

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Reception Welcome Assembly
- Class R03: Our Journey Into Reception
- Student Leadership 2024
- Stage 2 Surfing

*Pictured: Reception Welcome Assembly*



## DIARY DATES

Please check the parent calendar on our website or by using the link below. Please note that this calendar is continually updated and we ask that families check for school events from time to time.  
<https://www.theheights.sa.edu.au/link/calendar>

### School Calendar

#### Parent Teacher Interviews

- Monday 25 March 2:45 to 4:30pm
- Thursday 4 April 2:40 to 7:00pm
- Early Closure Thursday 4 April 2:05pm for Parent Teacher Interviews

## PUPIL FREE DAYS/ SCHOOL CLOSURE 2024:

#### Pupil Free Days 2024

- Term 2 Monday 29 April 2024  
(Term 2, Week 1)
- Friday 7 June 2024  
(Term 2, Week 6)
- Term 3 Tuesday 3 September 2024  
(Term 3, Week 7)
- Term 4 Thursday 12 December 2024  
(Term 4, Week 9)
- School Closure Day 2024
- Term 3 Monday 2 September 2024  
(Term 3, Week 7)

## CONTACT

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Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The Annual General Meeting of the Governing Council took place on Tuesday, 27 February. The school community welcomes new members as well as welcoming back some continuing members for 2024.

The following parent positions on Governing Council for 2024 were filled at our Annual General Meeting:

#### 2024 Parent/ Caregiver Members and Positions

Tom Kidner - Chairperson & Finance Advisory Committee  
Nicholas Tung - Deputy Chairperson  
Steve Marriott - Treasurer & Finance Advisory Committee  
Maria Parry - Secretary  
John Win - OSHC Advisory Committee  
Tara-Lea Mather - Finance Advisory Committee  
Moir Colquhoun - Finance Advisory Committee

#### Other 2024 Parent/ Caregiver Members

Leah Hall  
Kate Hallam  
David Lao  
Prasanna Tamang  
Karthikeyan Thottakkat

#### Staff Representatives

Meg Fay - Principal  
Val Westwell - Deputy Principal  
Daniel Brzezinski - Assistant Principal

#### Secondary Student Leadership Team Representatives

TBC

#### Community Members

Blair Boyer MP

Thank you to those members from 2023 that are not returning to our Governing Council for 2024 for your work and for the contribution you have made to strengthening school community relationships for The Heights Community during your time on the Governing Council.

Significant work has taken place to prepare for our 2024 Sports Day on Friday 8 March. I would like to acknowledge and thank all the staff that assist in the organisation and of this event. The decision had to be made on Wednesday this week to postpone our Sports Day due to the forecast exceeding 35 degrees. We will inform our community of the new date for the 2024 Sports Day as soon as possible.

We are also eagerly awaiting the second of our Reception Welcome Assemblies for R03 and R04; these are special occasions where we formally welcome our Reception students to our school. Our Year 12 students support our reception students during this assembly and it is when we can see the wonderfulness of a P to 12 site.

As crossing monitors, our Year 6 students have settled in well. They are doing a wonderful service for our school. The Year 6 students, accompanied by a teacher, assist at the busy times of the day. As mentioned in the last newsletter this is an important role and we thank them for their assistance.

There will be an early dismissal at **2.05pm on Thursday 4 April 2024** due to Parent/Teacher Interviews for P-12 that will take place on the dates and times below. The process and timeline for bookings will be communicated to all families soon.

- Monday 25 March 2:45pm to 4:30pm
- Thursday 4 April 2:40pm to 7:00pm

As the year progresses there may be times when people have concerns or queries regarding an occurrence at school. If this happens, we would like to encourage an open dialogue with you to hear your concerns and work through how to address them. Please refer to the '[Raising and Resolving Concerns](#)' section located in the 'About Us' section of our website for the process to follow.



Meg Fay  
Principal

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### MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Thank you for your continued support of the Department for Education's (DfE) mobile phone and personal device policy. As a school community, we truly value the focus on teaching and learning that this policy allows, where students are free of electronic distractions in their lesson time.

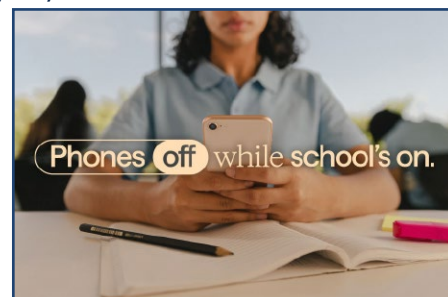
Unfortunately, we have been receiving increasing reports of student mobile phone use. This includes phones being used before school, in lesson time, during break times and as a personal 'hot spot'.

The use of 'hot spots' is of particular concern as this allows students to bypass the department's network filters whilst at school.

In home group time this week, students will be reminded of our whole school policy and be asked to show their mobile devices are locked away for the day. If your child does not have their own mobile device, please reach out to their home group teacher. We ask that you remind your children to lock their turned off phones, and secure them in their Yondr pouch as soon as they enter school at the start of the day.

We appreciate your continued support.

*Kelly Spalding*  
Assistant Principal Secondary Years



### OSHC NEWS

#### Out of School Hours Care

April Vacation Care is fast approaching and bookings are now open! We have put forward a fantastic schedule with many fun and engaging experiences for the children. For the first time The Heights OSHC will also be operating Preschool Vacation Care.

Visit our OSHC web page [here](#) to download the Vacation Care Program and Booking Form.

It's been great to see many new families enrolling into the Service for 2024. It's in our best interest that we support families with their transition as we endeavour to create a space that is safe for all. In saying that we have some reminders and updates that we trust will be helpful to new and existing families.

- For families dropping off in Before School Care, remember that our service does not commence operations until 7:00am. Moving forward, the front gate on Brunel Drive will not be opened until approximately 6:58am. There will be no entry to the car park prior to this time.
- Breakfast at OSHC concludes at 8:00am. If you are dropping off at 8:00am or later, breakfast will not be offered. Ideally children should have eaten breakfast before they arrive at OSHC.
- Children must be signed in/out via the iPad by a parent or guardian listed as an authorised contact. If you have any issues with your Digital PIN or would like to update contacts please notify the Service.

Thank you for your cooperation and supporting us in creating a safe space here at OSHC.

*Stephen Calio*  
OSHC Director



## RECEPTION WELCOME ASSEMBLY

Last week R01 and R02 were joined by their Year 12 buddies in a celebration of the start of their school journey at The Heights.

This event is quite a tradition at The Heights School, bringing together Reception children and families, Year 12 students and teachers from across our P-12 site. Some of the families present at the assembly have watched their older children experience this rite of passage, and for others it was their first experience of this joyful occasion. For me, and I know many of our staff and families, it doesn't matter how many times you experience this event, the sight of our oldest learners walking hand in hand with our youngest learners is something that brings a tear to the eye.

Our Reception children treated us to a superb performance of Wombat Wobble, and together with their Year 12 buddy they each told us about their aspirations for when they grow up.

In Week 8 (March 18) R03 and R04 will have their Reception Welcome Assembly. We hope that families will be able to join us, and we look forward to sharing photographs of that occasion in our next newsletter.

*Val Westwell*

*Deputy Principal*





## RECEPTION CLASS R03: OUR JOURNEY INTO RECEPTION

In R03, we have been embarking on an exciting journey as brand new Reception students! Over the past few weeks we have been listening to stories about starting school and connecting these books to our own experiences.

One of the important lessons we've learned is that everyone feels differently about new experiences, especially starting school. We've had discussions about the range of emotions we might feel – from excitement and bravery to nervousness and worry. We've come to understand that it's perfectly okay to have different feelings, and that each feeling is valid and important.

Our exploration of emotions has seamlessly connected to our Zones of Regulation curriculum. We've been learning about the importance of social and emotional skills and identifying which "zone" we might be in at different times. Through vocabulary that I've targeted in these books (worried, brave, excited, nervous, confident, and proud) we've been able to express and explore our feelings in relation to starting school.

The past few weeks have been filled with a rollercoaster of emotions but we've also realised just how proud we are of our achievements in our first few weeks of school.

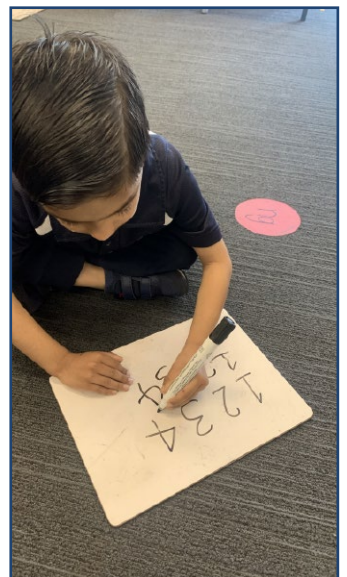
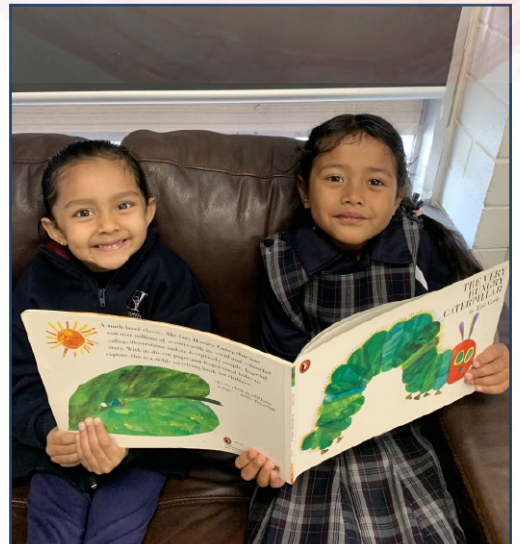
We want to share some of our proudest moments with you (captured in the attached photos) from our first day smiles to our moments of courage during new activities

Here's to many more proud moments and learning adventures ahead!

Warm regards,

Kate McMahon

Reception Teacher, R03



STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2024

PRIMARY STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our Primary Years SRC membership is currently being finalised and we look forward to sharing that with you in our next newsletter.

SRC is a fabulous leadership opportunity for students, and as always, we have been delighted with our students' enthusiasm for representing their peers through this group.

SECONDARY STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Student Leadership Opportunities

Student leadership is an integral part of school culture, fostering opportunities for students to be socially active in their communities. The skills developed through student leadership, such as collaboration and problem solving are paramount in preparing students for life post-school.

Over the past two weeks, our Year Level Councils and Student Representative Council (SRC) have been finalised for 2024. A total of 38 students were nominated for student council, representing all year levels and a range of experiences. Many teachers have also volunteered to be a part of our student leadership structures, ensuring a breadth of experience and knowledge within our teams.

On Monday 4th of February our SRC members will be led through a series of leadership activities with Chauntelle Westley, the Youth Wellbeing Leader at the Tea Tree Gully (TTG) Council. Chauntelle also runs the TTG Youth Leadership Conference and has invited ten of our student leaders to attend the event in Term 2. Strong partnerships with our local council are invaluable for our school community and provide exceptional networking opportunities for our young people.

We are all excited to see what our student leaders can add to our school and local community.

Year Level Council Membership

<b>Year 7</b> Drishti Rehal Darcie Roberts Twisha Dhingra Ria Nair Parv Soni Nishchal Hemanth	<b>Year 8</b> Veer Abani Stella Sood Jayden Wright Julia How	<b>Year 9</b> Jasleen Kaur Aleks Rebrun Bianca Lemmo Cathy Sebin Kira Maher Caitlin Butcher Nithya Amraji Alana Benny
<b>Year 10</b> Summer Rowe Sparsh Dave Lorelai Archer Jasmine Phillips Damia Mackay Chandulee Jayawarenda Anna Nor Azmin Christina Shaji	<b>Year 11</b> Naunidh Kukreja Munmun Pahwa Zoe Hatchard Ha Hwang Nysa Khanna Malachi Beshara	<b>Year 12</b> Marie Fotoulis Tayla Cook Johanna Hyde-Parker Riddhi Chotara Indulee Jayawarenda Alana Benny Kit Yi Lee

Student Representative Council (SRC) Membership

Congratulations to the following members of our school community who were voted by their peers to represent their year level and our school community:

Darcie Roberts (Year 7)  
Twisha Dhingra (Year 7)  
Jayden Wright (Year 8)  
Julia How (Year 8)  
Caitlin Butcher (Year 9)  
Nithya Amraji (Year 9)  
Summer Rowe (Year 10)

Chandulee Jayawarenda (Year 10)  
Munmun Pahwa (Year 11)  
Malachi Beshara (Year 11)  
Marie Fotoulis (Year 12)  
Riddhi Chotara (Year 12)  
Indulee Jayawarenda (Year 12)  
Kit Yi Lee (Year 12)

South Australia SRC

The SA SRC is a body of 150 high school students in Year 10, 11 and 12 from across the state. These students work together to create genuine, student-led change within their own communities. This program is a partnership between the Commissioner for Children and Young People and the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA). Students selected conduct this work as an extra-curricular, demonstrating true dedication to designing change for young people.

The Heights School congratulates **Nysa Khanna** and **Zoe Hatchard** who after a rigorous selection process were selected to represent South Australian high school students on this year's South Australian Student Representative Council (SA SRC). We look forward to seeing Nysa and Zoe's learning and achievements across the state and embedding some of their learning into our school's SRC processes.

Teen Parliament

Teen Parliament 2024, supported by *The Advertiser*, offers future leaders an opportunity to appear in South Australia's parliament. Students in Year 10-12 were encouraged to submit applications that highlighted a problem impacting students and their understanding of ways change could be enacted. Across the state, only 30 students have been chosen to represent the youth of South Australia at Parliament House on March 8.

We congratulate **Indulee Jayawarenda** (Year 12) on her successful election as a Teen Parliament Member. Jayawarenda, member for The Heights School, wrote a compelling application addressing issues facing international students at university, specifically related to the discrimination they face in accessing compulsory work placements. She argued for legislative change and governing committees to address this problem. Her experience as a school leader and debate captain will serve her well in this challenge.

*Kelly Spalding*  
Assistant Principal Secondary Years Leader



## STAGE 2 SURFING

On Tuesday 13 February, the Stage 2 Integrated Learning (Physical Education focus) class attended a surfing excursion at Middleton as part of their practical inquiry task.

Qualified instructors from Surf Culture Australia were on hand to guide the class through the basics of surfing, with students being required to complete a personal self-analysis regarding skill acquisition concepts covered in class.

We had a fun day linking our theory and practical components together. All students had a great time with their learning!

**Andrew Costello**

*Stage 2 Integrated Learning Teacher*



## COMMUNITY NOTICES



# YOUTH WEEK EVENTS

15-24 March 2024

For young people aged 11-25 to mingle, try something new and meet other young people across the city.

**18 MARCH**

**Mind Mingle**  
Time: 4pm - 5:30pm Age: 11-15 years  
Win prizes playing a quieter pop culture quiz at the library.



**20 MARCH**

**Suzume anime screening**  
Time: 6pm - 8pm Age: 16-30 years  
Bring a friend and settle in for an adventurous anime and a hot chocolate.



**25 MARCH**

**Mind Mingle**  
Time: 6:30pm - 8pm Age: 16-25 years  
Win prizes playing a quieter pop culture quiz at the library.



Bookings essential  
[cttg.sa.gov.au/youthweek](http://cttg.sa.gov.au/youthweek)




YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN OUR

# Egg Hunt and Sausage Sizzle

SUNDAY, MARCH 31  
12-2PM

VALLEY VIEW RESERVE MODBURY  
(IN CASE OF WET WEATHER OR TEMPERATURE FORECAST OF MORE THAN 35C WE WILL MEET AT 99 WYNN VALE DRIVE)

Sausages in bread provided including vegan and gluten free options  
BYO water, salads and picnic if desired



Golden Grove




# NEWTON JAGUARS NETBALL CLUB WINTER 2024 PLACES AVAILABLE

PRIMARY (2013-14)

SUB JUNIORS (2011-12)

JUNIORS (2009-10)

INTERS (2007-08)

VISIT: [www.newtonjaguars.com.au/winter-season](http://www.newtonjaguars.com.au/winter-season)  
OR contact [juniorcoordinador@newtonjaguars.com.au](mailto:juniorcoordinador@newtonjaguars.com.au)