



SOTA *Speak*

School of the Air Newsletter

November 2022 Term 4

Message from the Head of Campus



Research shows that students who experience high expectations tend to adjust their own expectations to match those of their parents and teachers. Setting high expectations can positively influence students' engagement and learning. One of SOTA strengths is our collective effort in setting these high expectations: expecting and encouraging active participation and fostering positive attitudes and behaviours toward learning. When these expectations are communicated by actions, and not just words alone, they support children to strive towards them.

I remain in awe of how SOTA children, as young as 6 years old, would wake up each school day and walk to their laptop for school. It is a reality that has *become* 'natural' because of the effort of family, supervisors and teachers in establishing the expectation that school is an integral part of students' daily life. Although attendance is necessary, it is not sufficient to ensure learning. Our high expectations become visible when teachers and supervisors encourage students to participate in lessons and complete their work independently. When students participate in class by asking or responding to questions, they are actively engaging in learning. When students

complete their learning tasks independently, they are thinking for themselves and owning their learning. Incorrect answers are not faults but feedback to teachers that further clarification is necessary to support student learning. Having high expectations on student learning show that we believe students are capable of growth.

Attendance rate and results in the Wellbeing and Engagement survey, NAPLAN and PAT might suggest encouraging outcomes of our effort in setting high expectations. However, equally, if not more powerful that these data sets, was the feedback Port Augusta West Primary School Principal and staff as well as Whyalla Road Safety Centre staff about how well our students conducted themselves at Mini School at their sites – they were engaged in their learning, friendly and respectful towards everyone they met. An opinion that we often hear from guests who meet our students.

My thanks to all of you for the effort you put in to maintain these high expectations. With 5 more weeks of school to go, let's keep up these expectations till Get Together. Our effort is worthwhile because our children are worthy of all our effort and emotional investment.

Best wishes,
Lai Kuan Lim

Events

Get Together: **9-10 December** (RICE Kindy students invited to participate in our Sports Day on the 9th December)



Face to Face Travel and Internet Claims

Please email through your claim forms to accounts.payable845@schools.sa.edu.au for your travel and internet. Please ensure that your invoices from your internet provider are attached with the internal claim form.

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

All meetings at 3:30pm

OPFA: Week 3 (T4) Wednesday 2 November (WebEx)

CGC: Week 4 (T4) Wednesday 9 November (WebEx)

2022 Year Book Orders

The 2022 SOTA Yearbook is taking shape and will be sent to printers in Week 9 after Get Together as usual. It will be distributed at Induction Week in Term 1 and will cost around \$25 depending on number ordered. Thus could you please email MK ASAP with the number of Yearbooks that you would like to purchase.

Face to Face Event Dates 2023

Induction Week: **Term 1 - Week 1**
(30 January – 3 February)

School Experience Week/NAPLAN (Woomera): **Term 1- Week 8** (20-24 March)

CAMP ([El Shaddai](#), Wellington): **Term 2 - Week 10**
(3-7 July)

Mini Schools/PAT: **Term 3 - Week 10**
(25-29 September)

Get Together: **Term 4 - Friday & Saturday Week 8**
(8-9 December)

2022 SOTA ART SHOW

As usual the annual SOTA Art Show will be held at Get Together in December. Entries due at SOTA by 3pm Friday 9th December.

Categories are:

- *Painting
- *Drawing
- *Sculpture
- *Photography
- *Collage
- *Unclassified (other)

Age groups:

- *R-3
- *4-6
- *Adult

Entries must include Name/Class/Category/Bribe!!



Term 3 Week 8

Miss Emma:

Honey-May for always giving her best effort when it comes to completing follow-up tasks.

Miss Sara:

Bonnie for showing positive attitude in online lessons and consistently completing her follow up work.

Miss Tennessee:

Cody for neatly setting out his Maths work and showing his working out.

Ms C:

Magenta for putting in an outstanding effort this week and making leaps and bounds in her learning.

Ms Mel:

Beau for considering strategies and developing a poster to support his independence goals

Term 4 Week 2

Miss Emma:

Sanaisha for her incredible efforts in her follow up activities, in particular the book she created about her statistics investigations.

Miss Sara:

Jayden for showing excellent participation and understanding in lessons especially when learning about 3D objects

Miss Tennessee:

Cody for persevering in challenging tasks and applying feedback given by teachers.

Ms C:

PJ for his thoughtful and creative responses in Maths lessons and follow up tasks.

Ms Mel:

Jacob for an excellent start to the term, being punctual and taking on board feedback.



MK's Home Visits

TERM 3 WEEK 8

This week it was back up the Birdsville Track to Clifton Hills to catch up with Beau. Acting Station Manager for four hours was a highlight.



TERM 3 WEEK 9

My visit to Alex at Sturt Vale was cut short due to the hastily arranged public holiday. 36mm of rain Tuesday night resulted in a slippery 122 kms along the Eastern Road back to Burra on the Wednesday afternoon

TERM 3 WEEK 10

Mini School Week at SOTA.

TERM 4 WEEK 1

Plenty of rain in the outback meant we had a very limited choice of about 3 families we could get to and return from. Thus my plan A changed to Aurelia and James at Upalinna. 36 mm of rain on the Wednesday got the creek running.



TERM 4 WEEK 2

The Strzelecki Track was out of bounds so my Plan A to Innamincka became Plan B to The Twins. The Rankin lads were happy to accommodate my new Plan. If you get the chance drop into see The Twins Lizard Experience

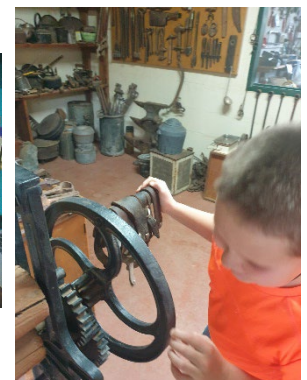
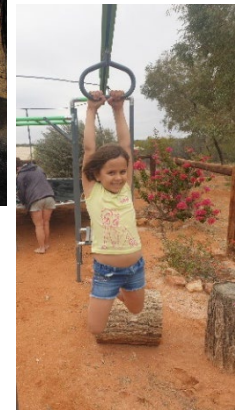
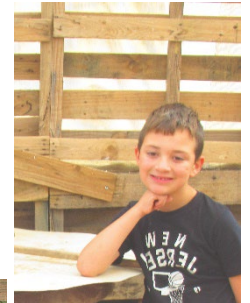
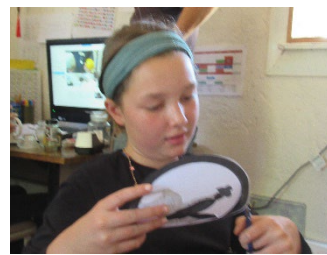
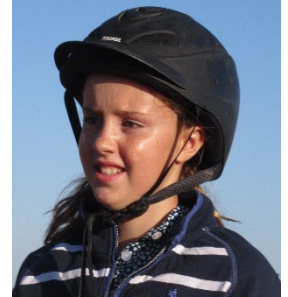
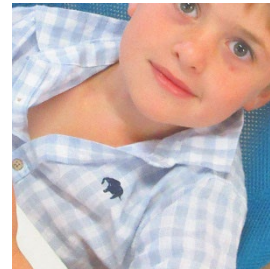
MK





Here are some of my favourite photos from the year so far. I hope to have many more this term. It's all about loving life and learning. Miss Megan

Miss Megan's Home Visits



Reception/ Year 1 Term 4 Overview

Welcome to Term 4!

English

This term students will be introduced to the purpose, structure and language features of information reports.

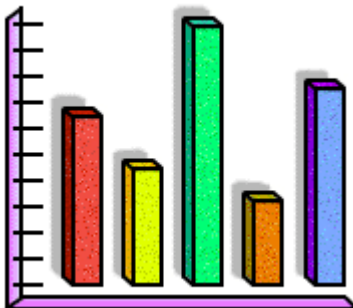
Students will listen and respond to excerpts from 'Sophie's Adventures' by Dick King-Smith. Students will continue the Sounds Write phonics program. They will continue to develop their phonological awareness including rhyme, identifying sounds in words and syllable manipulation.



Mathematics

Students will start the term with a unit on statistic. In this unit, students will be developing an understanding of data representation and interpretation. They will be following the process of statistics by asking questions, collecting data, displaying data and analysing data.

Students will then revisit counting and ordering large collections. They will revise how to partition two digit numbers into tens and ones.



The Arts

Music: Students will respond to music and consider where and why people make music. They will be able to describe the mood and form of different songs. Students will explore musical instruments from different cultures. They will also learn how to play the recorder using Charanga.



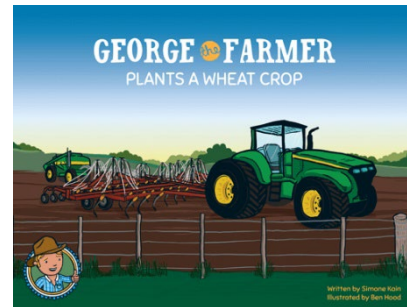


Science (Earth Science):

In this 'Changes All Around' science unit students will explore the natural, made, and managed features that undergo change. They will investigate natural changes, how long they take to occur and what those changes tell us. Students will have hands-on shared experience of observable changes in the landscape that is built by or managed by humans.

Technologies:

In this unit, students we will be exploring Wheat and Wool production using George the Farmer picture books to guide our learning. Students will then create their own picture books to show the process of farming and producing wheat or wool and what foods and products what and wool can be made into.



CPC: Protective strategies

Students will be establishing daily routines that provide security. They will develop skills of assertiveness and persistence and will understand ways of getting help. Students will also revisit their personal networks.

I look forward to another exciting term of learning.

Thanks,
Miss Emma

Year 2/3 Term 4 Overview

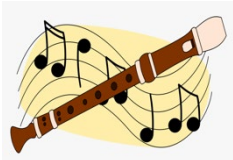
English



This term in English we will explore and respond to a range of poems including by Australian authors. We will develop an understanding of the structural features and poetic devices used in poems. We will experiment with techniques explored and apply them to create our own poem. To finish off the term, we will present the poem we create.

Mathematics

This term in Mathematics we will be exploring geometric properties of both 2D and 3D shapes and learn to identify them in the natural and built environment. We will explore angles and symmetry. We will create and use coordinates to locate positions and identify pathways. To finish off the term, we will be working on Time and Chance.

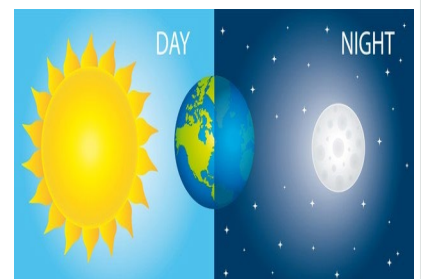


The Arts (Music)

This term in Arts we will be doing Music using recorders. We will listen and respond to music. We will learn how to identify and play new notes in lessons using the Charanga music program. We will also learn to practise playing tunes with a given note. We will be building towards our end of year performance.

Science (Earth and Space)

This term in Science we will investigate the effect of the Earth's rotation on its axis, in relation to the position of the Sun. We will compare the Earth's size with the Sun and Moon and consider how everyday observations occur because of the Earth's rotation. We will conduct an investigation into shadows and create a model to communicate our understanding of the relationship between the Sun, Earth and Moon.



Design and Technologies



This term in Design and Technologies we will investigate how foods and fibres are produced. It includes sections on foods and fibres we use; how food and fibre are obtained; their production systems; and technologies and processes used to assist in their production and the contributions they make to societies. We also investigate how the family and cultural group we belong to produce different foods or fibre. We interview a member of our family to obtain this information and in turn share recipes, ingredients, methods and equipment suggested by the families with the class.

HASS (History)

This term in HASS we will develop our knowledge and understanding of the historical concepts of sources, significance, perspective, cause and effect, and continuity and change. We deepen our understanding of the importance of Country/Place to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We explore how different local communities have changed and remained the same over time. We develop skills of inquiry through investigating how our own community has changed over time in relation to people, human-made, and natural features.



CPC



This term in CPC we learn to practise protective strategies where we establish daily routines that provide security, use and review our networks, develop skills of assertiveness and persistence and understanding about ways of getting help which include using the school's grievance procedures.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.
Miss Sara

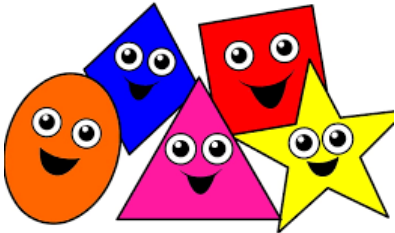
Year 4/5 Term 4 Overview

Welcome back for Term 4!

English

In English this term, we will be focussing on Poetry. Students will identify text structures and language features used in poetry. They will read and view a wide range of poetry to then create poems.

Maths



In Maths this term, the topics are shapes, transformation, angles and location. To begin the term, we will begin by focusing on combining and splitting 2D shapes. Then we will identify 2D shapes used to create nets for 3D shapes. The next topic is angles, where we will be learning to identify types of angles, as well as measure and construct angles. The final topic for the term will be location. We will be reading and creating maps, using co-ordinates and writing directions.

History

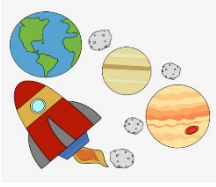
Year 4 and 5s

In Business and Economics this term we will be focusing on factors that influence consumers' needs and wants. During the term we will be learning to identify different resources, as well as considering and comparing different factors when buying a product. This will be modified for each year level.

Science

Ms C Year 4

Students will develop an understanding of how natural processes and human activity can cause low or rapid changes to the Earth's surface. Through exploration, practical investigations and modelling they will understand the natural processes of weathering, erosion, and deposition.



Miss Tennessee Year 5

For science we will be exploring space and learning about the planets. We will compare different models of the solar systems and the planets. To finish the term, we will be creating a weather report for a planet.

Music

This term the art focus is music and we will be exploring how we can communicate in a conversation without using words and only using our voice. Throughout the term we will be exploring different music terms and learning to read notes to be able to play the recorder.



Design and Technology

Students will learn about the environment impact of single use plastics and explore alternatives, particularly in sustainable celebrations and catering. The plastic properties of glue are explored and student experiment with sustainable joining techniques while creating a party product prototype.

CPC

Students will be learning about classification and what is appropriate and inappropriate material. They will develop strategies to stay safe when using various forms of popular social media. Students will learn what to do if exposed to inappropriate material or feeling unsafe online.

Year 6 Term 4 Overview

English

This term in English, students will listen to, read, view and analyse literary and non-literary texts on the same topic. Students explore and evaluate topics with key messages conveyed through both literary (imaginative) and non-literary (informative) texts, including informative websites. They compare and analyse the effectiveness of each text in its ability to deliver a message. Students will write arguments that persuade others to a particular point of view using specific structural and language features identified during the unit.



Mathematics

In the first unit this term students will construct simple prisms and pyramids. They will locate ordered pairs in the four quadrants of a Cartesian plane, and they will solve problems using the properties of angles. In the second unit students will order probabilities of outcomes using fractions, decimals and percentages. They will also calculate expected frequencies of chance and test these using investigations.

Music (The Arts)

In Art, students will build upon their knowledge of the elements of music. We will listen and respond to music and analyse how musicians use the elements of music to create songs. Students will practise the recorder and create their own piece of music.



HASS



In HASS, we will be exploring the world of business and economics. Students will develop an understanding of opportunity cost and why decisions involve trade-offs. They will learn how businesses provide goods and services and consider the effect of consumer and financial decisions on individuals, the community and the environment. Students will also investigate enterprising behaviour and consider why this is important in business.

Science

In Earth Science students will investigate major geological and extreme weather events such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, drought and cyclones. Through questioning, gathering evidence and developing explanations, they will understand how rapid or extreme natural events can affect the Earth's surface and environment. They will research and investigate scientific and technological developments in measuring, predicting and minimising the effects of natural disasters and will plan and produce a STEM design.



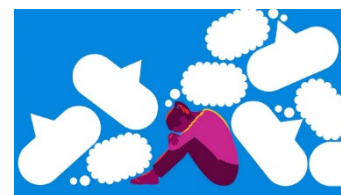
Design and Technology



We will be continuing our unit from last term which looks at using a design process to create an enrichment toy for an animal using their knowledge of textiles and manufacturing.

CPC

This term in CPC (Child Protection Curriculum) our focus area is, *Protective Strategies*. In particular we will explore the topics; strategies to discuss difficult issues, strategies to support friends, reviewing trusted networks and persistence.



Year 2 Poets

My Trantiwontigongalope

by Martin

There's a very colourful insect you might not think it's real!

It has six legs to feel.

It looks like a butterfly,

but sometimes, it can be very shy.

It lives in the Arid Lands

and it really hates ants.

Don't you dare make it dance

Or it will come at you with a prance.

You really hope,

You don't come across a Trantiwontigongalope

You wouldn't cope!



I love the rain

by Bonnie

A rumble of a drum getting louder and louder.

Squish, squelch, squoch mud on my boots.

Click, click, click rain on the roof.

Drip, drop, drip, droplets landing on the ground.

Rain drops softly landing on my boots as I ran to the creek

The creek is full and the water is flowing I love the rain.

Mini School at Port Augusta West Primary

School of the Air thanks Port Augusta West Primary School Principal, David Lawton, his staff and students for their generous hospitality in accommodating us in their school. The storm might have damaged our buildings, but it brought us new friends and colleagues. We had a fantastic time at PAWPS.



Mini School

