



Jervois PS Final Newsletter 2025



Dear Jervois Primary School Community,

As the sun sets on another school year, we reflect on everything JPS. School life is ALWAYS super busy and this year has been no exception! From classroom learning, excursions and fun days (colour run is always a super fun day!), it was great to finish up with a whole school celebration day at the POOL! This week we say farewell to our Year 6 students as they complete their Primary School education and move onto High: Good Luck, strive high, do your best, and be kind....always! We also say farewell to staff member Patriz (Ms K) who taught in the 1/2 class regularly each Thursday; we may still see Patriz back in a relieving role for 2026 and beyond! You have all been part of our JPS family, and we **THANK YOU** for all you have contributed ♥♥

We look forward to welcoming our newbies: our 5 little reception students (+ a Year 1 and a Year 6 student), who will be eager to start school after their long holiday break! They have had a little taste of school life over the past four weeks with their transition visits; school will soon be in full swing for them (and all of us) before we know it!

So sit, back, relax and take it all in as we present our final newsletter for the year: chock full of fond memories and best wishes as we celebrate all that is and was our JPS of 2025.....

HUGE THANKS to the wonderful people who support our staff and students in many different ways; whether it's in class, the canteen, on committees, excursions, school events & special days and any other way....we truly appreciate the time and effort you give.

THANK YOU to our Governing Councilors: Catherine, Bianca, Craig, Elyse, Maria, Zoey, Ashlea, Ashleigh, Erin & Jayde (& Jo for Finance): for the time and effort you have provided to support leadership and staff with decisions and discussions based around what we do at JPS. It's always a learning curve for us all and we appreciate your commitment to our school.

Thank you to our helpers who have been able to support our fundraising events this year: your efforts are very much appreciated! And the continued efforts of P&F has been great and we hope this will continue to grow and become a stronger and well-supported group. Thanks to the 'drivers' for organising this and encouraging others to be involved.

And **THANKS** to all our volunteers who help out in so many different ways – parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, friends, community members & others outside our community



Final reminder: Admin Staff will be onsite next week: Mon 15th – Thurs 18th December if you need to collect anything.



2026: Term 1 starts TUESDAY 27th January

All Staff will be back at school on Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd of January



Principal's Final Piece for 2025

As we wrap up another busy and vibrant year at Jervois, it's hard not to feel proud of everything our students have achieved. The school concert was an absolute highlight — the children took to the stage with confidence, creativity, and buckets of enthusiasm. Their hard work really paid off, and it was wonderful to see families cheering them on.

This year has also brought some exciting new additions to school life. Breakfast Club and Lunch Club have quickly become popular parts of our weekly routines. A huge thank you to Sylvia and Ann for the energy, kindness, and consistency they bring to these spaces. They've helped create warm, welcoming moments in the day where students can connect with each other and feel supported.

I also want to acknowledge Miss Stoeckel, who has just completed her very first year of teaching. What a milestone, and what a learning curve! She has thrown herself into school life with positivity and passion, and we're grateful for everything she brings to our community.

As we head into the break, we hope you all take the chance to slow down, enjoy the warmer weather, and spend time with family and friends. Look after yourselves, look out for one another, and we'll see you refreshed and ready for another big term ahead next year.

Take care
Elissa

School Reports

Reports have been emailed to all families this week. These reports reflect learning from Semester 2. Teachers spend many hours compiling information from Term 3 and 4 learning across all subjects to give you a snapshot of how your child is progressing as a learner. Time is taken to give comments to support their progress, also highlighting areas of strength and those which need further development. Please take the time to read your child's report and discuss it with them – it gives you and also your child the tools to build a plan to support them to become a deeper and more independent learner, whatever their level. As always, if you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's report, or their learning – including social skills; please contact your child's teacher (seesaw message or email is best) or contact the school office and we will pass on any messages.



Staffing for 2026



Principal	Elissa Hunter
Teachers	Tam McGavin, Ann Cracknell, Chloe Shaefer, Jayde Kennedy
SSO support	Elyse, Samantha & Makayla
PCW support	Sylvia
Grounds	Dave
Admin & Finance	Michelle & Jo

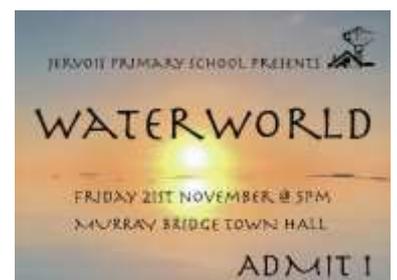
We will have more staffing announcements, which are being finalised as we speak and over the holiday period. We will keep you informed! 😊

School Concert USB/FILE

Families who ordered a copy of the school concert performance should have received it on Thursday, with their xmas card! If yours is missing (after searching your child's bag!!), please let us know.

Huge shout out to **JO** for all of her concert awesomeness:

YOU ARE AMAZING!!





A message from Jo & Michelle: We wish to thank all families for support during the year and for your positive responses to our sometimes constant nagging to return notes, pay money, respond to messages, asking about student absences.....We wish all our JPS families a super holiday break: enjoy Christmas with your loved ones & look forward to a refreshed & enthusiastic start to 2026; which will be here before we know it!

The office elves xo



A little Thank You to our Volunteers

Shout out to our volunteers! Thank you so much for your support in 2025. Whether you've done a little or a lot, we appreciate it! You make a difference to our JPS family and we are truly grateful

We'd like to extend a huge thank you to the clever members of The Men's Shed for their donation of special handmade wooden toys, organised through Sylvia and her connections. And to the wonderful people at both Foodbank and St Luke's Church Tailem Bend; for generously providing some hampers which we have distributed to some of our families. The generosity of local groups is amazing and we are very grateful!

Join us on day 1 - Tues 27th Jan
for a morning tea in the library to welcome our new families to JPS
Please come along and help us welcome our new JPS families; meet staff and give our 'newbie' parents/carers a positive and welcoming start to their JPS journey
Morning tea kindly provided by JPS Parents & Friends (thank you ☺)



.....think about it!!!! →

Shout out to these amazing businesses who donated to our Concert Hamper Raffle; you are all amazing 😊 and thanks to P&F for organising 😊

Crafted With Care

Tailem Bend Bakery

Tailem Bend Hardware

Foodland – Tailem Bend

Tailem Bend Newsagency

Danger Dan – skate lesson

Cottage Box Chocolates

Drakes Murray Bridge

Bunnings Murray Bridge

Flying R Stud

K&B Mitre 10 Mt Barker

Daish Irrigation & Fodder

Pop Nutrition

McCues Bakery

Invision by Felicity

Tailem Bend Fitness

Lux Nails Murray Bridge

Hang With Me

Sadler family

Dave Atze Illustrator

Thank you so very much for your generous donations and support for our hampers!



Christmas Word Search



CANDY CANE
CAROLS
CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER
ELVES
GINGERBREAD
JINGLE

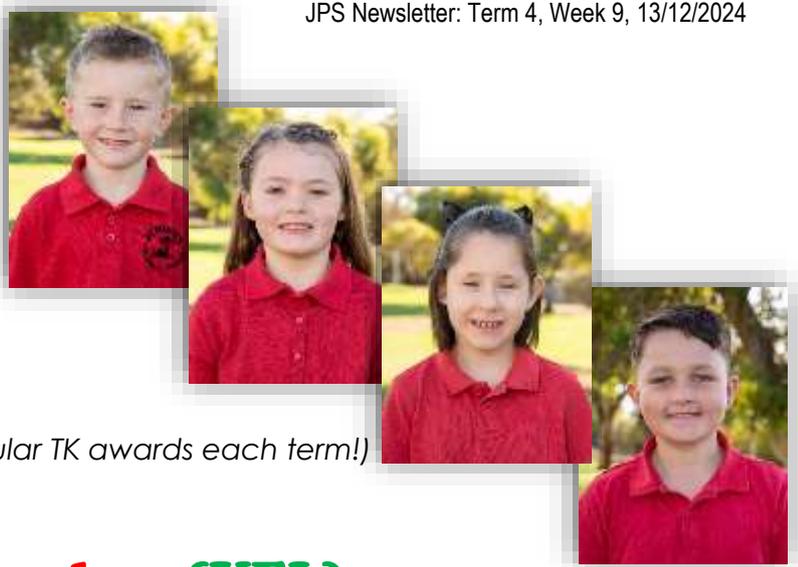
HOLLY
LIGHTS
MERRY
NORTH POLE
ORNAMENTS
PRESENTS
REINDEER

SANTA
SLEIGH
STOCKING
TREE
WINTER
WREATH



Term 4 Terrific Kids:

- R/1: Sailer P
- 1/2: Maisey S
- 3/4: Haylee H
- 5/6: Hayden L



Presented by the Murray Bridge Kiwanis Club
(Thanks for all your support Kiwanis & your regular TK awards each term!)

Young Environmental Leaders (YEL)

Semester 1 & 2: Richard, Archer G, Matilda, Lizzie, Declan, Saxon, Sophia, Saydee, Shase, Macy, Mack, Elise & Eli W

Thanks to our students who have represented JPS, we know you have grown from the experience and we are proud of how you have taken on the challenge and shared your knowledge & ideas with us all! Many thanks to Samantha for providing adult support for YEL, to guide and mentor our students in their roles.



Eli & Lizzie
Term 4 YEL



End of Year Class Awards

With support from our JPS Governing Council, four class awards were given out today to recognise excellence in a variety of areas over the whole 2026 year, highlighted by class teachers. We thank the Governing Council for these awards: each student was presented with a \$25 gift card and certificate.

Congratulations to:

- R/1: **Norina W** for being a hard-working and respectful student all year
- 1/2: **Will L** for putting extra effort in at school and at home with reading and number work
- 3/4: **Hudson C** for persistent dedication to his learning, kindness and helpfulness to classmates
- 5/6: **Eli W** for continuously participating in classroom activities and being kind to others



Ann's Final Well-being Words for 2025

Looking back over the year, it is pleasing to see how school events and student action group initiatives have built stronger connections among staff, students, and our wider school community.

We began the year with Community Night, setting up a welcoming atmosphere, and concluded a busy term with our Wheelathon in support of world vision—both rewarding experiences. The Monarto Zoo excursion was a true highlight, where older students engaged with younger peers and together discovered the wonders of the animal world. Book Week Parade was again well supported, and it was fantastic to see students running the event with growing confidence. The Beyond Blue event was another great success, organised by our Upper Primary students, who felt extremely proud of their achievement and the positive outcome, and the list could go on about our positive student involvement this year.

Thanks to available funding, we visited Mannum to connect with the Mannum Community School and enjoy their wonderful performance for our whole school. Organising the Colour Run for the first time for me this year was a special experience—the event was record-breaking thanks to outstanding community generosity.

Lunch Club and Brekky Club continue to represent our school's caring spirit each day and thanks to Food Bank we are able to continue this each week. Our recent school concert was well received and showcased so many children's talents; it truly remains a unique tradition I am grateful to be part of, with thanks to those who organise and support it every year.

Our Year 6 graduation was again a special night to share with parents, and our traditional end-of-year pool day is always well received.

Thank you, Elissa, staff, and our community for your ongoing support and for fostering a safe, welcoming environment. Wishing everyone a happy, restful Christmas and all the best for 2026.

🌲 🙌 ❤️ 🌻 Ann Cracknell-Wellbeing Leader



And now it's time for the sad bits.....saying goodbye!

Farewells

To our families, students and staff who are leaving our JPS community, we say a huge thank you for your contribution and support of our school. Good luck for whatever lies ahead, may your future journey be filled with risk taking, kindness and deep learning!



Students & their families: our Year 6s: *Matilda, Elijah, Macy, Archer, Elise, Shase, Marcus, Saxon, Hunter & Richard* – and also to *Audrey* & family; Good luck as you venture off into a whole new world of learning.....grasp every opportunity which comes your way: remember our foundations and share your knowledge with others. Be a risk-taker and deep thinker.....but most of all; BE KIND, to become the best possible version of YOU!

Staff: We also say farewell to staff member *Patriz (Ms K)* who taught in the 1/2 class regularly each Thursday; we may still see Patriz back in a relieving role for 2026 and beyond!



We will miss you all and appreciate the contribution you have all made to make our school great and support our students! ♥♥



JPS staff wishes you a wonderful Christmas with your family. Thanks for sharing your special little people with us! Happy holidays!

Kiarra: Thank you all so much for welcoming me into the Jervois Primary community. It's been so lovely getting to know everyone both in my classroom and in others.



What do you call an elf wearing a high visibility jacket? Elf and safety!



Chloe: Wow, it's hard to believe we've already reached the end of Term 4 and are heading into the holiday season! I hope you all enjoy a well-earned break filled with rest, relaxation and time with family and friends. It has been wonderful to watch students grow across the year and I know they're ready to recharge and come back in Term 1 ready for another great year of learning!

I'll sign off with a joke for the holiday season:

Why do Reindeers wear bells?
Because their horns don't work!

Samantha: Well done everyone 👍 for making it though another busy fun filled year, I hope everyone has a safe, AMAZING, restful time 🛏️😴 over the Xmas, 🎄 new year holidays with friends and 👨👩👧👦 family.

Yr 6 's: wishing you well as you move on from our little primary school. 🏠 Do great things ★, as we know you can!

Choose Happiness 😊
Everyone else, I look forward to seeing all the smiling 😊 faces next year. 🇺🇸

"What do you call 🍌 2 🍌 Banana Skins on the ground???"
A pair of slippers 🧦🧦😄



Tam: Wishing all the JPS families a very Merry Christmas! I hope everyone gets to enjoy some restful time with friends and family and can't wait to see you all next year.

All the best to the Year 6's on their new adventure.



Elyse: What a great year 2025 has been! Thank you all for your support, your smiles and incredible spirit you each bring to school every day. Wishing all our students, families, and staff a wonderful Christmas and a safe, happy holiday break. Thank you for the amazing year, can't wait to see everyone back in 2026!

Wouldn't be a message from me without an E-mazing joke to finish off the year:

"Why don't Aliens celebrate Christmas?"

They don't want to give away their presence!



Jayde: Thank you to all families for another supportive year at JPS. I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday season... Merry Christmas!



Dave: I didn't know at the start of the year I would end up working at JPS, but I am so happy that's what happened. The kids and staff feel like my family and I love my time at the school: drawing for kids in the mornings, doing my weekly chalkboard message, fixing anything that breaks, building things, teaching art, mowing the lawn, putting band aids on grazes and playing games with the kids every chance I get. I guess sometimes the best things in life come unexpectedly!



Ann: Wishing all our families a very special Christmas and fun holiday time and the children in Room 2 you know I will remind you to hydrate during the holidays, protect your skin, eat well and be super helpful to your parents! Have a sensational holiday and I'll see you in 2026 all grown up and ready for an exciting year ahead. 🎄☀️😄

♥️ Mrs Cracknell ♥️



Thanks to our Bus Drivers, **Sam & Geoff** for getting us safely to school & home again each day! And for the extra excursion support & bus run changes to help us out 😊

Thanks **Andrew, Craig & crew** for keeping our lawns mowed and all the big and little jobs you have done around the place!

Huge thanks to **Dave** who has taken on the Groundsman role with enthusiasm and definitely goes above & beyond; sharing his weekly arty flair & all the bits & pieces he does around the school. You're a gem!

Many thanks to **Margaret** who cleaned for us most of this year – she has taken some time off to get a new knee (& is doing very well!). We really appreciate your effort and we are really sorry when things were a bit messy in classrooms sometimes! Margaret is also our resident Easter Egg maker – volunteering her time to make and help the R-2s decorate their special eggs each easter time. We appreciate your generous time you give to support our school, our staff & our kids! Margaret also makes us delicious sausage rolls & sweets – we DO get spoiled!



More Bus stuff

Have you returned your bus permission form yet?

We need your completed form before students can access the bus for the start of the 2026 school year.

Permission forms have important details for the drivers and us: emergency contacts/drop off instructions etc.

Forms can be returned via email, or text a photo to the school mobile; but we **MUST** have the form **BEFORE** your children can use the bus!

A message for our Bus families

1. Thank you to the families who offered a day/days to drop off or collect their child/ren from school over the last half of this term – this enabled extra seats to be available with new students moving into the zoned area, so we could maximise bus use for all families. Your support to make this happen is very much appreciated 😊

2. For **Woods Point/Winery stop users**: At this stage, there are bus seats available for all students who have returned their bus permission forms – travelling both ways each day. As always, if we have additional students who move into the zoned area at any time, it may change this availability.....if so, we will contact you to ask for your support again to make the bus available as much as possible for everyone! Remember, it is a privilege for the bus to be available for you to access, as it is in place to service the local zoned school area as a priority.



A message from Catherine.....

FINAL WRAP UP FROM GOVERNING COUNCIL.

Term 4 has been filled with so much fun as we wrap up another wonderful school year. I'd like to thank our whole school community for the support, teamwork and friendship that make our small school such a special place. 2025 has been full of learning, growth and achievements, and it's been a privilege to watch our students thrive with the guidance of our dedicated staff and the encouragement of families. On behalf of Governing Council, I'd like to acknowledge everyone who has contributed their time and energy – whether through volunteering, attending events, or simply cheering our kids on.

Wishing all our families a safe and joyful Christmas break while we rest and look forward to another great year ahead in 2026 ❤️❤️

Catherine, Chairperson, JPS Gov Council



It's almost holidays.....yay!

Make sure you spend your holidays doing lots of fun stuff: spend lots of time outdoors, breathe the fresh air, turn off the play stations & switches and GET OUTSIDE! Play some backyard cricket, catch some bugs, fly a kite, make sand castles, mud pies and cakes, go for a hike or run, find a nature trail to explore, go swimming or surfing, camp out (even if its just in your backyard!); and if you're lucky enough to go away on holidays somewhere.....have an amazing time!



Graduation: Year 6

Our Yr 6 Graduation was traditionally held at the Wellington Hotel on Monday evening. We had a large group of family & friends celebrate our graduating students, with JPS staff. Each graduate made a great speech, with Kiarra adding some highlights for each student. Slideshows of students' time at JPS were shown while speeches were made, and then all graduates were presented with their gift and certificate by P&F Rep Catherine. Awards sponsored by Murray Bridge Kiwanis for Graduating Terrific Kid; and Murray Bridge Interchurch Council for Encouragement & Creative Arts were all presented by Elissa and Sylvia, our PCW, and reps from the Murray Bridge Kiwanis Club, who also attended the evening. It was a great night shared by students, staff & families! And at the end there was the traditional 'river jump' made by the graduates! Thanks to the Welly Pub for their continued support of our event, setting up and their exemplary service (thanks Tegan & staff 😊)

Graduation Awards

MB Interchurch Council (PCW) awards:

Encouragement award: **Saxon Schache**

(presented by Sylvia - JPS PCW)

'Marj Byerlee Encouragement Award' for making positive lifestyle decisions and who is a great role model to their peers



Creative arts award: **Matilda Crook**

(presented by Sylvia - JPS PCW)

'Rosemary Wells Creative Arts Award' for showing enthusiasm and potential within the creative arts



KIWANIS Award: **Macy Crouch**

(presented by MB Kiwanis)

For consistently displaying all qualities of a TERRIFIC KID & being a wonderful role model to their peers



Graduation was a great night with great speeches and brave Year 6 students standing up to deliver them in front of their guests!

It was lovely to hear about their personal highlights and things they valued in their time at JPS. They all did a super job, with some very proud parents & family (& staff) attending to share their final Primary School special evening!



.....a little bit more graduation

Presenting our
class of 2025:
Year 6 graduates



Matilda



Macy



Elijah



Archer



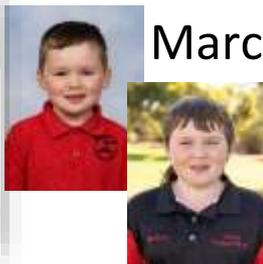
Shase



Saxon



Marcus



Richard



Hunter



Elise



Our Year 6 graduates with: Principal - Elissa Hunter and Class Teacher - Kiarra Stoeckel



A final word from our Yr 6 graduates:

We asked our graduates the HARD questions (well not quite as hard as the little kids asked them for concert!!), and here is their responses and words of 'wisdom'.....

Best JPS Memory:

Saxon: Aquatics Day! It was my first time in the river & I loved knee boarding!

Marcus: getting to make new friends and meeting new people.

Elijah: Meeting Marcus!

Macy: Meeting my friends (Elise, Charly & Shase)

Shase: going to Aldinga Beach Caravan Park

Elise: Playing with friends

Archer: meeting all of my friends

Richard: Graduation because of the fun I had

Matilda: Hanging out with Chloe, Shase &

Sophia at the latest pool excursion

Staff who has impacted you the most:

Saxon: all of my teachers, they helped me learn and I enjoyed every teacher I had!

Marcus: Mrs 'Shoes' (Hughes) because she organized so many excursions and taught me when I was little.

Elijah: Mrs Shoes (again!) because she organized lots of excursions

Macy: Sarah Beare and Miss Tam

Shase: Miss Stoeckel & Miss Kennedy

Elise: Sarah Beare who used to work here because she was very energetic

Archer: Mrs Hughes because she always helped students and other staff

Matilda: Miss Stoeckel and Miss Kennedy because they helped me when a friend moved schools

Role Model/Hero:

Saxon: My parents - they're smart, good cooks and they have been with me for everything.

Marcus: My Dad

Elijah: Mum

Macy: My Mum and Dad

Shase: myself (!?)

Elise: my family

Archer: Mum and Dad

Richard: don't have one

Matilda: Taylor Swift (I think Miss Chloe would agree with you!)

Dream job (didn't think this would be so hard!):

Saxon: A Singer! I'd love to be famous

Marcus: to be a farmer harvesting grain and working cattle

Elijah: to work in the mines

Shase: hmmm.....??

Elise: also hmmm.....??

Macy: also very indecisive about this one!

Archer: working on a farm

Richard: a lawyer

Matilda: Becoming an actor

Hunter: (crickets.....!)



Words of advice for our younger students:

Saxon: Try new things, stretch your comfort zone and listen to your teachers. They're trying to help you learn and grow!

Marcus: Listen to your teacher and make new friends when you can!

Elijah: Listen!

Macy: Be good, be kind and respectful to all people

Shase: Be happy & stay calm

Elise: Don't get in trouble!

Archer: to never give up and give everything a go

Richard: chase your dreams!

Matilda: Have fun and don't give up!

Hunter: Always stay positive and keep enjoying life, plus take all opportunities you get!

Anything else:

Macy: I have loved my time at Jervois, meeting awesome people!

Matilda: Listen in school!

Thanks guys - some very sound advice there for our younger JPS students to learn from!



More JPS 2025 moments



Whole school pool day - what a fun time!



Concert, concert, concert!



What a great performance: SUPER EFFORT everyone.....really proud of our JPS kids & staff!



It's finally time to say farewell to this bunch of cool kids, most of who have been with us for 7 years! Good Luck, be kind, stay true to yourselves, take risks, grab opportunities, keep learning, laugh, enjoy life and always remember your time at JPS with a smile!



L-R: Shase, Matilda, Elijah, Saxon, Macy, Archer, Marcus & Elise
Front: Hunter & Richard



Jervois Primary School – Yr 6 Graduates 2025

**Merry Christmas & Happy holidays
from us all at Jervois Primary xo**

