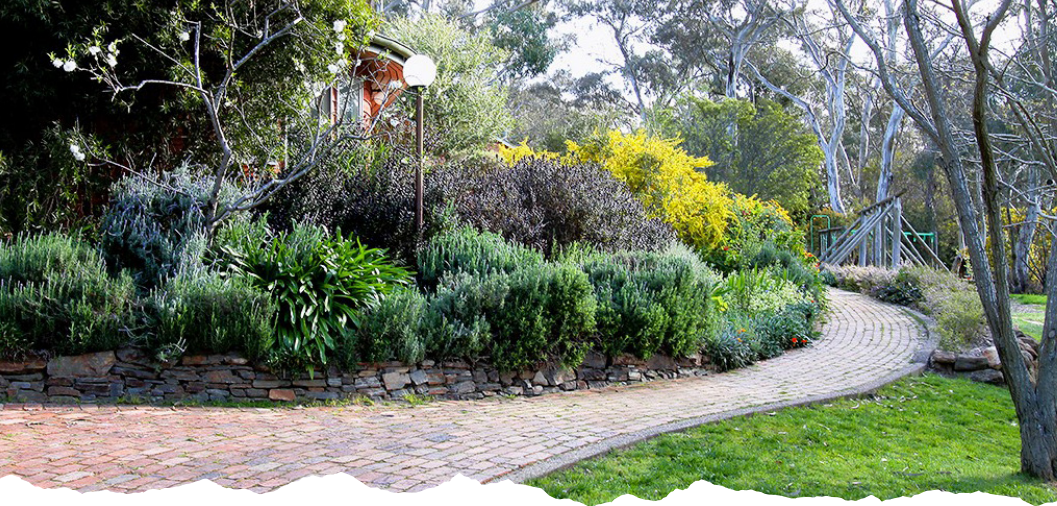




MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

Term 3
Week 3 – 2025
Newsletter

From the Principal

Dear Mount Barker Waldorf School Community,

In Waldorf education, we often speak of resilience, of the child's will, their growing confidence in the world, and the inner strength that arises through experience. One area where this comes alive, particularly in the early years, is through risky play.

I recently came across an article in the Waldorf Today newsletter that beautifully captures how another culture approaches this. It's called [A Norwegian Approach to Supporting Children's Risky Play](#), and it highlights how Norwegian Steiner Kindergartens encourage children to test their limits, explore freely, and learn from the natural consequences of their play.

What stands out most is not just what the children are doing - climbing high into trees, building fires under supervision, exploring forested areas - but how the adults around them respond. There is trust. There is calm. There is a deep belief that children are capable of navigating challenge, and that by doing so, they grow in wisdom, resilience, and confidence.

At our school, we already embrace many of these principles. Our Bush Kindy setting, our reverence for nature, and our commitment to learning through doing all make space for meaningful, active play. And yet, the Norwegian example offers us fresh questions to carry:

- How do we as adults respond to children taking physical or social risks in their play?
- Are we allowing enough space for children to test their own boundaries in a safe and supported way?
- What practices might we reflect on, at school and at home, that either encourage or inhibit healthy risk-taking?

In a world that often leans toward caution, it's worth remembering that growth requires just the right amount of stretch - physically, emotionally, and socially. A scraped knee, getting 'out' in four-square, or a toppled cubby can be the gateway to learning something vital about balance, courage, or collaboration.

Continued next page...

Key dates this week

Tuesday 5 August

Classes 9 & 10 Boys/ Girls Futsal

(Select student teams)

ARC Campbelltown
8am-3.30pm

Class 4 Play

Eurythmy Room
3.30pm-4.30pm

Class 2 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Classroom
6.30pm-7.30pm

Class 3 Parent Teacher Meeting

Classroom
7pm-8pm

Thursday 7 August

Class 8 Japanese Students Excursion

Hotaru Japanese Restaurant
10.30am-3pm

Class 4 Parent Teacher Meeting

Classroom
3.30pm-4.30pm

Friday 8 August

Class 4 Play

Eurythmy Room
2pm-3pm

OSHC ~Afternoons Only

Monday-Friday PM

School finish-6.00pm
(\$30 flat rate)

To book, please email
oshc@mbws.sa.edu.au

I encourage you to read the article and see what it sparks in you. These are the kinds of conversations that help shape a strong and values-aligned community.

Have a wonderfully windy and wet winter week.

Warmly,

Liam Waterford, Principal

Upcoming important dates

Monday 11 August

Classes 11 & 12 Boys/ Girls Volleyball

(Select student teams)

Victor Harbor High School

8am-3.45pm

Class 6 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Classroom

5.30pm,-6.30pm

Tuesday 12 August

High School Parent/Guardian Teacher Interviews

LAC Foyer

12noon-6pm

Class 8 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Shared dinner & Meeting

5pm-7pm

Class 5 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Classroom

7pm-8.30pm

Wednesday 13 August

School Tours

9am and 4pm sessions

National Science Week Brain Break Incursion

Morning Tea

1.15pm-1.45pm

Thursday 14 August

Class 1 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Classroom

6pm-7pm

Friday 15 August

Class 5 Strings Workshop with Willunga Waldorf School

Class 5 Students Incursion

Music Room

9.30am-3pm

Class 11 Parliamentary Education Office Incursion

IRC

9.30am-10.30am



If you have any feedback for the MBWS Board, please contact them via email at: secretary@mbws.sa.edu.au



Eurythmy
for adults

**SESSIONS
ON
HOLD**



Friends of the
Plant Nursery

Tuesdays:
9.15 – 10.45am

Meet at School
Plant Nursery



Beehive

Tuesdays
9am - 11am
Cafe and Shop

**PARENT CRAFT
ON
HOLD**



Yoga Thursdays

A slow pace yoga class
suited for everyone.

Teachers: 8–8.30am
Students: 8.30–8.55am
Parents: 9.15–10am

Learning & Sharing Pictures of Learning

Developing Maths in the Primary School

Over the past year, we have been carefully exploring ways to enhance our mathematics teaching in the Primary years, with the goal of strengthening students' confidence and deepening their understanding of mathematical concepts.

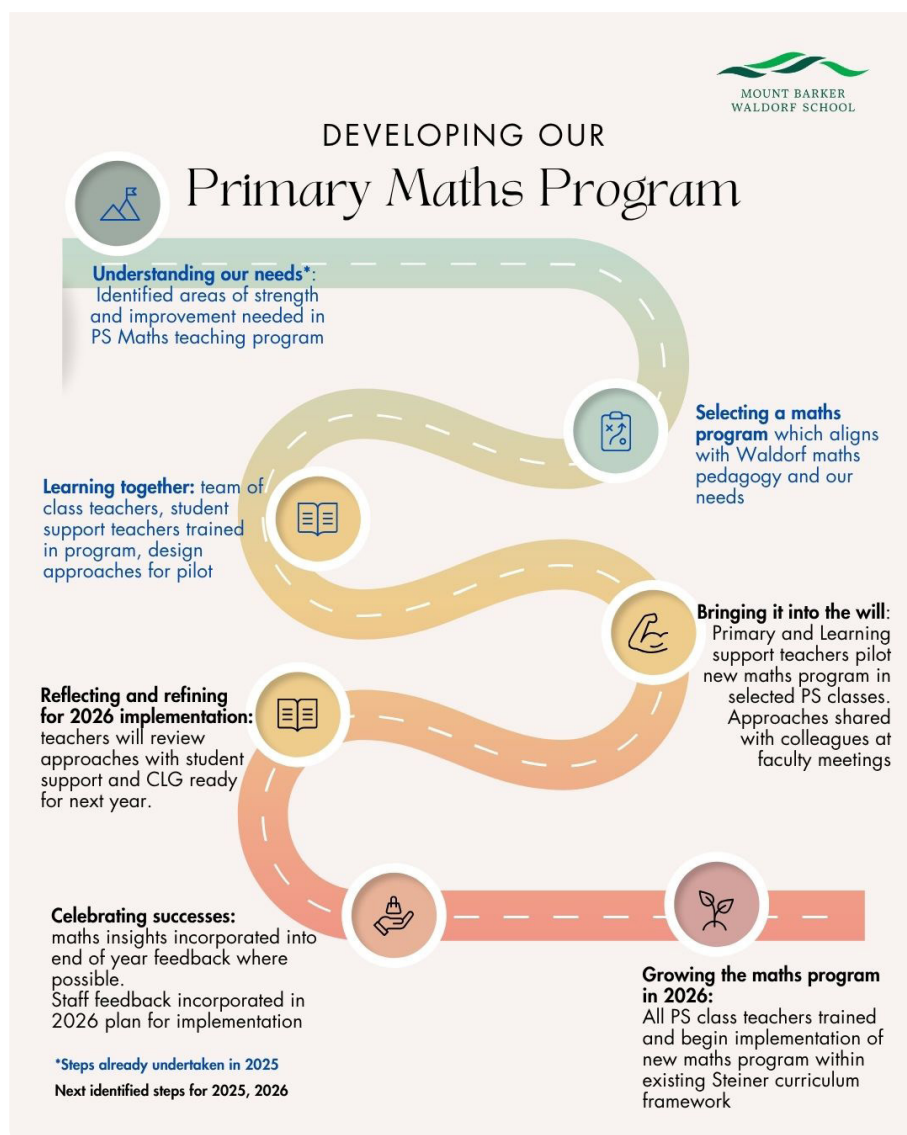
It has been especially important to us to find an approach that not only supports strong maths learning outcomes but also aligns with our Waldorf pedagogy and curriculum. We are pleased to let you know that we have now selected a program: **Back-to-Front Maths**.

This program will be piloted across several Primary classes for the remainder of this year. The pilot stage will allow us to experience the approach in practice, reflect on how it fits within our developmental model, and shape how it might be implemented across all Primary classes from next year.

We are excited to move from a phase of researching and exploring into active practice, with a team of class teachers and student support teachers working together. We are especially pleased that this program complements our existing Waldorf approach. It does not rely on technology or external aids and supports a deep, process-oriented learning experience.

As the pilot progresses, class teachers will share more with you about how the program is being introduced in your child's class. Please also see our maths timeline below, which outlines the key stages in our process. We will continue to keep you informed and will provide a further update later this year, including our plans for 2026.

Warm Regards,
Eleanor Waterford, Assistant Principal



Around Our School

Premiere's Reading Challenge

**FINISHES
FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER**

We are entering the final month of Premier's reading challenge. It is great to see students returning forms and finishing their last 2 or 3 books. Children are welcome to come ask any last minute questions at recess and lunch or in their Library lesson.

There are some very pleased participants who are proud to be doing the challenge and recording what they are reading.

Happy Reading to all of you!

Ann, in the Library

High School Counsellor available Thursdays and Fridays

High School Students: Need to chat?

Why not book a time with your High School Counsellor Linda, for a Thursday or Friday.

All sessions are confidential and are about 30 minutes, in the Art Gallery building at MBWS. It's a space to chat about anything, whether small or big. Examples of what students might chat about include anxiety, stress, mood, sleep, friendships, world events, gender and identity, family or school work.

You can book:

- via the front office, a teacher or parent/guardian, or
- email Linda direct at hscounsellor@mbws.sa.edu.au.



11 Weeks until Spring Fair - 25 October 2025

Our school's long awaited annual Spring Fair is just 11 weeks away!

The Spring Fair is a major fundraising activity organised by the parents of the school as a way of giving something back to the community. Each year the Class Four parents form an organising committee and allocate various activities to each Class, from Kindergarten to Class 12.

As Spring draws near, there is always an air of anticipation as preparation for the fair gathers momentum in the school community. The result is always a spectacular array of fabulous food, exhibits, activities, dancing, live music, craft and stalls amidst the wonderful ambience of the school grounds. Funds raised at the Spring Fair are invested back into the school.

Stallholders are encouraged to submit their applications, with supporting documentation and fees, as soon as possible.

The Spring Fair Committee's email address is waldorfspringfair@gmail.com.

From the Canteen

HOT FOOD

Spinach & feta triangle (V)	\$ 5.00
Vegetable roll (V)	\$ 5.00
Sausage roll	\$ 4.50
Pasty (contains meat)	\$ 5.00
Meat pie	\$ 5.00
Garlic Bread (Monday only)	\$ 3.00
Toasted sandwich	\$ 4.50
on Brezel bread	

Cheese & tomato (V) or

Ham & cheese

SNACKS

Simply DK Potato Chips (90g bag – Classic or Purple)	\$4.00
Fresh Brezel pretzels	\$ 2.50
Anzac cookies (Vegan)	\$ 0.50
Choc chip biscuits	\$ 0.50
Choc chip biscuits (GF)	\$ 0.50
Daily baked treat	\$ 3.50
Bliss ball (Vegan)	\$ 1.00

DRINKS

Spring water 600ml	\$ 2.50
Besa juice 300ml	\$ 3.50

(V) – Vegetarian

(GF) – Gluten Free

**For all special dietary needs, please speak to the Canteen staff – we can accommodate all requests!*

LUNCH SPECIALS

\$7.50

Monday

Lentil & Vegetable Soup

With garlic bread and spiced yoghurt.

Tuesday

Baked Potato

With bean sauce and coleslaw, sour cream and cheese. Vegetarian and gluten free.

Wednesday

Chicken or Vegetarian Yiros

Vegetarian option with beans and halloumi.

Thursday

Veggie Curry

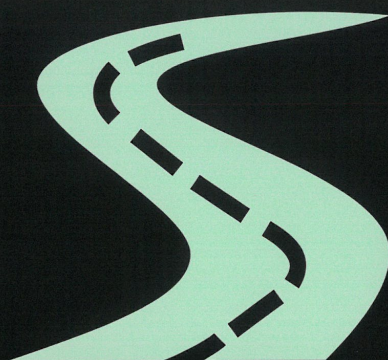
With raita and papadum.

Friday

Beef or Veggie burger

With Tuckshop special sauce, tomato, cheese and lettuce.





HILL START

DRIVER EDUCATION

- Results-proven female instructor
- Calm, patient, understanding
- Experienced with special needs
- Certified & highly trained
- Adelaide Hills based

Layna Heinrich
Independent Driving Instructor

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