



MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

Term 2
Week 9 - 2026
Term 3
Week 1 - 2026
Newsletter

From the Principal

Dear Mount Barker Waldorf School Community,

As we enjoy the activities at the end of term, there is one thing I am mindful of with everything that we do- Safety. To keep our children safe, it is a community effort, and I would like to highlight a few areas where everyone needs to help.

Road Safety

The teachers on duty have reported that there are a lot of cars travelling too fast both in the car park and on the road around the perimeter. The onus is on all of us to slow down and be very vigilant towards children. We want all parents and caregivers to be able to come on the property to pick up their children, but this requires a level of responsibility from all drivers. We would prefer not to have to restrict access for some drivers, and I am sure this quick reminder will prompt everyone to slow down.

Adults signing in during the day

While we love our open grounds, it does come with some precautionary procedures. As we can't know who every visitor is, we need to know that all adults on the grounds are signed in and accounted for. It is always necessary to sign in when you come on the grounds and wear the visitor's name tag, outside normal drop off and pickup times. Staff are instructed to check for the visitor's name tag which indicates that you have signed in. Thanks for your help in keeping our children safe.

Correct toilets to use

To finish my focus on safety, I would like to remind all parents and visitors that the only toilets that are available for you to use are by the reception desk in the administration building. There must be strict protocols around the use of student toilets for obvious reasons.

Parents collecting their children early

As we are on large grounds, it can take some time for front office staff to organise students who need to leave early. Where possible can you ring reception beforehand, so your child can be ready to go when you arrive.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for all their contributions to the school over the last term. Without everyone's effort, the school would not be what it is. Our staff go above and beyond to educate your children and make all our events memorable. I have loved my interactions with our amazing community and would like to remind you that the closeness of our community is not common, but it is something that I hold dear. Finally, I would love to thank our incredible students for their enthusiasm, friendliness and their willingness to learn. If I am feeling a bit stressed, I go out and interact with our students and I always feel better.

Have a restful break.

Warmly,
Roger Moreton
Principal

27 Sims Road (PO BOX 318)
Mount Barker SA 5251

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office@mbws.sa.edu.au

mbws.sa.edu.au
Cover Image: Class 6 Candle Dance

Key dates this week

Thursday 25 June

**Class 9 & 10 Japanese Tanabata
(Star Festival) with Kindy**
11:15am - 12:30pm

Thursday 25 June

**Class 8 Japanese Excursion to Hotaru
Japanese Restaurant**
10:30am - 3:15pm

Thursday 25 June

Class 5 Play - For Parents
LAC 4pm-5pm

Last Day of Term 2

**Friday 26 June
3:20pm Dismissal**



School Holiday Front Office Hours

29 June - 3 July (9am-3pm)
6 July - 10 July (CLOSED)
13 July - 17 July (9am-3pm)

Key dates Term 3 week 1

Monday 20 July

First day of Term 3

**Term 3
Monday 20 July -
Friday 25 September**

Class 2

Play Success! Why present a Play?

Artistic expression has reached an all-time high in our room.

I thought to share a little about the importance of plays in our curriculum. The annual class play is something that is unique to Waldorf Schools. As you will see, class teachers and students dedicate a significant amount of time to preparing for a shared performance each year. Rudolf Steiner recommended class plays (often referred to as pedagogical dramas) because he believed theatre provides a holistic way for children to learn and socialise. Rather than simply teaching academic facts, these plays are designed to develop emotional intelligence, build empathy and strengthen the social bonds within a class.

Over the years, children often remember the class plays and camps that they were a part of. These are moments of connection that transcend book work or results, they are shared lived experiences that represent imagination and collaboration. When I think of the lead up to plays and the amount of cooperation required to make them possible, I think of how much greater the whole is, than the sum of its parts. It is truly a magical experience for the 8-year-old.

Congratulations to our Class 2 students for a successful play. All children were present on the day and our Kindergarten classes and Class 1 and Class 3 shared in the experience with us in the morning before families enjoyed the afternoon performance and celebration. Nerves were high for some, but the air was mostly filled with excitement and of course there were a few giggles.

Thank you for joining us and for the delicious food!

Jami Kriel
Class 2 Teacher



Class 3

Narnu Farm Camp - Hindmarsh Island

In Week 6, Class Three went on their first camp to Narnu Farm on Hindmarsh Island. The Pioneer theme of this camp ties in with the Farming and Building Main Lessons taught this year.

Activities included butter making, shelter building, rope and mud brick making, billy cart racing, pioneer games, a blacksmithing demonstration and orienteering.

It was also our job to feed all of the animals each day. We bottle fed calves and baby goats, fed the pigs, chickens, deer and sheep and got to cuddle guinea pigs, chicks and chickens. We also met Olly the Emu, a long-standing resident at the farm.

It was a joy to see the way the class supported each other during the camp; learning and playing together in an inclusive and supportive way.

Warm regards,
Sally Delara
Class Three Teacher



Class 12 Project

'The Antidote': An artistic exploration into Smartphone Addiction



My name is Ruby Aylen. I've been at Mount Barker Waldorf School since Class Six. My favourite subject is Creative Writing. This is because I like putting myself into other characters' minds, writing their inner thoughts, and exploring important issues. I also really enjoy acting, and our Class 10 play was a highlight of my high school experience.

For my Year 12 project, I'm looking into smartphone addiction in adolescents and what the antidote can look and feel like. I feel like I was addicted, and I know a lot of other people experience the same thing, and I want to help bring awareness to it. The motto of my project is that smartphones aren't inherently bad, it's how we use them, and the relationship we have with them can make them unhealthy. They are useful tools, and we need to start treating them like tools instead of letting them control us.

I believe smartphone addiction, especially in adolescents, is a major issue. I want to do something about it and bring attention to how it affects us.

As part of my personal research, I am doing a four-month smartphone detox. I am now almost two months into using a basic Nokia phone that only has calls and basic texting. One thing I've discovered from my detox so far is that I don't need my smartphone. I can confidently say I'm no longer addicted. I often go for hours without touching my phone, and sometimes I even leave it behind by accident. It no longer feels like an extra arm I was constantly holding for comfort or fear of missing out.

Through this project, one of my aims is to create an immersive art experience that shows how smartphones can make us feel and how damaging they can be to our nervous systems and lives. This is currently in development and I'm working on how to incorporate community and workshops into this project. If this is an area that you work in, I would like to connect, please email the office office@mbws.sa.edu.au.

Class 12 "Crime and Punishment" Main Lesson

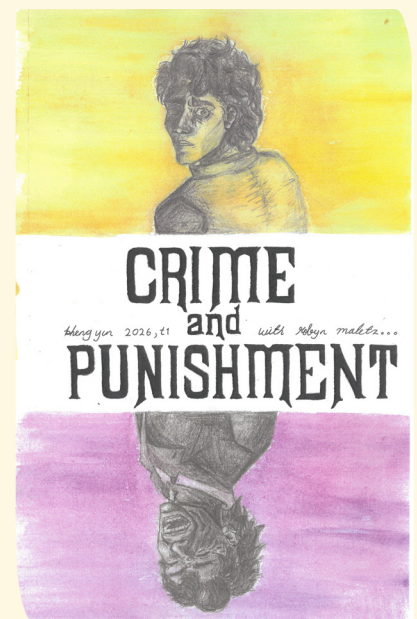
If you are looking for an immersive read in this wintry weather, think about the following recommendation from Jasper, a current Class 12 student who, alongside his peers, took a deep dive into the 'Crime and Punishment' Main Lesson at the beginning of this term.

This is what he had to say about the book:

'Dostoevsky's 'Crime and Punishment' is often considered one of the great works of literature, but such a dry description tells you nothing about how timelessly relevant the text is. Few books connect so strongly to the human experience, and everyone can benefit from reading this novel. The way it draws on morality and compassion will test the reader's strongest convictions and inspire them to re-evaluate their prejudices.'

The characters are thoughtfully developed, the story is perpetually compelling, and the writing is exquisite. There is enough suspense to match any modern thriller movie, but also comedy to be found in unexpected places. I could not give a higher recommendation. This book should be designated standard reading for all.'

Robyn Maletz
English Teacher/Drama Productions



The Main Lesson title page by Kheng Yin makes much of the 'polarity' theme that is central to this novel (evidence is 'double ended'; everything cuts both ways etc). If your interest is piqued, ask a Class 12 student about it!



2026 Winter Festival



When I descend into darkness, I take with me the light.
For I am both, they live in me, in me the two unite.
I weave the light and darkness, the shuttle is my soul,
I rise, I fall, I rise again, the world is woven whole...

Song sung by Primary teachers at the Primary Winter Festival



I'm not sure about you, but I always need to gather a little extra resolve as the Winter Term begins. Each year the cold seems to bite a little deeper, although the children often experience it quite differently. Still, there is so much to cherish about this season on Peramangk Country.

Throughout the term, we have been singing songs that celebrate both the beauty and the paradox of winter. As the days grow shorter and darker, winter invites us inward. It encourages reflection and a drawing closer to one another. Something I know from experience is that there is a particular warmth that can only be found in the midst of the cold.

This spirit was beautifully evident as we gathered for our Winter Festivals across the school. Thank you for your flexibility as our Primary and High School celebrations took on different forms this year, while Early Childhood was able to go ahead as planned. I was grateful that we could still come together as a community to mark the solstice and share in the traditions that bring meaning to this season.

This week's Spiral Walk offered another powerful reminder of what winter asks of us. The journey into the centre of the spiral mirrors the inward path of the season itself. Reaching the centre signals a moment of quiet reflection before we turn and begin the gradual journey outward once more, carrying our inner light towards the promise of spring. I am very grateful to Willow and the CLG for offering our whole community the opportunity to experience this moment this year.

Thank you for joining us in these celebrations and for helping to create the warmth and sense of community that make them so special. We hope you carry some of that stillness and light with you into the holiday break and we'll see you again soon.

Eleanor Waterford



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: 29 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



**Wilderness
Escape**
Outdoor Adventures

Keep the Adventure Alive These July Winter School Holidays with Wilderness Escape!

This July, give your child the opportunity to get outdoors, learn new skills, and enjoy exciting winter adventures with Wilderness Escape! For more than 35 years, Wilderness Escape has been inspiring young people across South Australia through unforgettable outdoor experiences led by our passionate and fully qualified staff.

Our winter holiday programs feature a fantastic mix of activities, including:

- Outdoor rock climbing
- High ropes and zip-line experiences
- Mountain bike adventures on exciting trails
- Creative arts and crafts projects

Whether they're reaching new heights on the climbing wall, building confidence on two wheels, or expressing their creativity through hands-on craft activities, every child will enjoy a fun, supportive, and engaging experience.

Our programs are designed to help children build confidence, develop resilience, make new friends, and create lasting memories. No experience is necessary—our experienced instructors provide all the guidance and encouragement needed for every child to thrive.

Places fill quickly during the school holidays, so secure your child's spot today and make this winter one to remember!

Experience your world! Call (08) 8165 2022 and let the adventure begin.

Community News & Events

Let's talk!

Intensive oral language
program in the school holidays



This program will offer intensive and interactive language learning experiences for SA students enrolled in **Year 10, 11 (Stage 1) and 12 (Stage 2) language subjects**.



Register online at:

<https://www.ticketebo.com.au/letstalk>

Registrations close 23 June 2026

VENUE:

School of Languages,
255 Torrens Road, West Croydon

COST:

\$10 per day
School card / Healthcare card holders **FREE**

WHEN:

Thursday 9 July and Friday 10 July 2026

The key objective of all sessions is to improve proficiency through engaging and differentiated language/cultural experiences. The focus of all sessions will be on the oral use of the target language.

Note: Students will be able to register for either 1 or 2 days as the program for each day will be different.

Each day runs from 10.00am — 3.30pm. Three sessions will be offered by highly proficient speakers of Chinese, French, German, Indonesian*, Italian, Japanese & Spanish.

**Indonesian 1-day only on 10 July*



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Community News & Events



Lobethal Harmony Club Scholarship

Lobethal Harmony Club are promoting the development of musical skills amongst young people in South Australia, by awarding a Scholarship of \$1,000 for the winner towards expenses to further their musical training. There are also payments of \$250 for two of the runner-ups. for vocal and instrumental.

Applications Close:

Requiring an Accompanist: Friday, 8th August 2026

Not Requiring an Accompanist: Friday, 21st August 2026

Audition Dates:

Vocal: Tuesday, 1st September 2026 at 6:30pm

Instrumental: Tuesday, 8th September 2026 at 6:30pm

More information/applications on the website - <https://lobethalharmonyclub.com.au/scholarships/>



ANNOUNCEMENT NEW AVAILABILITY!

Our passionate team of Developmental Educators (DE's) have new current capacity for in school or home therapy across southern suburbs and Adelaide hills regions.



DE's can support across areas of:

- Social & emotional regulation
- Communication skills
- Executive functioning
- Sensory awareness
- Education support
- Life skills development
- Resilience & coping strategies
- Social skills
- Puberty, sexual health & relationships with a disability lens
- Masking, self-expression & self-worth
- Advocacy across all environments

DisabilitySA

admin@disabilitysa.com.au
(08) 8568 5107
www.disabilitysa.com.au

WHAT'S ON!

at your Community Centre

July 2026

Date

Time

Men's Breakfast—All Welcome! <i>Free</i>	Thursday 2 July	9.30—10.30am
Everyday Cooking	Mondays	1—3.30pm
School Holiday Come and Dance Workshop	Wednesday 8 July	9.30—11am
Song Writing and Recording <i>NAIDOC Week Workshop</i>	Thursday 9 and Friday 10 July	10.30am—12.30pm
Weaving Made Simple <i>NAIDOC Week Workshop</i>	Sunday 12 July	10am—1pm
Laratinga Community Shed <i>Monday:</i> Women's Shed <i>Tuesday:</i> Community Shed (all welcome) <i>Wednesday:</i> Community Shed (all welcome) <i>Thursday:</i> Men's Shed		9am—2pm
Grow and Connect <i>6-week group program to increase personal wellbeing, social connection and community participation.</i>	Starts Wednesday 29 July	10am—12pm
Mount Barker Men's Group	Every Thursday	10am—1pm
Volunteer Vacancies Reception and Administration Team—Mount Barker Community Centre ReVamp Shop—get creative with craft, gardening and customer service roles Duck Flat Community Garden—Gardening team		

Bookings essential for all events. Most events can be booked online:

<https://events.humanitix.com/host/mtbcc>



MOUNT BARKER
COMMUNITY CENTRE



Like us and share [W mtbcc.org.au](https://www.mtbcc.org.au) **P** 83912747 **E** enquiries@mtbcc.org.au | 3 Dumas Street Mount Barker SA 5251

Dear Mount Barker District School Communities,

Following last year's successful Winter Solstice Eve celebration in Mount Barker, we're bringing the power of fire and warmth of community back!

We would appreciate your assistance in sharing this updated information with your school community, staff, students, and families via digital newsletter platforms or communication apps as the first event starts this Friday!

Community News & Events

Join us around the fire pits for Fiery Fridays featuring:

- Spectacular fire performances
- Live music
- Food and drinks including mulled wine
- Kids crafts

Nairne – Soldier's Memorial Hall

Main Street, Nairne

Friday 26 June

3.30pm - 8.30pm

(Cornerstone College have 10 student bands performing)

Mount Barker

Mann Street, Mount Barker

Friday 3 July

2.30pm - 8.30pm (Early start as it is the last day of school for the term!)

Rug up, grab your beanies and gloves and join us for a magical mid-winter celebration

This is a FREE event, open for the whole community to join.

We look forward to welcoming the community for an evening of winter festivities, entertainment, food, and family-friendly activities on the new date.

If you have any questions, please contact Council's Events Team via email events@mountbarker.sa.gov.au

