



MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

Term 2
Week 7,8 & 9 – 2026

From the Principal

Dear Mount Barker Waldorf School Community,

Winter arrived with vengeance this week, but I was reminded that Bush Kindy students are taught that 'there is no bad weather, just wrong clothing choices', in my case beanies are popular. In my first week here I was invited down to have lunch with the class, and we sat down to a warm hearty vegetable soup. I loved how the children told me how they helped prepare it, and how they could hold great conversations at their age.

I have had multiple parents and teachers say to me that they were drawn to Steiner Education because of how they had conversations with our students, and they would look them in the eye and talk respectfully and earnestly. This trait cannot be overlooked in a world that can tend to do things that are good for them as an individual, as opposed to how they can contribute to the greater good of the community.

The Class 12 students gave an overview of their Research Projects last week and once again demonstrated the attributes that universities and employers value in Steiner students. Critical thinking, initiative and resilience result in our graduates having a higher first year completion rate of first year studies, according to feedback from universities. Our focus on developing the whole child, results in adults that can contribute to the world around them in a meaningful yet fulfilling way.

All the adults in their lives can help their development by modelling behaviours that demonstrate kindness and consideration to those around us, and self-regulation when times are tough. As a community we can continue to show the world that while we may have our differences of opinion, we can still be respectful and be friends.

Warmly,
Roger Moreton
Principal

Key dates this week

Wednesday 10 June

MBWS at Moonlight

Art Gallery/LAC 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Key dates week 8

Friday 19 June

Banksia Rose & Melaleuca

Winter Festival

9am - 12:30pm

Winter Festival

Primary School - 4:45pm - 6:30pm

High School - Full Student Day

Saturday 20 June

Banksia Rose & Melaleuca

Lantern Walk

5pm-6:30pm

Key dates week 9

Monday 22 June

Class 8 Japanese Excursion to Hotaru

Japanese Restaurant

10:30am - 3:15pm

Thursday 25 June

Class 5 Play - For Parents

LAC 4pm-5pm

TERM 2, 2026

Tuesday 28 April

to

Friday 26 June

Banksia Rose

Winter Arrives...

Winter at last, with the cold and frosty mornings and the sensation of moist air, we know that we are entering a new season. Winter is a peaceful, inward time, where we seek the comfort of our families and a warm hearth. We can awaken our children to this time of drawing in with cosy candlelit meals, steaming bowls of hearty soup and homemade bread and bedtime stories snuggled up under doonas together. In the kindergarten we are putting to good use all the bundles of kindling we made during the summer months as we light the fire most mornings to ensure a warm room greets the children on arrival. Our warming lunches are heartily eaten by the children, and I am often scraping the pot and the serving spoon as the last offering for the meal.

This week the children will begin preparations for the winter festival, busily painting the paper that will become their lanterns and making twisty-ties (with Stephanie) for the handles. We will be enjoying some winter and lantern songs that we shall share with our families at both the festival and lantern walk. Please collect your child's winter festival and lantern walk information - if you have any questions, please ask. All children are invited to attend even if it is not their kindergarten day. We need parent helpers on Thursday afternoon, June 18, 1.30-3.15pm to prepare the kindergarten room for the festival day. I shall place on the noticeboard a request to help for you to place your name if you are able along with nominating your contribution for our shared meal on the evening of the lantern walk.

Our term two birthdays are nearing an end with the recent celebration of Penelope's 6th birthday and Ardent turning 5 this week. Child discussions for the older children are now available, please see timetable on the noticeboard and nominate a time/day that suits. Our warmest wishes as we journey together towards the winter solstice.....

Leesa, Stephanie, Noriko & Lilli
Kindergarten

Early
Years



Autumn fades and winter comes,

Frosty mornings, tingling thumbs.

Cold red noses, cold red cheeks,

Warm woolly socks for icy cold feet.

Coats and gloves and hats for all,

Now King Winter you may call.

Class 4

Woodhouse Adventure Park

In the last week of Autumn, Class 4 headed off for our adventurous 3 day camp based at Woodhouse in the Adelaide Hills. This camp encompassed a couple of our main topics this year exploring the Human Being and Animal Kingdoms, and also our connection with our local environment.

We enjoyed lots of physical activities such as Challenge Hill, with many making the tricky creek crossing at the end under the warm encouragement of each other. Frisbee golf, the Labyrinth and the climbing wall were all popular too.



On Thursday we took the bus to Cleland Wildlife Park where we learned more about the specialist features and behaviours of animals that support their survival. We freely explored around the park and encountered Dingoes, Potaroos, Yellow Footed Rock Wallabies, Tasmanian Devils, a Tawny Fogmouth and a whole host of birds and other animals.



After lunch we hiked up to Mount Lofty Summit, where we could just see views through the fog out into beautiful Karna Country, the city of Adelaide. We could make out the Adelaide Airport and just see the line where the ocean meets the land. We then walked around the back of the restaurant to the opposite view out to Mount Barker summit.

Many of the class chose to keep going on foot back to camp, following the red arrows of the Heysen Trail down the steep hill of Eurilla Conservation Park and across Piccadilly Road back into Woodhouse where we rested our tired feet, ate dinner, played games and sat by the campfire.



Our feet were recovered by the next day and after we packed damp tents away, we set off again for a short, scenic walk continuing along the Heysen Trail into Mount George.

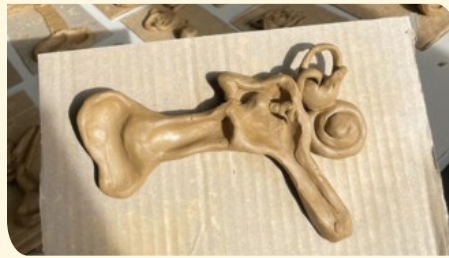
There were many magic moments during this camp- as expected in the big, planned activities, but also in between as the students had the chance to connect with each other over meals, playing games, sleeping in tents and sharing their space over the three days. Class 4 students showed courage, strength, kindness, and many new connections have formed. Many thanks to our parent community for providing nourishing snacks and particularly Linda, Callie and Kyra for joining us to support this enriching experience.



Janna Corso
Class 4 Teacher

Class 8

Biophysics - Exploring the ear



We've had a really rich week in our Biophysics Main Lesson exploring the intricacies of the ear and how humans experience sound. Students investigated sound waves, vibration, frequency, hearing range, bone conduction, and the incredible pathway sound takes through the outer, middle, and inner ear before being interpreted by the brain.

On Friday, students brought everything together by constructing the ear out of clay- including the tiny ossicles (the smallest bones in the human body!), which proved to be quite the challenge. It was wonderful watching students carefully piece together how each structure connects and works together to transmit vibration and sound. Ask your child if they can explain the pathway of sound to you!

Next stop... the eyeball!

Tessa Franson
High School Teacher

Excursion to Adelaide Holocaust Museum and Andrew Steiner Education Centre

Class 10 visited the Holocaust Museum. A highlight of this day was having Andrew Steiner speak to the students over zoom and answer their questions as a survivor. He is 93 so this will be a rarer occurrence as the months and years go on. He was impressed by the students questions and told them to share his story with family as they are now custodians of this and keeping it alive. One of the biggest takeaways was not to be a bystander when things are not to our liking in the world.

Andrew shared that the hardest thing about being a survivor is that no one stood up for the atrocities when they were happening apart from the very few. One man who did do this was William Cooper, an aboriginal man and political activist at that time.

Ms Josie Klovekorn
High School Teacher



Class 10

He (Andrew Stiner) was impressed by the students questions and told them to share his story with family as they are now custodians of this and keeping it alive.

Class 12 Project

'The Antidote': An artistic exploration into Smartphone Addiction



My name is Ruby; I'm a year 12 student and I've been at Mount Barker Waldorf School since year six. My favorite subject is creative writing, I like putting myself into another character's mind and writing their inner thoughts, which is also why I enjoy acting. Another reason I like creative writing is that it's a great way to bring awareness to issues. I originally wanted to write a book for my year 12 project, but along the way it has taken a different direction, with the same themes and emphasis on awareness and creativity.

I was addicted to my smartphone. I've had a phone since I was about 13. I said I wanted one so that I could fit in.
"But everyone else has one mum!"

Was something I'm sure a lot of mothers were sick of hearing. I was asking for one long before I was 13, I am now so grateful that my parents said no, until I was in year seven, and it came with restrictions, such as zero social media. In the past few years, I've started to feel like my smartphone was becoming too big, I was on it too much and I turned to it too often, in situations when it was the last thing I needed. I wanted to do something about it.

So, for my year Twelve project, I am looking into smartphone addiction in adolescents and what the opposite, or the antidote, could look and feel like, because I felt like I was addicted, and I know that many others experience this too, I want to help people.

I believe that smartphone addiction, especially in adolescents, is a major issue and I want to do something about it. I would like to bring awareness to this issue and promote 'the antidote'. I aim to create an immersive art experience that brings attention to how smartphones often make us feel and how damaging they can be to our nervous systems and lives. The moto of my project is that smartphones aren't inherently bad and it's the way that we use them, and the relationship that many of us have with our phones that makes them unhealthy. They are a useful tool, and we need to start treating them like one, instead of letting them control us.

As part of my personal research I am undergoing a four-month smartphone detox. I am almost two months into using a little Nokia phone that only has calling, texting, a very bad camera, and a few other things I hardly use like calendar and calculator. It took me a long time to decide what I wanted to do for my year 12 project. It's been so idolized in my head, and I think I made it out to be such a big thing that none of my ideas seemed good enough. At the start of our project planning, the topic of smartphone addiction was there but I wanted to do something more fun! Along the way I've realized that doing something that's fun is important but doing something that matters is more important.

I look around and I see hundreds of heads bowed, faces staring into their screens, wasting their lives away, and I was one of them. Now that I don't have a smartphone I notice so much more how unfortunately intrinsic these minicomputers have become to our lives.

One thing that I have discovered from my detox, so far, is that I do not need my smartphone at all. I thought it would change my life, and it has in small ways, but I've realized that the reason nothing radical has happened (yet) is because I still have access to the original things phones were made for. What I don't have access to is the newer addictive, massive company driven things like social media. I can confidently say that I am no longer addicted and I often go for hours without even touching my phone, sometimes even accidentally leaving it behind. It no longer feels like an extra arm that I was always holding for comforting 'fear of missing out' cushioning.

If you have any questions or, comments please don't hesitate to reach out to my school and they will forward it to me: office@mbws.sa.edu.au

I hope to involve the community more in my project in the next term and I would be incredibly grateful to hear any suggestions, feedback and opinions from you!

Thank you for your time!

Ruby Aylen
Class 12



MBWS by Moonlight

Dear High School Parents,

We look forward to our Moonlight Events soon. **Please ensure you have put this date aside, all High School students are expected to join us** and are planning what they will share such as Camp Celebrations, Project updates and other learning.

See you soon!

Eleanor Waterford
Assistant Principal

Cathy Burnard
Middle School Chair

Nic Massacci
Senior School Chair

Winter Festival



PRIMARY SCHOOL FESTIVAL DETAILS

12:30pm

Primary school dismissal time.

4:15pm

Shared soup in Classrooms
Parents to supervise for eating time only.

5:00pm

Primary School families gather in LAC for festival.

Parents move to Oval tiers for shared festival.

5:30pm

Whole School Festival on Oval.

Festival Concludes

Please collect your Primary child from their classroom.



HIGH SCHOOL FESTIVAL DETAILS

Full Student Day

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Student Winter Activity in classrooms.

4:30pm-5:00pm

Students shared meal.

5:10pm-5:30pm

High school parents join us on Oval.
Please sit on tiers.

High School star walk.

5:30pm

Whole School Festival on Oval.

Please keep the bottom tier free for Primary School classes and respect the mood of quiet and reverence by keeping your family group together at all times.

Out of School Hours Care



Winter Vacation Care - Bookings Now OPEN!

Join us for two weeks of Winter Vacation Care at Mount Barker Waldorf School OSHC.

Dates: 29th June - 2 July

6 July - 9 July

Days: Monday to Thursday

Hours: 8am to 5pm

Fee per day: \$80 before Child Care Subsidy is applied.

Our Winter Vacation Care program will offer children a warm and welcoming holiday experience with a variety of crafts, games, seasonal activities, baking, outdoor play, and opportunities for creative exploration.

Places are limited, so we encourage families to book early to secure a place.

For bookings or enquiries, please contact OSHC:

Phone: 0491 242 423

Email: oshc@mbws.sa.edu.au

Or book directly via Xplor

We look forward to sharing a wonderful winter holiday program with your children.

The Oshc Team

Maria Island - Tasmania

During the first week of this term, I was in Tasmania on the Maria Island Marine Biology Course with the University of Tasmania (UTAS). This course is open to year 11 and 12 students across Australia who are interested in Marine Biology, and it runs around April each year. Due to the sheer number of applicants from around Australia and only 24 places it is quite competitive and hard to get into, but worth applying for as it is such an amazing experience. During the school holidays before the week in Tasmania, we were given some reading to do, and the task of learning the names of the top twenty fish on Maria Island, so that we could easily identify them whilst on the island.

On the Monday at the start of Term 2 I flew to Tasmania and spent the week on Maria Island with 24 other year 11 and 12 students and lecturers from UTAS collecting data for four projects: Zooplankton, Infauna, Fish, and Intertidal. Each year the student's sample and collect data from these four habitats. This program has been running since 2015 which has created a thorough long term data set. We then used the data collected from this year and past years to do a presentation at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Science (IMAS) about what changes were present in these communities due to climate change. All in all, I highly recommend the course, it was an incredible experience and I got to meet so many like-minded people, all while doing a whole bunch of snorkeling, learning and field work.

Charlotte Burrows

Class 11

Around our School



Japanese Trip 2027 - Start Thinnking Ahead!

We are beginning early preparation for a possible High School Japan Trip in 2027! The official Expression of Interest form has not been released yet, but families may like to start thinking ahead.

Around
our
School

The trip is expected to be similar to the 2025 Japan Trip, with opportunities for cultural exchange, homestay, language learning, and visits to places such as Kyoto, Hiroshima and Tokyo. This year's Year 7-10 students are eligible for this trip.

Start thinking about:

- Are you interested in visiting Japan?
- Would you enjoy cultural exchange and homestay?
- Are you willing to use and develop their Japanese language skills?
- Are you ready to travel as part of a school group?
- Can your family begin planning financially for this opportunity?

Families can view the [2025 Japan Trip Information Booklet](#) here for reference.

Please note that dates, costs, itinerary and eligibility may change.

More information will be shared at a later stage.

Eri Brown

Japanese Teacher

erbrown@mbws.sa.edu.a



Host families required for Japanese students and teachers

We are excited to welcome students and teachers from our Waldorf sister school, Kyotanabe Steiner School in Japan, from Sunday 9 August to Sunday 16 August. **We are seeking 12 host families for this volunteer homestay opportunity.** Host families provide meals and a place to sleep. Students may have their own room or share a room with a host sibling.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students who participated in the Japan Trip, or who may wish to join a future Japan Trip. We benefited from the generous hospitality of families in Japan last year, and hosting is one way we can continue these meaningful reciprocal programs.

All household members aged 18+ will need a Working With Children Check, which the school can assist with. Eri Brown will be the main point of contact and will support host families throughout the visit.

Please contact Eri Brown by Friday 19 June (week 8)

erbrown@mbws.sa.edu.au

Canteen

Looking for a warm and nutritious lunch option?

Our canteen provides nutritious hearty food to the whole school community. A lot of the food is homemade using quality products, and we have a rotating special of the day to look forward to.



CANTEEN MENU TERM 2 2026

LUNCH SPECIALS - \$8.50

Monday

Pumpkin Soup

With Garlic Bread.

Tuesday

Bean Burrito

Lebanese wrap, lettuce, tomato salsa, sour cream and cheese.

Wednesday

Baked Potato

With cabbage slaw and bean mix. Topped with cheese, sour cream and bacon. Vego option available.

Thursday

Rogan Josh Veggie Curry

With raita and poppadom.

Friday

Beef or Veggie Burger

With Tuckshop special sauce, tomato, cheese and lettuce.

HOT FOOD

Spinach & Feta triangle (V)	\$5.50
Vegetable Roll (V)	\$5.50
Sausage Roll	\$5.00
Pasty (contains meat)	\$5.50
Meat Pie	\$5.50
Garlic Bread (Monday only)	\$3.00
Toastie on Brezel bread	\$5.00
• Options of ham, cheese & tomato	

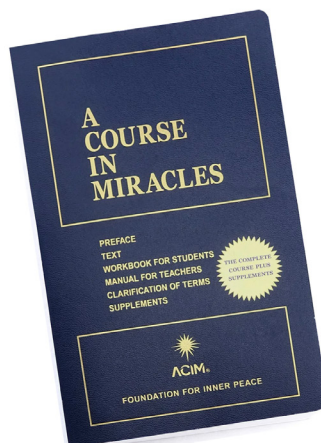
SNACKS

Simply DK Potato Chips	\$4.00
Fresh Brezel pretzel	\$2.50
Anzac Cookie (vegan)	\$1.00
Choc Chip Cookie	\$1.00
Choc Chip Cookie (GF)	\$1.00
Daily Baked Treat	\$4.00
Bliss Ball (Vegan)	\$1.50

DRINKS

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

Community News & Events



Study group starting June – All welcome

A Course in Miracles (ACIM) is a unique spiritual and highly practical self-study program designed to awaken us to the truth of our oneness and remove the blocks to the experience of enduring love, peace and joy.

There are many benefits to studying this text with others in a supportive, committed and confidential space.

We will meet fortnightly from Wednesday 17 June:

Time: 12 – 2.30pm

Cost: \$15 per session paid in advance quarterly

Location: Mount Barker

Two spots left in afternoon session.

Seeking expressions of interest in an afterhours timeslot.

Contact Sabina on 0402 154 104 for more information or if you sense a deeply felt 'Yes!' and are ready to respond.



Woodhouse
Adventure Park

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

UNPLUGGED



Winter School Holidays at Woodhouse Adventure Park UNPLUGGED Bookings Now Open!

Whether the kids are attending our 'Drop & Go' School Holidays UNPLUGGED program, you're visiting for the day, or staying overnight, you can expect memorable screen-free fun at Woodhouse in Piccadilly.

School Holidays UNPLUGGED features themed adventures designed to keep primary school-aged kids active, entertained and outdoors. Every day includes a choice between Challenge Hill and Tube Slides (weather permitting), with Outdoor Laser Skirmish on selected days in SA's only dedicated outdoor arena.

Just \$80 per day (Scout Members save 20%) from 9am to 5pm

www.woodhouse.org.au



WHAT IF ONE WEEK COULD CHANGE HOW YOU SEE YOUR FUTURE?

EXPLORE WHAT'S POSSIBLE

At the NYSF Year 12 Program, **students from across Australia** come together to explore what's possible - in science, technology, engineering and maths... and in themselves.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Nine-day residential** program - stay on campus at university colleges in **Canberra** or **Brisbane**
- Participate in **tours** of science and technology facilities
- Learn about cutting-edge **research**
- **Engage** with industry partners and research providers
- Learn about **university, training** and **STEM** career pathways
- Mix with other **like-minded students** from all over Australia
- Participate in **social** and **team-building** activities



APPLY TERM 2 IN YEAR 11

Applications for the program are for current Year 11 students, and will take you to one of two sessions hosted at our partner universities. For more information including fees and timings, visit:

[NYSF.EDU.AU/PROGRAMS/YEAR-12-STEM-PROGRAM](https://nysf.edu.au/programs/year-12-stem-program)

Support with program applications, including for fees, is available through our Founding Partner Rotary. Contact your local Rotary Club to explore funding opportunities.

[MY.ROTARY.ORG/EN/DOMUI/CLUB-SEARCH](https://my.rotary.org/en/domui/club-search)



Founding
Partner

For more
information
and to apply,
visit our
nysf.edu.au



Hi folks,

"Dads Connecting about Parenting"

We have our rescheduled Dads Gathering this coming Saturday 13th June.

We will be talking about all and any topic that comes up but will start with:

The family soup: how do we build the family culture we are hoping for?

Where: 99 Ridge Road Ashton

When: 1.30 - 3.30 Saturday 13th June

Who: Dads, Grandads, Uncles, Brothers....

RSVP: please text or reply to join us

Come join us to talk about the joys and challenges of being a Dad...

We have been gathering in 2025 and this will be our second gathering for 2026. We look forward to connecting again.

This year we will gather at the Playgroup location on Stringy bark country in Ashton. There will be some hand work to do and take home and we have the beautiful inside space by the fire.

Who: All Dads, StepDads, Grandfathers, Uncles, nearly a Dads... etc!

When: Saturday 13th June 1.30 - 3.30 pm

Where: Ridge Road Ashton

What: tea, coffee, snacks, connection, discussion, community and more...

Please: RSVP via email, text or DM

Payment: \$40 each or \$60 for you and a friend

BSB: 805007

ACC: 00710699

Bank: Credit Union SA

Name: McMurray

Note: (your name) plus (Dad)

For more information or to join our Dads email or WhatsApp groups please reach out.

Kate

0403 890 234

Community News & Events

