



Sheoak Grove Primary School

Newsletter

Week 1, Term 4

What a term we are having! Book Week, NAIDOC Week, two athletics carnivals, camp, the Colour Explosion, transition activities and much more have all taken place, and our term doesn't show any signs of slowing down soon.

Enrolments & 2021 Class Lists

We are experiencing a large increase in enrolments for students from within our Local Intake Area. The enrolment trend does not just include students into our Early Childhood classes, but right across our year levels. These enrolments are continuing late in the year and we expect new enrolments right up to the opening day of the new school year.

This makes planning for the start of the school year problematic. While we have three different versions of our class structure and the associated class lists that go with them, which one of those structures – or indeed a new version altogether – we start with depends solely on the number of enrolments that come into our school. That being the case, we'll be asking our community to be patient with news about which class students will be in for 2021.

New Staff Members

To go with our burgeoning enrolments, we'll have new staff join us in 2021. I am very happy to announce that we can welcome **Ms Samantha McPherson** and **Miss Kahlia Lewis** to Sheoak Grove next year.

Ms McPherson joins us from Rockingham Lakes Primary School and will join our Year 1-3 team. Miss Lewis will join us from South Halls Head Primary School and will come into our Year 4-6 team. Both of these teachers bring outstanding teacher qualities and will make wonderful contributions to our school

community. We welcome them both to Sheoak Grove! We will be able to announce further additions to our staff in the next newsletter.

Transition Days

This week we've had three transition days. Our Year 6 students went across to Baldivis Secondary College on Tuesday to get a firsthand look at high school life and start to prepare for the next part of their journey.

On Wednesday we hosted our 2021 Kindergarten students who got their first ever look at school. They met some of their new classmates and staff members and got to have a look around their rooms and new playground. There were happy faces everywhere! Our Pre-Primary students got to move across to Orange Block on the same morning to have a look at our year one classrooms. They moved through three groups and got to be introduced to the way the 'big school' works.

Today we invited the students who will be moving into our school in 2021 to join us in Years 1-6. Typically, these students are from families who have moved into our Local Intake Area (or are moving in over the holidays) and are finishing the school year at their current school before moving to Sheoak Grove next year. It has been great to welcome these families into our school community and we are really looking forward to having them all with us properly from February 2021.





Book Week

We had a fantastic Book Week. Our English Committee had lots of activities for our students to engage in to promote reading and a love of books. Well done to Mrs Gray and everyone who volunteered in our Book Fair that raised over \$2000 worth of books for our library. An awesome job!

Buddies, Books and Blankets kicked off our week with younger and older students reading together on a picnic blanket. It was a great way to start. We had two visiting authors during the week, with Kylie Howarth and Georgia Fullard reading and illustrating for our students and answering many questions.

The Bat v Poss Cover Design Competition was extremely popular amongst our students, as was the Guess the Teacher competition and that Character Hunt that took our students around our school using their reading and investigative skills.

Of course, one of the highlights of our week was our Book Week Parade. Our students and our staff (and some of our parents) took the opportunity to wear costumes from their favourite books and celebrate them in Tamworth Square. It was a fantastic event! Thank you to everyone who organised our events over the week. Great job!

NAIDOC Week

We celebrated NAIDOC Week with many different events and activities that acknowledged, celebrated and gave us an

opportunity to keep learning about Aboriginal culture.

To open our week, the Maditjil Moorna Choir visited and gave a wonderful performance that included our students singing their hearts out too. We had yarning sessions with Djurandi Dreaming's Justin Martin and a visit from Olman Walley from Boorloo Cultural Experiences too. Importantly, our students engaged in art workshops with Mrs Paine. Mrs Paine is a wonderful artist and our students had a lot of fun learning about the importance and significance of Aboriginal art. There was also a special Breakfast Club on Wednesday when Mrs Oliver organised some Yonga (kangaroo) sausages to try. There were a lot of surprises from our students about how tasty they were.

On Thursday the Sheoak Grove Choir closed our celebrations with a wonderful performance of a song that combined a song all of our students know, *Nidja Noongar Boodjar Koort* with *I Am, You Are, We Are Australian*. What a fantastic performance it was! We hope that they will be able to perform it again for our school community before the year is over.

It was a wonderful week of language, art, learning and fun. Thank you to all of our visitors, to everyone who helped out and of course to Mrs Paine who led the week.





Faction Athletics Carnival

We had quite a warm day for our first ever Faction Athletics Carnival. Our students had prepared for a long time for our carnival to come along, and they really made the most of it when it came around.

It was a fantastic day of fun, effort and competition. The sporting behaviour demonstrated by our students was outstanding, and there were many impressive individual and team performances across the day.

It was great to have so many parents there enjoying the day and supporting our students. Importantly, we had wonderful support from our parent community in helping us to set up very early in the morning, pack away in the afternoon, and donating icy poles for our students at lunchtime (special mention to the McEntees and Bells for that one!). We had some awesome dedication from our parents who took roles throughout the day at various events as judges, jump-pit rakers, distance measurers and other jobs. Your assistance is very much appreciated and valued. It is fantastic to have that level of support from our community. Thank you!

Mr Pilling organised a brilliant day that had everyone engaged in events as often as possible. Thank you for your hard work Mr Pilling. We also need to acknowledge and thank our staff for an enormous effort on the day and

in the lead up to the event. Thank you to all of our staff.

Of course, our students were fantastic throughout the day. We congratulate them for their enthusiasm and attitude across the entire day. Well done to **Green** and their Faction Captains **Millie** and **Mackenzie** (pictured above) for winning the carnival, and to the other factions for their teamwork and effort. Congratulations to all of our individual champions and runners on the day too!

Interschool Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all of our students who represented Sheoak Grove in our first ever interschool athletics carnival. We were vastly outnumbered by every other school there, but our students competed wholeheartedly and enthusiastically all day. They supported each other and demonstrated sporting behaviour at every opportunity. So much so that we were able to bring the Handicap Shield back to school to be displayed in our office. Congratulations to **Oliver Cargill** who was named Runner-Up Champion Boy for Year 4. What a great effort!

Thank you to Mr Pilling for preparing our team and all of our staff members who took a role on the day. Thank you to all of our parents and school community members who came along to support our students too. Well done everyone!

Colour Explosion

Wow! What an afternoon the Colour Explosion was. Our students had such a wonderful time slipping, sliding and getting very wet and colorful on their way around the course. The excitement and happiness was plainly obvious! We want to thank our fantastic P&C for organizing the event and putting so much work into it – not to mention their colour throwing and garden hose skills!

On top of all the fun was the fundraising element, and we are so very grateful for all of the support that our school community gave our P&C through the sponsorship of our students.

Our P&C was able to raise very close to \$10 000 through their efforts for this event! That is phenomenal for a school of our size, particularly in our first year. A huge and sincere thank you to our **Sheoak Grove P&C!**



Year 6 Camp

Our Year 6 students had an awesome time recently at the very first Sheoak Grove camp at Point Peron. They engaged in a heap of really challenging activities that include climbing a rock wall, prusiking, kayaking and stand up paddle boarding – just to name a few! They were also able to develop their leadership and teamwork skills and had a great time while doing it. When they

returned to school they had a day working through an orientation course and another working on a fantastic piece of art that will adorn our school for years to come.

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 students, and thank you to Mrs Donaldson for all of her organization and being there the whole time, to Mr Pilling, Mr Edge and Ms Guest from Baldivis SC for being there for large parts of the time, and to Mrs Paine for working with the students on the magnificent art piece they created.



We still have many events to go in our last three weeks, including assemblies, Year 6 Graduation, our Book Award Assembly and our P&C Christmas Raffle just to name a few. We hope to see you around our school for those, but if you can make it, please check our Facebook page as we will go live for all of those.

Craig Stanners
Principal