cjc=dimavy5

Class Code: dimavy5

Contact the library anytime: library@openaccess.edu.au

SOTA Book Club

Hello students, parents and teachers!

Thank you to those who have sent in a book review for SOTA Speak. I'd like to give a shoutout to Jack, because he has sent in a book review for every issue so far! That is one great accomplishment, Jack! My fellow Student Council members and I would like to see more reviews coming in. So far, the Eagles are thrashing the other two teams, and at this rate, they will win the trophy at the end of the year! If the other teams could get some in that would be great!!

Thankyou, Stella

Title: Runt Author: Craig Silvey Reviewer: Abby, Year 7 (Brumbies)

Age recommendation: 8 and up

What it's about: Runt is a story about a 11-year-old girl called Annie and her dog, Runt. Annie lives on a farm in Ups and Downs, Australia. Their farm is in drought and doing poorly because of a man who moved to Ups and Downs called Earl Robert Baron. Earl cut off all the water to Ups and Downs causing a Drought. Annie and Runt must work together to save their family's farm from being sold.

I loved this book, I found it very interesting and inspiring. It was very easy to read and intriguing with the ups and downs throughout the book. I definitely recommend this book. I rate it a 10/10!



Title: Dog man Author and illustrator: Dav Pilkey Reviewer: Jack , Year 1 (Eagles)

What's it about: George met Harold in kindergarten and they made heaps of books called the tails of Dog Man. A cat called Petey was in jail and then he escaped: He's the bad guy character in the book, the good guy is Dog Man. The Mayor shows the police the news when it is a bad news day and gets really grumpy at them. Dog Man hates Petey because he escaped so many times.

I would recommend this book to 7 to 10 year olds.

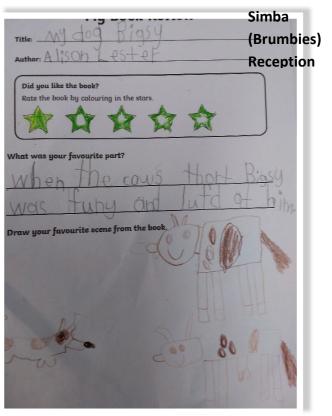
Title: Nevermoor Author: Jessica Townsend Reviewer: Stella, Year 7 (Brumbies)

What's it about: Young Morrigan (Mog) Crow is about to turn eleven, and as she is a cursed child, she is going to die on the turn of the seasons. When strange, ginger bearded Jupiter turns up to save her from death, she finds herself in a web of lies and truths all tangled up. She is entered in a series of mysterious trails, and if she fails, she will be in deep trouble with the law.

Rating: 10/10!! I have read this book and the 2nd and 3rd a few times, I love it so much!

Age recommendation: This book is for any accomplished reader and suitable for all ages.

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SOTA Speak | School of the Air Newsletter







Term 2 Week 8

Miss Emma:

Edward for making fantastic growth in his reading and writing. He has been working so hard at sounding out his words.

Miss Jo:

Dan for trying super hard with his handwriting and for increased focus in the schoolroom. Way to go Dan!

Miss Morley:

Martin has been awarded this certificate for putting lots of thought into his work, creating an amazing self-reflection and symbolism in English.

Miss Kaur:

Magenta for trying her best in all learning tasks and actively participating in group discussions.

Ms Mel:

Ruby for her commitment, time and tireless effort she has decicated to her role as the President of the SOTA Student Council this semester.

Term 2 Week 10 Miss Emma:

Emmett for pushing himself outside his comfort zone and trying new things.

Miss Jo:

Lilly for trying new things and challenging herself with lots of different activities. Way to go Lilly!

Miss Morley:

Lara for amazing courage and effort in pushing past her comfort zone to try something new!

Miss Kaur:

James for asking great questions and actively participating in class discussions.

Ms Mel:

Abby for trying her best in all activities on camp!



Connellan Airways Trust

A big thank you is extended to Connellan Airways Trust for the generous grant that families (who applied in February) will receive to assist with accommodation costs in 2023.

Reminder:

Accommodation receipts in one PDF document to be emailed to <u>kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au</u> by end of day **Tuesday 3rd October 2023**.

Families can also individually apply for General Grants. Please refer to their website for further details <u>https://www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au/</u>.

Term 3 Week 2

Miss Emma:

Simba for always coming to lesson with a fantastic attitude towards his learning and being a friendly and compassionate class member.

Miss Jo:

Clem for working hard on applying feedback and using his Growth Mindset.

Miss Morley:

Lawson has been awarded this certificate for excellent participation in class and dedication to catching up after being away.

Miss Kaur:

Winsome for taking the initiative to participate in breakout room discussions and doing her best in all the follow-up tasks.

Ms Mel:

Jacob for his participation in lessons and excellent start to the term.







Miss Megan's Home Visits

Well, here we are again at the start of another important term of learning. My first visit was to a station I have never been to before. It was lovely patting the new lambs and meet their new puppy too. I enjoyed supporting Lilly as she did her follow up activities and loved all the reading!

My second visit took me back to one of our stations in the Far North. It was a great visit. Magenta made donuts and ate lots of good, healthy food. I caught up on the latest family news and enjoyed playing 5 Second Rule with everyone. The best thing of all, was being in the schoolroom with Magenta as she worked.

I can't wait to go on my next learning adventure.

Miss Megan





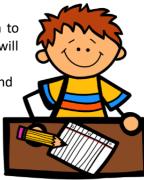
Miss Emma - Term 2 Reception Overview

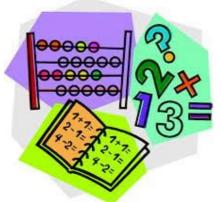
Welcome to Term 3! I am so excited to continue our learning journey as class this term!

<u>English</u>

In English this term we will be continuing to use Sounds-Write as our phonics program to support students with their reading and spelling. As part of their literacy block students will use Heggerty and Reading Doctor programs to support their learning.

Students will comprehend texts that connect to the topic of animals, including pets and Australian native animals. They will continue to develop understanding that authors make choices based on the purpose of their texts. With support, they will create short written and spoken texts that retell events, report information and express opinions.





Mathematics

Addition and Subtraction: Students will develop an understanding addition and subtraction. They will model and represent addition and subtraction stories using cherry diagrams, bar models and ten frames.

Sharing and grouping: Students will develop a deep understanding of sharing and grouping. They will explore how objects can be arranged into equal groups.

Statistics: They will collect data from their everyday lives as well as from picture books. They will sort this data and use it to create tables and picture graphs.

The Arts: Visual Arts

In this unit students will understand the purpose of media arts. They will learn about how we use pictures to communicate and the process of moving from drawing to animation. Students will learn how to create stories using photos and will finish the unit by creating a Picture Storybook





HASS:

Students will explore the concept of family, think about their own families and who their family members are. They explore the origin of their own family and the families of their classmates. Students also investigate how they and their family and friends commemorate past events that are important to them.

Science: Chemical Science

Students will recognise that objects can be made of a variety of different materials. They use their senses to identify different types of materials. Students will investigate and describe the common properties of various materials. They will make predictions, observations and share their findings when testing the properties of different materials.





Digital Technology:

In this unit, students will learn about the Design Process by following each step to design and build solutions to problems. Students will then follow George the Farmer to discover the many things the pulse industry does to farm, grow, produce, process and provide us with healthy protein-rich food!

Miss Emma



Miss Jo – Term 2 Year 1/2

Welcome back!

I hope you all had a super restful/ recharging/ exciting break. 🐵

As you will all hopefully know, this term will be a little different with the fabulous Miss Kiah teaching on Wednesday and Friday. Miss Emma and Miss Mel will each be taking a lesson on Monday. I am confident that despite these changes there will be minimal disruption to your child's learning and we will be able to make this a winning combination.

I can't wait to see the Year 1/2 legends take on more challenges and be rewarded for their efforts.

As always, any questions, feel free to touch base.

Thanks, Miss Jo (and Miss Kiah)

English

Oral Language- Students will continue to participate in Sharing (Morning Talks) on different topics throughout the term.

Phonics-Students will be continuing to use the phonics-based program 'Sounds Write' to support them in reading and spelling.

Reading and Viewing- Students will listen to, read, and respond to a variety of texts through the use of different books/ texts throughout the term.

Comprehension- We will be continuing our work using the QAR (Question-Answer Relationship) comprehension strategy to build students comprehension skills.

Handwriting- Students will complete a handwriting task each week. During this time it is important to focus on correct posture, grip, formation and letter size and shape.

Writing- This term we will have a focus on Information Reports and Persuasive Writing using the Department English Units of work. Students will be exposed to a range of different Information Reports and Persuasive texts throughout each unit. Students will explore and apply some of the different ways in which language conventions can be used to improve their writing such a noun and verb groups, commas and pronouns.



Maths

This term students will be working on Measurement including- length, mass, capacity and time in relation to days, months and years. We will then worked on repeated addition and arrays to begin work on multiplication. These topics will be taught using the Department Maths Units. We will also be using 'Think Mentals' workbooks to supplement the set tasks and build up rapid recall of number facts/ topics covered.

Health and PE

This term in Health the focus topic will be 'Germs, Healthy Eating and Healthy Habits.' In PE the focus will be soccer and associated skills such as kicking, dribbling and aiming/ scoring.

Design and Technology – with Miss Kiah

This term in Design and Technology we will be exploring the role of push pull forces and gravity in relation to games. Students will have the opportunity to explore how forces move on land, in water and in the air. We will use the scientific knowledge about forces to help plan, design and create arcade games using recycled materials.

Media Arts – with Ms Kiah

This term in Media Arts we will be using photography to tell stories and developing our own published Photo Story's. This unit will give students time to develop their narrative story telling abilities, through art.

Science- with Miss Kiah

This term in Science we will be exploring physical sciences and sound. This terms learning will be taught using the Department History Unit and the key ideas that will be explored are;

• Patterns, order and organisation – predict and explore the relationship between sound and the vibrations it produces.

• Form and function – the form and materials an object is made from affects the sound it produces.

• Matter and energy – the transmission of sound energy occurs through a medium, such as air.

History - with Miss Kiah

This term in History we will be exploring the significance of historical people, buildings, sites and natural environments, and artefacts will be used as sources to learn about the past. This unit of work is designed to give students an opportunity to explore their own local area and see what stories their community can tell from the past.









Miss Morley – Term 3 Year 3/4 Overview

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope everyone had a fabulous time during their holidays and that you are all looking forward to a new and exciting term. This term we are moving on from Visual Arts to Media Arts, Digital Technologies to Design and Technology, and History to Geography – so lots of interesting new topics to learn about!

English

This term in English we will be learning about persuasive writing by exploring advertisements and marketing. We will learn about authors' perspectives, emotive language choice, and evidencing our writing to convince an audience to agree with our point of view.

Over this term, we will be building our writing skills and stamina through a program called Big Writes. Every two weeks students will be asked to write for a specific period of time without stopping and unassisted by their supervisors. These writing pieces will be examined and edited by students in class to help them identify errors and improve their writing.



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	licensed under <u>CC BY</u>

We will also be continuing our weekly reading fluency this term, congratulations to our class, all our students did well enough to move up a level this term!



The Arts: Media Arts

This term we will focus on the Arts strand: Media Arts. In the first half of the term, we will be exploring magazines – determining how their layout and elements work together to draw in an audience. We will be creating our own magazine covers using photography and digital design programs.

In the second half of the term, we will use our new understanding of persuasive devices and art elements to design and make our own video advertisements in a personal project based on the student's own homes.

HASS

In HASS we will be moving on to Geography, specifically focusing on World geography and the continent of Africa. We will be reviewing the continents and where they are in relation to Australia, practicing our mapping skills, and learning about the many different environments and cultures across the many different countries in Africa!





Science

For Science this term we will be exploring the properties of materials. We will investigate items around us to identify what materials they use and why they were chosen. Students will conduct their own testing on different materials to examine the properties of absorbency and strength and make design decisions on the best choice of materials for a product.



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Design and Technology

This term we will be focusing on the design process and production skills used in creating objects made of fibres. Students will learn to sew by creating a personalised felt bookmark and designing and creating their own felt monster toy.



Maths

In maths, we will begin the term with cross-curriculum learning about the interpretation of and the features of maps, connecting to our HASS topic. For the rest of the term, we will be learning about measurements and shapes, exploring measurements of length, weight, and capacity, and 2D to 3D shapes.





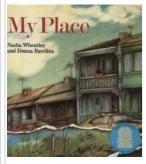
Miss Kaur – Term 2 Year 5/6 Overview

Hello everyone and welcome back to term 3.

I'm all charged up and super excited to start the term. Can't wait to see all the learning activities year 5/6 superstars will do this term.

Let's have a look at what we are doing for Term 3 2023:

English:



In English, students will listen to, read and view extracts from literary texts that convey a historical context. They will demonstrate their understanding of how writers can use language features including precise vocabulary and evaluative language to evoke a sense of time and place. Students will create a literary text that represents their own personal experiences and that will establish a sense of time and place for a reader in the future.

Like last term, students will follow our comprehension, grammar, and spelling resources to complete weekly units which will develop their skills in these areas.

Maths:



In Maths, students will solve problems involving length and area. Students will make connections between capacity and volume. They will interpret and compare a variety of data displays including those displays for two categorical variables. They will interpret secondary data displayed in the media and interpret timetables.

The students will continue to work on their Maths Mentals worksheets.

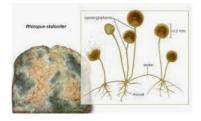
HASS: Economics

This term, students will explore the concept of opportunity cost and learn how resources are allocated to meet needs and wants in a community. They explore how choices about the allocation of resources involves trade-offs. Students describe the effects of consumer and financial decisions on themselves, the community, and the environment.





Science: Biological Science



In Science, students will see that the growth and survival of living things are dependent on matter and energy flows within a larger system. They will be able to describe and predict the effect of environmental changes on individual living things. They will learn how to look for patterns and to use these to identify and explain relationships by drawing on evidence.

Design and Technologies

In Design and Technologies, students are going to build a toy car from recycled materials, rubber/elastic bands, and other items around their house. Through this project, they will learn about and experiment with aspects of engineering such as force, energy and motion in addition to simple mechanisms used to do work. The car should be able to be wound up, store energy and be released so that it drives itself forwards.



Media Arts with Ms Mel



This term students will create, design and present media artworks using Internetbased technologies, including social media. Students will discuss and describe protocols about acceptable and unacceptable use of materials in making and publishing media artworks.

Let's continue our learning journey in term 3! Best wishes,

Miss Kaur

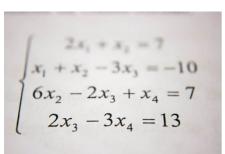


Ms Mel – Term 3 Year 7 Overview

<u>English</u>

This term we will be getting creative! Students will examine short stories, focusing on language choices, figurative language and other tips and tricks that authors use to engage their audience. They will also be conducting several 'Cold Writes' and 'Big Writes', which will allow students to regularly reflect on their writing and make improvements each time they create their own short stories.





<u>Math</u>

We will be covering algebra and linear equations this term. Students will be introduced to basic algebra concepts, such as balancing equations, understanding key terms and expressions and using rules to describe patterns and solve problems. We will also explore how equations work and solve worded problems and everyday problems using equations.

Health/PE

Students will investigate and evaluate nutritional and physical activity information to develop their capacity to engage in strategies and practices to enhance their health and wellbeing. They will explore the nutritional and physical activity requirements of adolescents, demonstrating informed decision-making skills to maintain a healthy balanced lifestyle.





Science (Earth and Space Sciences)

For the first half of this term students will investigate and explain relationships between the Earth, Sun and Moon and use models to predict phenomena and events. In the second half, students will learn about renewable and non-renewable resources. We will explore how recourses cycle through the environment at different rates. We will also investigate how human use and management of resources affects their availability.



HASS (Business & Economics)

Students will engage in the study of economics and business, gaining foundational knowledge and skills in economics literacy. They will build on their understanding of opportunity cost and explore fundamental economic concepts, such as relationships and interdependence of consumers and producers, enabling them to make informed economic decisions. They will recognise that every action carries inherent costs and benefits and understand the criteria in decision-making includes trade-offs too. They will also learn about why individuals choose to work and the various income sources to appreciate the economic motivations and incentives behind employment. Further, they will explore successful strategies employed by businesses and entrepreneurs, as well as the characteristics that contribute to their success. This knowledge will foster critical thinking, problem-solving, and entrepreneurial capabilities, empowering students to identify opportunities and make sound financial decisions. By comprehending the broad outlines of the economic system and recognising its interdependencies, students gain a deeper understanding of how different components influence one another, as well as their roles and relationships with the economy and society in general. This knowledge equips them to engage in discussions and make personal judgments about everyday economic issues.

Students will experience the entrepreneur spirit and work in small groups to design a business proposal of a product or service of their choice.



The Arts/Technology

This semester students will change to their new subjects in the Arts and Technologies fields.





Happy Days at SOTA



2023 School Song Port Augusta School Of The Air

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> We've come a long way since '58 The Outback's now out in cyberspace....

There is a school where no child goes They learn online, no longer radios And wait for their teacher to call them in To call them in....

On Port Augusta School of Air The children live most anywhere From Pinaroo to old Lake Eyre

Augusta! Augusta! Port Augusta! School of the Air.....

We're really close in mind and heart Although we live so far apart From stations, farms and far away You'll hear us loud and you'll hear us say

And as each end of year is due We meet our friends both old and new And get together with our teachers too

Augusta! Augusta! Port Augusta! School of the Air.....

Augusta! Augusta! Port Augusta! School of the Air..... (School of the Air.....)

Augusta! Augusta! Port Augusta!

School of the Air.....