



South Thornlie Primary School

20 Ovens Road, Thornlie WA 6108 | (08) 9232 3600

Finalist - WA Education Award 2022 | Australian Education Awards 2023 | Susan Ryan Family Engagement 2023



Souththornlieps



South Thornlie Primary School




www.souththornlieps.wa.edu.au

Newsletter: Term 1, Week 1

Friday, 7 February 2025

Term 4 Planner

WK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	10 FEB 	11 FEB	12 FEB	13 FEB	14 FEB C5 Assembly & Student Leader Badges Presented 8.30am P&C Meet & Greet after assembly Community Room P&C Free Icy Pole Day for Students
3	17 FEB	18 FEB	19 FEB	20 FEB	21 FEB Mini Assembly P&C General Meeting 8.45am – Community Room

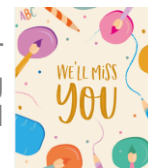
Principal's Message



Welcome parents, caregivers, students and staff for the 2025 school year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new families. This year, we are excited to have a number of new students join our school community. I am sure your child's journey will be filled with growth, learning, and plenty of happy moments. We are so glad to have you as part of our South Thornlie Primary School community!

Staff News

We bid farewell to Suzi Sheridan, an extraordinary artist and a dedicated education assistant. Over the past 10 years, Suzi has enriched our classrooms with her creativity and artistic expertise, making a lasting impact on our students. Her commitment to nurturing the artistic talents of those she worked with has been truly inspiring.



Suzi will be continuing her own artistic journey in a new role this year, and while we will miss her presence here, we are excited for the next chapter in her passion for art. We wish her all the best in this new adventure, knowing she will continue to inspire and create in all she does.

A warm welcome to the wonderful new staff members joining our South Thornlie Primary School team this year. Please join us in welcoming:



- Brittany Faranda – Deputy Principal
- Emily Jansen – Teaching Kindy on Wednesdays
- Imogen Kelly – Teaching Italian

Additionally, we are fortunate to have some amazing staff joining us on fixed-term contracts during Term 1:

- Jana Harrison – Teaching Music
- Niki Paton – School Officer
- Kelly Bolger – Teaching in B2 on Thursdays & Fridays
- Kirsty Ellery – Education Assistant in ECC1
- Neetha Talam – Special Needs Education Assistant

We are truly grateful for their contributions and are excited to see the positive impact they will have on our school community. Please join us in making them all feel welcome and appreciated as they begin their journey with us at South Thornlie Primary School.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 will participate in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) this term from 12 to 24 March (week 6 & 7). Click on the link to access practice tests and further information <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment>. A detailed information flyer can also be found on pages 4 and 5.

Term Planner

You will soon receive a copy of the Term 1 Planner. Please continue to check the newsletter for the most up to date information and events.

Term Dates

Term	Term Dates	Pupil Free Days	Public Holidays (during the term)
Term 1	Wed 5 February to Fri 11 April		Mon 3 March (Labour Day)
Term 2	Tue 29 April to Fri 4 July	Mon 28 April	Mon 2 June (WA Day)
Term 3	Tue 22 July to Fri 26 September	Mon 21 July	
Term 4	Tue 14 October to Thu 18 December	Mon 13 October Fri 19 December	

School Hours

Classroom doors open	8.20am	Lunch	1.00pm - 1.30pm
School commences	8.30am	School finishes	2.30pm
Recess	10.30am - 10.50am	Office Hours	8.00am – 3.00pm Monday to Friday

Attendance

School commences at 8.30am each day with doors open at 8.20am. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time to give them the best start to the school day.



- **Late arrivals** – If your child will be arriving late to school due to appointments etc. please ensure they come to the office to obtain a late pass.
- **Leave pass** – If you need to collect your child early from school for an appointment etc. please endeavour to inform the classroom teacher prior. Parents/caregivers are required to come to the office to sign their child out before collecting them from class. Students will not be permitted to leave without a leave pass being presented to the teacher.
- **Absence from school** – Parents/caregivers are required to inform the school if their child will be absent. Please SMS absentees to the school before 8.30am on **0438 579 518**, include your child's full name, reason and date of absence. Alternatively, you can telephone the school on 9232 3600.

Have your details changed?



Please let the office know if you have recently changed address, email or contact details. A form is available in the office, alternatively, send an email to: souththornlie.ps@education.wa.edu.au.

Good Standing Strategy

The Good Standing Strategy is part of our school's Behaviour Management Policy and is one of the ways South Thornlie encourages our students to consistently demonstrate respect for the values and rules at our school.

Our Good Standing Strategy can be found on our website: souththornlieps@education.wa.edu.au under 'Our School, School Policies, Behaviour Policies & Processes.

Mobile Phones & Smart Watches

Students are not permitted to have mobile phones or smart watches whilst at school. Students who need a mobile phone/watch before and after school are required to leave their device in the office during the day. Students must bring their mobile phone/watch to the office before 8.30am and collect after 2.30pm each day. An allocated sleeve and secure storage location will be provided to students who require this facility.

Crunch & Sip

Crunch & Sip is an opportunity for students to eat fruit or vegetables and drink water in the classroom. South Thornlie Primary School has introduced Crunch & Sip to support students to establish healthy eating habits whilst at school. Each class may choose to have Crunch & Sip at any time during the day. We encourage students to bring an extra piece of fruit or cut vegetables to school each day for Crunch & Sip.

Nut Awareness

South Thornlie Primary School have students in various classes who have severe allergies including anaphylaxis to nuts. As we are a 'nut aware' school, we strongly request that students refrain from bringing foods that contain nuts and nut products.

Uniform Shop

Uniforms can be purchased from the school office, Monday to Friday 8am-3pm, during the school term. Cash and EFTPOS are available. Size small/medium hats are currently unavailable, when new stock arrives, we will advise the school community. Order forms are available in the office. We cannot take pre-orders.

University Services

Our school is very fortunate to have university students from Curtin University, ECU, UWA and Notre Dame providing social work, counselling and gross motor skills services to our students and families. They will be working across the school supporting students with their progress. If you are interested in your child accessing these services, please contact the Principal, Megan Barnett on 9232 3600.

Our school continues to have access to a school psychologist and nurse. Please contact the office if you require or would like more information about these services.

Dental Therapy Centre

South Thornlie Dental Therapy Centre is located within our school grounds. This dental therapy centre provides dental examinations and treatment to eligible school age children.

The Dental Therapy Centre can be contacted on: 9459 4270 between 8.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday during the school term.



Megan Barnett
Principal

Teaching Staff 2025

Class	Teacher/s	Class	Teachers/s
Kindy U1A/B	Jane Claridge / Emily Jansen	B5	Jiapei Hoe
Kindy U2B	Emily Holyoake	C2	Jeanette Petersen
ECC1	Janhwi Tiwari / Chloe Black	C3	Kara Forder
ECC2	Jacky Smith / Chloe Black	C4	Kevin Pitchford / Mary Wills
A1	Leanne Tapper / Nancy Barbe	C5	Michelle Murray / Mary Wills
A3	Rhianna Powell	Science	Larissa Waghorn
A4	Madelynne Divitini	PE	Chris Mattock
A6	Abigail King	Health (A5)	Marieka Rendall
B1	Melanie Smithin	Music	Stephanie Mathys / Jana Harrison (T1)
B2	Chantelle Murray	Italian (C1)	Imogen Kelly
B3	Jenny Liedermoy / Denise Tjhung	Challenge Club (STEAM ROOM)	Jenny Liedermoy
B4	Tegan Compson		

Education Assistants 2025

Louise Hales	Nicolle Thompson	Sheryl Van Der Sande
Lisa McCartie	Wendy Fisher	Jenise Mathews
Kym Leguay	Ann Freeman	Emma Keeley
Liz Horsley	Deb Dynan	Neetha Talam (Term 1)
Kirsty Ellery (Term 1)		

Admin & Auxiliary Staff

Megan Barnett - Principal	Paula Vardy - Deputy	Jacqui Bell - Deputy
Brittany Faranda - Deputy	Lisa Harbron - MCS	Shayla D'Sylva – School Officer
Niki Paton – School Officer (Term 1)	Tania Rutley – Library Officer	John Turner – Gardener

NAPLAN 2025

Information for parents and carers



Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working, and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program.

Information on adjustments available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs is provided in the [National protocols for test administration](#).

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the National protocols for test administration (linked above), [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), and our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests; however, it is not necessary for parents/carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [NAP – Public demonstration site](#).

How is my child's performance reported?

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected of the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly

on what has been taught in previous years of schooling. Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at [myschool.edu.au](#).

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](#)
- visit [nap.edu.au](#)

To learn how ACARA manages personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](#).

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame. **The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 12 March 2025 and finishes on Monday 24 March 2025.** Schools will schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students do the writing test on paper on day 1 only. Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing on day 1, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations).	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with an idea or topic called a writing stimulus (or prompt) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
Reading	To be completed after the writing test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
Conventions of language	To be completed after the reading test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.

NOONGAR WORD OF THE WEEK

Our students learn an Aboriginal word from the Noongar Language each week to celebrate Aboriginal Culture. The Noongar Language is the spoken language of the Aboriginal people from the Southwest region of WA.

As part of our word of the week, each newsletter will feature words of the fortnight which you can practice at home. The words we will be learning this fortnight are:

- Kaya (hello/yes)
- Djakoortiny (running)



S.O.A.R

In term one we discuss and develop students' individual successes. Over the next two weeks students will be looking at not making excuses and learning to try new things.



One of these things is not like the others

CAPS DON'T KEEP THE SUN OFF!

Broad brimmed, legionnaire and bucket hats protect the neck, ears, temple and side of the face – offering very good sun protection to these vulnerable areas which are common sites for skin cancer. Baseball caps and visors do not provide adequate protection.

Marieka Rendall
Teacher / Coordinator

HEALTHY HABITS

How to Crunch&Sip® A guide for parents

Crunch&Sip® encourages kids to eat more vegetables and fruit and reach for water, which helps teach them healthy habits from a young age. Crunch&Sip® should only occur during class time and is not designed to replace recess.

To Crunch&Sip® every day, send your child to school with:

- A clean, clear bottle filled with water.
- A serve of easy to eat vegetables or fruit for the classroom.



What can I pack?

✓ ALLOWED	✗ NOT ALLOWED
Vegetables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fresh vegetables (e.g. celery, carrot sticks, broccoli bits, etc). • Vegetables canned in water with no added salt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Vegetable products (e.g. vegetable breads, popcorn, chips, vegetable pastries). ✗ Marinated vegetables.
Fruit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fresh fruit (whole or chopped) or canned fruit in natural juice. • Dried fruit (please limit, dried fruit should not be a daily snack). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ 'Fruit' products (e.g. fruit leather, roll-ups, bars, jams, fruit cakes). ✗ Fruit canned in syrup or with artificial sweeteners.
Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only plain water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Drinks other than plain water (including fruit or vegetable juices).

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

At South Thornlie we SOAR

We are:

- S**afe
- O**pen-hearted
- A**ccepting
- R**esilient

Wellbeing Committee

Use This Daily Ritual to Boost Your Child's Gratitude and Positivity

Incorporating a simple daily ritual can make a significant difference in your child's mindset and overall well-being. Try our GLAD ritual to help your child focus on the positive aspects of their day.

Gratitude:

Ask your child to share one thing they are grateful for each day. This could be something small, like a kind gesture from a friend or a favorite meal.



Learning:

Encourage your child to identify one thing they learned today. It could be a fact from school, a new skill, or an important life lesson.



Accomplishments:

Have your child recognize one thing they accomplished during the day, no matter how small.



Delight:

Ask your child to recall one moment that delighted them, such as a funny joke, a beautiful sunset, or a playful interaction.



With this ritual you will...

- wire your brain for gratitude and positivity
- focus on what's going right
- find more joy by paying attention to the life around you in a more positive and self-aware way.

Integrating this GLAD ritual into your child's bedtime routine nurtures a habit of gratitude and positivity. Over time, this practice will help your child naturally gravitate toward what's going right in their life, fostering a more joyful and resilient mindset.



HOT WEATHER REMINDER

As the weather is hot, students are reminded to bring a water bottle and school hat to school each day.



ICY POLE THURSDAYS – YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER

The Year 6 students will be selling icy poles as part of their fundraising efforts for this year's camp and graduation. Bring your gold coins and help them reach fundraising goals!

When: Thursdays during Term 1 starting in week 2

Time: 2.30pm

Where: C Block Stage



LIBRARY CLUB

STARTS

WEEK

THREE



Monday – Thursday

8:00 – 8:20am

Years 1 – 6 students can come along and read, play Numero and practise their times tables.

Get your passport stamped every day you come and win fabulous prizes.

Parents are invited to join in.

WELCOME



SCHOOL



Safer School Parking

Where you park matters

Parking
on verges or
footpaths puts
children
at risk



Blocking paths gives pedestrians little choice but to walk on or near the road.

The City of Gosnells Rangers are working to keep your children safe by monitoring parking at local schools.

