



KAROONDA AREA SCHOOL

Issue 5 | 7th May 2024



Key Term Dates

11/12 Outdoor Ed Camp
15/5/24 - 17/5/24

7/8 9-a-side Football
17/5/24

Middle/Primary School Assembly
23/5/24
(Middle 1:25pm, Primary 2:20pm)

Headspace Visit
27/5/24

King's Birthday Public Holiday
10/6/24

Student Free Day
11/6/24



Principals Message

Jacob Dawson – Principal

Welcome to Term 2. As the weather cools and the seasons change, the preparations and inputs increase to prepare for the next harvest. At school, Term 2 brings deeper learning and connections as we build upon the routines and foundations laid in Term 1. This brief update overviews some of the items happening here this term and a few calendar dates for upcoming events. We continue to encourage parents to connect with the school via Daymap, where the calendar is being updated with upcoming events.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



Principals Message

Jacob Dawson – Principal

Staffing Update

This term we welcome our new Deputy Principal, Melanie Bennett who will be leading our Primary Team and sharing her years of leadership experience with our growing school. Mel is enthusiastic about returning to Karoonda and working with our team to continue growing our students' learning. I'm sure she will be out and about in classrooms keen to meet everyone over the coming weeks.

Our Preschool class continue to grow in their collaboration, social development and oral language, with Tania Woolgar and Sonja Marchant currently sharing the class for the first part of this term. We are thankful for the calming presence both educators are having with the class and we look forward to seeing the continued growth in learning through play.

Working alongside Cathy Miegel, this week we will have an hourly paid instructor starting, to provide weekly piano tuition. This has been a request of families in our community, to fill the gap left from the retirement of long-standing community piano tuition at the end of last year. We are excited to be able to provide these lessons at school as part of our growing curriculum offerings.

New Phone System

Over the school holidays, the long overdue upgrade to our internal phone system occurred. While many of the changes only affect calls within the school, a few upgrades will be noticed by families calling the school. Firstly, we now have an answering machine for calls that come through out of hours, which allows families to leave a message for the front office (for example calling through a student's absence before school). You will also notice the option to call direct to the Library or Finance Office for those enquiries. While Week 1 meant some quick learning for all our staff and ironing of some glitches, we appreciate your support as we learn this new system, which is being rolled out across the state.

Attendance

Attendance at school every day gives the best learning opportunities for every child. Whilst we understand at times children may be sick and unable to attend school, it is vital that the school is notified. Our attendance data is automatically synced to the state database each night and staff are required to report extended periods of non-attendance to the Department for Child Protection. The best way to learn and progress is to be at school, in class, learning every day. Please utilise the school communication methods to notify of illness through Daymap, SMS or phone call.

Communication Procedures

Earlier this year, the Department for Education signed off on a new enterprise agreement with all staff. As part of this, a new "right to switch off" was introduced. Whilst technology provides us many advantages, it is recognised the importance of switching off to support work-life balance. Please see the attached information regarding what you can expect from staff when communicating with them through the school.

Parent Portal for Daymap

A reminder for families, we have opened the parent portal for Daymap this year. This platform provides one place for all school reports, communication, student progress, homework and more, which we believe will support families in not having to go through multiple different avenues to reach teachers or check their children's progress across different classes.

To access Daymap for the first time, parents can follow these steps:

1. Load the website: <https://kas.daymap.net/daymapConnect>
2. Scroll down and click "Forgot your password"
3. Enter your email address which you have provided to the school and the ID number of one of your children (students can access this from their Daymap portal or the front office can provide this code to you upon request).
4. You receive an email to set up a password, then you are ready to use.

If you would like support or have any issues, please contact the front office where one of our friendly staff can help.

Jacob Dawson
Principal