



# SOTA *Speak*

School of the Air Newsletter

September 2022 Term 3

## Message from the Head of Campus



Term 3 is finishing up as we head towards Mini Schools. After a fantastic start to the term at Port Lincoln, coming together again in Port Augusta is possibly the best way to end the term.

What an eventful term it has been.

Besides camp at Port Lincoln, another highlight of the term was the Australasian Association of Distance Education Schools (AADES) Conference that all teachers attended. The conference drew delegates across the country and New Zealand, sharing a wide range of practices and perspectives. Contact time, resourcing, delivery structures and enrolment criteria vary across schools. All schools have strengths but also face challenges; none of us would claim to know it all and have best practice in all areas. Our willingness to listen and learn other ways to approach distance education is key to making improvements in our respective schools. The conference expanded our professional networks and perspectives on distance education.

While we have much to learn from our distance education networks, we can always count on our local network to bring joy to the school. Chris Fulton from SA Arid Lands Landscape Board very kindly organised Milly Formby to fly to Port Augusta in her microlight to share her expertise on shorebirds at assembly.

Milly's stories of flying the microlight, as well as the migratory journey of shorebirds captivated students and staff. Did she have to do so? No, she chose to. We are grateful for her generosity in sharing her expertise with us.

Just as we were all getting ready for Mini Schools, Port Augusta experienced a most unexpected terrorising hailstorm which damaged our school buildings. With repairs still yet to be underway, Outback Centre will not be fixed in time for Mini Schools. Fortunately, Port Augusta West Primary School's principal, David Lawton very kindly came to the rescue, and offered to accommodate us for the week. Did he have to do so? No, he chose to. In making the decision, he put our interests ahead of the additional work on himself and his colleagues. We are so grateful for his generosity in our time of need.

How will the term end? If we could choose, let's choose to finish the term as well as it started: wonderful guests at Port Augusta West Primary School, just as we were at Port Lincoln.

*You cannot do a kindness too soon, because you never know how soon it will be too late.*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

Best wishes,  
Lai Kuan Lim

## Events

Mini Schools: **26-30 September**

National Day of Mourning – Public Holiday: **22 September**

Premiers *be active* Challenge ends: **30 September**

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



# Connellan Airways Trust



**A big thank you is extended to Connellan Airways Trust for the generous grant that families will receive to assist with accommodation costs in 2022**

**Reminder:**

Accommodation receipts in one PDF document to be emailed to [kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au) by end of day **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022**.

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

## Face to Face Travel and Internet Claims

Please email through your claim forms to [accounts.payable845@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto: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)

## 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 Shaddaj](#), 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 Yearbook Camp Photos

If anyone has camp photos that they would like to be considered for possible inclusion in the 2022 Yearbook please email to MK ASAP.



### Term 2 Week 4

*Miss Emma:*

*Clem* for his progress in literacy due to his hard work and dedication to reading

*Miss Sara:*

*Annastasia* for showing positive attitude in lessons and completing her tasks with great consistent effort

*Miss Tennessee:*

*Micah* for using feedback to help improve his learning particularly in science to add detail when explaining the experiments

*Ms C:*

*James* for developing his writing independent and skills

*Ms Mel:*

*Ruby* for her positive attitude and great quality returns this term

### Term 3 Week 6

*Miss Emma:*

*Lisma* for showing such a positive attitude towards reading.

*Miss Sara:*

*Eli* for participating really well and taking feedback in completing his English and Maths to the best effort.

*Miss Tennessee:*

*Winsome* for developing her independence and asking lots of questions.

*Ms C:*

*Lachie* for completing all work to a high standard and applying feedback to learning

*Ms Mel:*

*Abby* for consistently practising her Maths on Studyladder to continue to improve.



# MK's Home Visits

## TERM 3 WEEK 3

After two days PD in Adelaide my Plan A was cancelled thus I returned to SOTA and impersonated Year 10/11/12 Marden staff on Wednesday and Thursday for OAC Marden students.

## TERM 3 WEEK 4

It was back up the Stuart Highway to The Twins to see Ryder, Eli and Lawson again. A lot of sport, card games and board games were undertaken.



## TERM 3 WEEK 5

My first visit to Wilgena to catch up with Sam and Winsome. A guided tour of the deserted Tarcoola (which I had been to once many years ago) was sad to see what thoughtless people do as a form of weird entertainment.

## TERM 3 WEEK 6

Lo and behold my Plan A fell through just as I was about to jump in the Cruiser. Plan B was hastily hatched and I was on my way back to Wilgena determined to win Hard Quiz this time!!



## TERM 3 WEEK 7

My old back is the same age as me and decided to play up on the Sunday so I was on leave for most of Week 7.

**MK**





## Miss Megan's Home Visits



This term I have done a lot of driving and had many wonderful and rewarding visits. Each student has made solid progress in their learning. It is a real honour to spend time together in your homes. Thank you everyone.

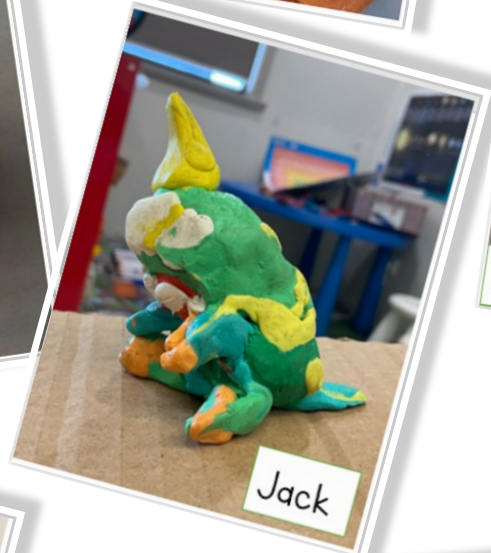




# Reception/ Year 1

In Science Reception and Year 1 students have been learning about dinosaurs. We have discovered that dinosaurs had many different features which helped them to survive. As part of this unit, students made a model of a dinosaur and presented to the class the features of their dinosaur.

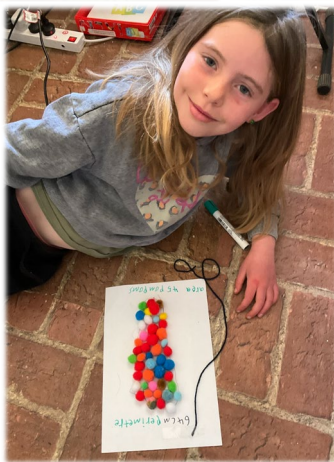
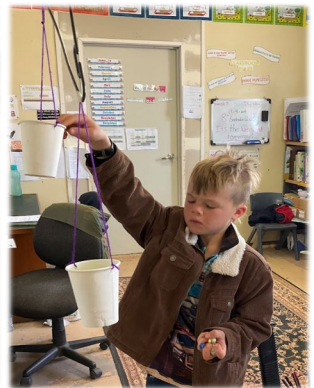
In Maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D Shapes. We made portraits out of 2D Shapes and kept a tally of the shapes that we used.





# Year 2/3

Term 3 has been hectic for us all yet we still did great learning. For English, we have been learning how to retell a traditional narrative from a character's perspective through the use of various folktales. In Maths, we have been learning about Measurement for Length, Capacity and Mass. We have researched on the lifecycle and facts about an animal and investigated the growth of seeds in Science. In Art, we created stained glass animal artwork using tissue paper.



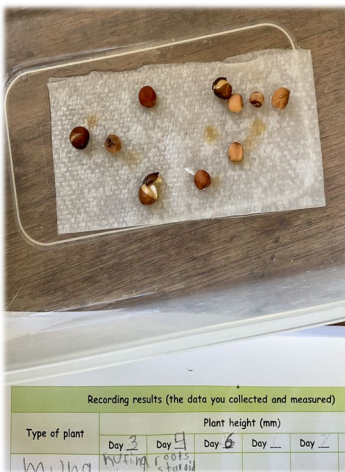
Plan a retelling of a traditional narrative from the perspective of a character  
 Task: Plan, write and present a retell of a traditional story from the perspective of a character.

Character	Biggest Billy goat gruff
Character traits	Strong and Brave
Story structure	
Orientation	They eat all the grass
Setting	a big green field
Characters	big goats and a troll
Event 1 / Problem	The goats eat all the grass
Event 2 / Problem	the Billy goats needed to choose the troll is trying
Event 3 / Problem	big goat eat the troll
Ending / Resolution	the troll got her boot on the bridge
What did the character learn?	

Please mr magic fish!  
 Fishman Jack caught a magic fish and was so happy but he didn't tell his wife so he could be his own wisher. "Hatta-Hoaaa" said Jack. He wished for a house, cake, and his wife found out. "How dare you keep this from me!" said Liz. So she went to the fish and said "I want makeup and new shoes" said Liz and mister fish said "NO!" and <sup>then</sup> here saw him again! They started a new, simple life.

How characters change  
 Discuss how Tiddalik changes throughout the story. Write ideas using dot points.

Tiddalik	
Beginning	End
What did Tiddalik do? One day a little frog named Tiddalik was very thirsty and he had to go to the water.	
What did Tiddalik say? The frogs drank then the frog said 'Aha! I'm not sick anymore!' and he hid from them.	
What did Tiddalik think? Now they don't show to me Tiddalik for I will show them that a frog can drink.	



Recording results (the data you collected and measured)

Type of plant	Plant height (mm)					
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
M... ..						





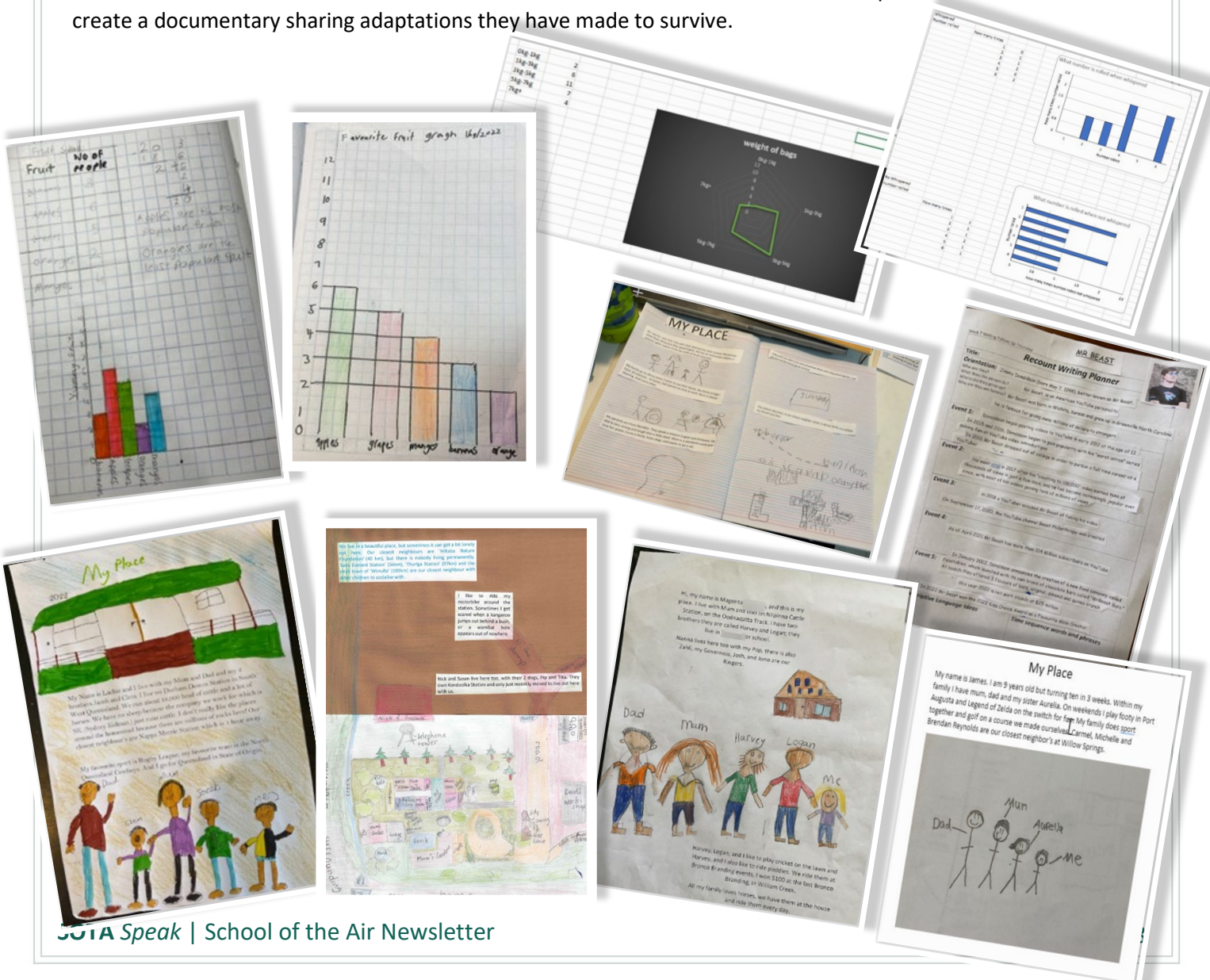
# Year 4/5

In Maths we have finished our measurement topic and we are now focusing on data and statistics. We have learnt about different ways to collect data and created appropriate graphs to represent the data. Once the data is represented we have been analysing the data to make conclusions and recommendations.

In English, we have read the picture book 'My Place' where students saw how places changed over time. Students then wrote their own My Place passage, which we are hoping to create into a SOTA My Place Book. Students are also writing a biography about a famous person, writing the perspective of another person's life.

In Year 4, in HASS, students are trying to make change in their local community. Students have come up with great ideas such as improving recycling, improving roads, creating waterholes for wildlife. In Science, students have been exploring materials and their properties.

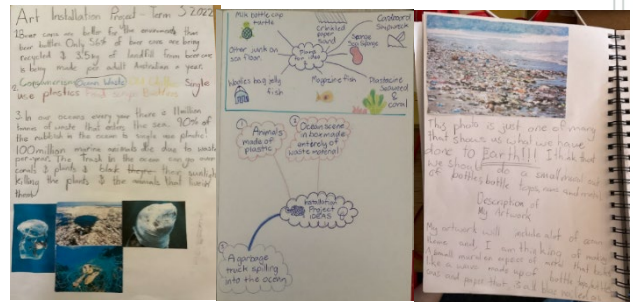
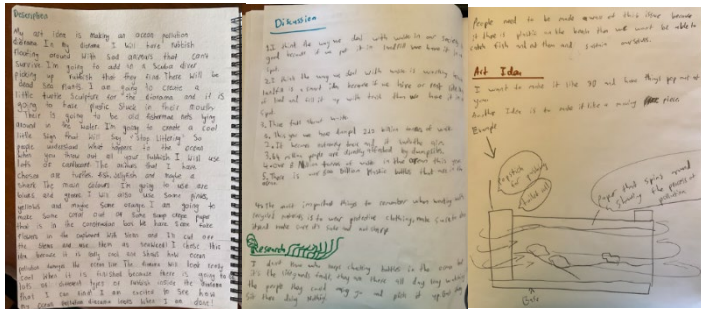
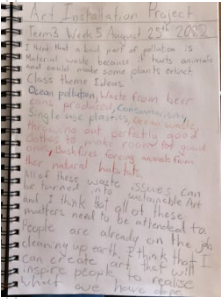
The Year 5 class has been learning about Australian democracy and the election process in Civics and Citizenship. In Science we have conducted experiments to identify and explain adaptations of animals and plants to be able to survive in different environments. To finish the term we will choose one animal or plant to research and create a documentary sharing adaptations they have made to survive.



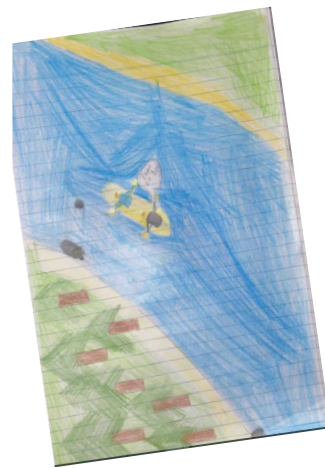


# Year 6

This term we have been working on an Art Activist project to be presented at Mini-schools. Students have researched an environmental issue, proposed an idea, gathered trash that can be recycled and repurposed to create their art installation piece. The entire process will be documented in their art portfolio which will display their ideas and techniques.



In English we have read two novels by the same author to conduct an analysis of her style of writing. Here we have some illustrated scenes from the story Don't Pat the Wombat.



For our Design and Technology lesson we are working towards creating an enrichment toy which could be used in an animal shelter. This has involved us looking at current products, learning about the textile industry and identifying the needs of animals.

Enrichment toy analysis

Animal: Dog Student: Sam Date: 14/10/22

Choose 3 toys to examine. Record using the boxes provided.

Name and draw a simple diagram of your toy	Description of enrichment toy	Draw an arrow to your answer	Toy ranking
	Material: Plastic. Points of interest: Thread around and played with.	Most sturdy? Most sustainable? Cheapest? Most suitable for your animal?	Most sturdy? Most sustainable? Cheapest? Most suitable for your animal?
	Material: Plastic. Points of interest: Can be chewed.	Most sturdy? Most sustainable? Cheapest? Most suitable for your animal?	Most sturdy? Most sustainable? Cheapest? Most suitable for your animal?
	Material: Plastic. Points of interest: Can be popped or chewed.	Most sturdy? Most sustainable? Cheapest? Most suitable for your animal?	Most sturdy? Most sustainable? Cheapest? Most suitable for your animal?

Task: Redesign an enrichment toy

Original design: SCAMPER design:

Original design	SCAMPER design
S Substitute C Combine A Adapt M Modify P Put to another use E Eliminate R Reverse	To play with and to talk to when no one's home. It will never get broken and it will float. It will never hit my animal or if the animal almost falls down it will pop back up. It can be used to catch the animal's waste. I made it so it had legs because that way it would be easier to use with every animal and later.



## Premier's Be Active Challenge

The PbaC is back for its 16<sup>th</sup> year. It aims to encourage physical activity across schools. Prizes are up for grabs. The goal is to do at least 60 minutes of physical activity/day on at least 5 days/week for one month. Information can be found at [www.pbac.sa.edu.au](http://www.pbac.sa.edu.au)

## Book Week

