

Hi everyone,

What a fantastic year it's been at Aldgate Primary!

As I wrap up my first year as Principal, I can't help but feel grateful to be part of such a warm and welcoming community. It's been an absolute joy getting to know all the students, families, and staff who make Aldgate Primary so special.

I want to give a huge thank you to our incredible teaching and support staff, whose hard work and dedication have truly made a difference for our children. The amazing learning experiences they've created this year have been inspiring to see.

A big thank you also to our volunteers and the governing council whose support and involvement have helped make Aldgate Primary a wonderful place for all. Our Fundraising committee have managed to raise around \$10,000 over the year through our successful Quiz Night and other activities throughout the year. This has allowed us to book in the construction of a swing set which will take place at the start of our holidays. The kind volunteers within our Grounds committee have also helped springboard successful Working Bees over the year to help maintain our grounds.



Our school has had some great successes this year across sports, the arts, and science. Under Mr. Grigg's guidance, our students have given their best in volleyball, cricket, basketball, athletics, netball, and soccer, showing off their skills and sportsmanship. The performing arts program shone brightly too under the watchful eye of Steve, with a brilliant showcase night, a choir performance at Festival of Music, and our thriving specialist music program. We also launched a new Auslan program, which has been a great addition, and our science program led by Mr. Strevens inspired budding scientists, with many joining in on the Oliphant Science Awards. These programs have given our kids wonderful opportunities to learn, create, and explore new passions.

Looking ahead to 2025, we're excited about what's to come and can't wait to dive into new opportunities together. We have our new Student Parliament being formed to create more authentic student voice opportunities across the school and there is a new South Australian curriculum which our teaching team are going to embrace and use. We will start with year with an additional class within our thriving community. Information regarding classes for 2025 and student report cards will be sent home on Wednesday after we have a transition lesson at school.





You may have seen at the end of November that I sent out a letter from the Hon Peter Malinauskas MP and the Hon Blair Boyer MP about the Federal Parliament passing legislation implementing 16 years as the minimum age to access social media. *The national laws will commence following a 12-month implementation period and will establish a minimum age for platforms like Facebook, Snapchat, TikTok and Instagram. They will place the onus on social media platforms – not parents or young people – to take reasonable steps to keep kids under 16 years of age off their platforms.* In 2025, our school will also be implementing a new and updated Mobile Device Policy which will ask students to turn their devices off or place them in flight mode before putting them away. Any students with wearable technology, such as smartwatches, will be asked to ensure they are turned off, or switched into normal watch mode during school hours. Any students with mobile phones will be required to drop off their phones at the front office for secure storage during the day before they can be collected at home time. This is to ensure students can fully participate in learning and school activities during the day. Phones will be securely stored in the front office for collection on the way home. More information will follow next year regarding this.

We wish Jade Somerville all the very best as she enters her maternity leave and this new and exciting chapter of her life. Thank you to everyone from our school community who have been tremendously generous and wished her well. Ethan Cale has also won a 12 month teaching contract at another school. We wish him well for the year ahead with his new class and thank him for all of his efforts within our community.

To our current year 6 cohort, we wish you all the very best as you head off to High School—you'll be missed, but we know you'll do amazing things! And to our school community, we hope you have a fantastic summer break. Thank you to our OSHC team as well for running a great vacation care program that supports our families.

Please remember we have an early finish of 2.15pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December and we are celebrating the last day with a Christmas themed casual clothes day.

Here's to a bright and happy new year ahead! We hope you all have a safe and relaxing festive season.

Warm regards,

Hazel Robertson & Felicity Godson  
Principal Deputy Principal  
9<sup>th</sup> December 2024



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education