



# COORARA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

45 Taylors Avenue, Morphett Vale 5162  
dl.0323.info@schools.sa.edu.au

08 8325 2066  
www.cooraraps.sa.edu.au

TERM 1 WEEK 1

2026

## 2026 DIARY DATES

### JANUARY

#### Monday 26

Australia Day

#### Friday 30

Assembly - 9:15am

### FEBRUARY

#### Wednesday 11

Community Night

5:00pm - 6:30pm

AGM 6:30pm

Resource Centre

#### Friday 13

Assembly - Hosted by Rm 11

#### Monday 16

Governing Council 7pm

#### Monday 23

Dentist Visit

Bugs & Slugs Incursion

#### Tuesday 24

Dentist Visit

Bugs & Slugs Incursion

#### Wednesday 25

Dentist Visit

#### Thursday 26

Dentist Visit

#### Friday 27

Assembly: Hosted by Room 18

### MARCH

#### Monday 2

### PUPIL FREE DAY

#### TUESDAY 3

Magical Memories

New Receptions - Rm 5 & 6  
2:30pm - 3:30pm

I acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander people as the Traditional Owners of this country throughout Australia and their connection to land and community. I pay my respects to their Cultures and to the Elders both past and present.

## Message from the Principal - Steph Tulloch

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2026 school year!

It has been so lovely to see our students, families and staff returning to Coorara Primary School. The energy across the site this week has been full of smiles, excitement and reconnecting – a wonderful way to begin the year.

Our 2026 school motto, Enriching Minds... Igniting Curiosity, reflects what matters most to us as a community. We want every child to feel inspired to wonder, ask questions, take risks in their learning and grow in confidence each day.

### Growing Together in 2026

Our Site Improvement Plan will be finalised shortly and shared in our next newsletter and at the front office. This year our key focus areas include:

- Supporting student wellbeing through the Berry Street Education Model (BSEM)
- Continuing to strengthen Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)
- Building strong teaching practices in literacy and mathematics

Threaded through all of these focus areas is our commitment to curiosity and questioning – encouraging students to wonder, explore and think deeply about their learning.

These priorities help us create a safe, caring and high-expectations learning environment where every student can thrive.

### Special Interest Programs

We are excited to be offering new Special Interest Programs in 2026. These opportunities allow students to explore their interests, develop new skills and extend their learning beyond the classroom.

This year, extension opportunities will be available across Performing Arts, Health and Physical Education, Science, Mathematics and Literacy, providing students with a broad range of pathways to challenge themselves and grow.

More information, including how students can participate and selection processes, will be shared next week.

### Welcoming Our Staff Team

We warmly welcome our new teachers to our Coorara community:

- Trudi Cole – Year 4/5 Teacher (Room 9/10)
- Lucy Hynes – Teacher (Room 9/10)
- Chantelle Dove – Year 1 Teacher (Room 19)

We also extend a big welcome to our new SSO staff members: Sharon Harvey, Megan Roncoli & Ryan Harvey. Our team plays such an important role in supporting students each day, and we are grateful to have them as part of our community.

### Join Our Governing Council

Are you interested in helping shape the future of Coorara Primary School? We invite you to join our Governing Council. The council plays a vital role in supporting the school's leadership, assisting with strategic decision-making, and ensuring our learners have the best possible educational experience. By joining, you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with staff, other parents, and community members, making a meaningful contribution to our school's direction and success.

We welcome new voices and encourage parents and carers from all backgrounds to consider nominating themselves. No previous experience is necessary – just a commitment to work together and make a positive difference for our students. If you would like more information or are interested in joining, please look out for the flyer coming out on Monday.



## Community Night – Wednesday 11 February

We would love to see you at our Community Night from 5:00pm–6:30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with staff and other families while enjoying:

- A sausage sizzle
- Games and raffles
- Information stalls
- Meeting your child's 2026 teacher

Representatives from The Smith Family and Children's University will also be available to share information about their programs.

Our **Governing Council AGM** will follow at **6:30pm in the library**. Everyone is warmly encouraged to attend.

## Uniform and Hat Reminder

Uniforms will be available for purchase on Community Night.

Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform, including black pants or mid-thigh length shorts or skirts. Jewellery should be limited to cultural items and simple studs or sleepers for safety reasons.

Please ensure all uniform items are clearly named, particularly hats and jumpers.

Students are required to wear a named hat during **Terms 1 and 4**. Children without a hat will need to remain in shaded areas during break times.

## Looking Ahead – Term 1 Highlights

Some exciting learning experiences planned this term include:

- Reception–Year 6: Bugs and Slugs incursion (week 5)
- Sports Day: Friday 20 March (Week 8)
- Year 6: Two-night Camp at Glenhaven (Week 9)
- Years 4–5: Two-night Camp at Arbury Park (Week 11)

A Term Planner is available and is attached to this newsletter. Please keep an eye on our school website and Facebook page for regular updates.

## 2026 Pupil Free Days, School Closures & Public Holidays

### Term 1:

#### **27 January – 10 April 2026**

Pupil Free Day: **Monday 2 March** for the 3rd of the 4 days for Berry Street Education Model training.

**No OSHC available** as they will be undertaking this training as well.

Adelaide Cup: **Monday 9 March**. No School and no OSHC.

Easter Weekend: **Friday 3 – Monday 6 April**

### Term 2:

#### **27 April – 3 July 2026**

King's Birthday: Monday 8 June. No School and no OSHC.

Pupil Free Day: Tuesday 9 June. OSHC available

### Term 3:

#### **20 July – 25 September 2026**

Pupil Free Day: Monday 14 September for the final of the 4 days for Berry Street Education Model training. **No OSHC available** as they will be undertaking this training as well.

### Term 4:

#### **12 October – 11 December 2026**

School Closure: **Friday 27 November**. OSHC available

Pupil Free Day: **Monday 30 November**. OSHC available

We kindly ask families to ensure all permissions and information updates have been returned to the school, including current contact details and photo permissions for use in our newsletter and website. Thank you for helping us keep our records accurate and up to date.

Warm regards,  
Steph Tulloch  
Principal



## **Curious Connections – Building Strong Routines and Relationships**

Each newsletter this year will include a Curious Connections section focused on supporting families to build strong learning habits, wellbeing and relationships at home.

Strong routines and meaningful conversations make a powerful difference

Research shows that regular, positive family conversations help children to:

- Build confidence and strong relationships
- Develop emotional awareness and self-control
- Feel supported and connected
- Strengthen resilience and wellbeing

### **Conversation Starters to Try This Week**

Try simple, open-ended questions that invite sharing:

- What was the best part of your day today?
- What made you smile at school?
- Was anything tricky today? How did you handle it?
- What are you excited to learn or try this year?
- Who did you play or work with today?
- When did you feel proud of yourself this week?
- What makes someone a good friend?

### **A Simple Tip**

Choose relaxed moments – during afternoon snacks, car rides or bedtime – to connect. Short, regular conversations help children feel seen, safe and valued.

As the saying goes: For children, love is often spelt T-I-M-E.

## Welcome to our Teaching staff



**Steph Tulloch**  
Principal



**Sandra Howlett**  
Deputy Principal



**Christine Falco**  
Wellbeing & Inclusion Leader



**Ryan Tilling**  
Rm 12 Year 5/6



**Dani Welfare**  
Rm 6 Reception/1



**Lisa Connolly**  
Rm 18 Year 3/4



**Lucy Hynes**  
Rm 9



**Nikki Bridgman**  
Performing Arts



**Lisa Carthy**  
Science & Technology

## Welcome to our Teaching staff



**Brianna Woolhouse**  
Rm 6 Reception



**Rhi Verrall**  
Inclusion Teacher



**Natalie Castro**  
Rm 17 Year 1/2



**Trudi Cole**  
Rm 9 Year 4/5



**Daniel Mills**  
PE & Health



**Brianna Price**  
Rm 11 Year 5/6



**Laura Lacey**  
Rm 6 Reception/1



**Chantelle Dove**  
Rm 19 Year 1



**Cathy McHolm**  
Rm 18 Yr 3/4, AET

## Welcome to our Teaching staff



**Zac Schenkel**  
Rm 20 Year 2/3



**Sophie Panousakis**  
Reading Intervention

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

 **Aberfoyle Park High School** **IGNITE**  
Gifted Education Program

### ACER Higher Abilities Test



**Aberfoyle Park High School**  
**Saturday 21 February 2026**  
**8:30am - 12:30pm**

The ACER Higher Ability Test gathers evidence of innate potential and ability in the areas of:

reading comprehension | mathematical reasoning | abstract thinking | written expression

Cost: \$150 administration fee

Registrations close **Wednesday 18 February 2026**

Click or scan the QR code to register



# AUSKICK



**nab AFL** **AUSKICK**

**GOOD CLEAN FUN**

**PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK**

### Christies Beach FC Auskick Centre

Friday's from 5:00-6:00pm  
Bice Oval  
6<sup>th</sup> of Feb - 27<sup>th</sup> of March  
8 Sessions

Free with ORSR Sports Voucher or \$100 without!!



SCAN HERE  
Contact: Samantha Love  
auskick@cbfc saints.org



# Term 1 Planner – 2026

Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	26/1 Public Holiday Australia Day 2/2	27/1	28/1	29/1 Newsletter	30/1 Assembly – Hosted by Leadership
Week 2		3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2
Week 3	9/2	10/2	11/2 Community Night 5.00pm – 6.30pm AGM – 6.30pm Resource Centre	12/2	13/2 Assembly – Hosted by Rm 11 @ 2:20pm
Week 4	16/2 Governing Council 7pm	17/2	18/2	19/2 Newsletter	20/2
Week 5	23/2 Dentist	24/2 Dentist	25/2 Dentist	26/2 Dentist	27/2 Assembly – Hosted by 18 @ 2:20pm
Week 6	2/3 Pupil Free Day	3/3 Magical Memories New Receptions 2.30pm – 3.30pm Rm 5 & 6	4/3	5/3	6/3
Week 7	9/3 Adelaide Cup Holiday	10/3 NAPLAN	11/3	12/3 Newsletter	13/3 Assembly – Hosted by 17 @ 2:20pm
Week 8	16/3 Governing Council 7pm THINK U KNOW 9.30am – Yr 3/4 10.30am – Yr 5/6	17/3 NAPLAN	18/3	19/3	20/3 SPORTS DAY
Week 9	23/3 Harmony Day	24/3	25/3 Camp Yr 6 – Glen Haven	26/3	27/3 Assembly – Hosted by 20 @ 2:20pm
Week 10	30/3 Onkaparinga North Athletics Carnival	31/3 Learner Led Conversations	1/4 Early Dismissal 2:10pm due to Learner Led Conversation	2/4 Newsletter World Maths Day	3/4 Easter Friday
Week 11	6/4 Easter Monday	7/4 Camp 4/5 Arbury Park	8/4	9/4	10/4 Early Dismissal 2:10pm Assembly 1:30pm Leadership Crazy Hair/Hat Day