SOUTHSIDE
Montessori School

Volume 3 · Edition 52- 24/07/2026

THE SOUTHSIDE SCOOP

Southside Montessori School newsletter

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Dear Southside Families,

Welcome to Term 3! We hope you and your families had a restful and enjoyable break and that everyone has returned feeling refreshed and ready for another exciting term of learning.

As we begin the new term, we look forward to the many opportunities ahead for our students to learn, grow, and continue developing their independence, confidence, and curiosity. Across our classrooms, our educators have planned engaging learning experiences that build on each child's interests and encourage exploration, collaboration, and a love of learning.

This term also brings a range of exciting events, classroom activities, and opportunities for our school community to come together. We encourage you to take a few moments to read through this newsletter and calendar to stay informed about what's happening across the school and the important dates for the weeks ahead.

At Southside Montessori, we remain committed to providing a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment where every child is supported to reach their full potential. We are grateful for the ongoing partnership we share with our families and thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

As Dr Maria Montessori reminds us, *"The education of even a small child does not aim at preparing him for school, but for life."* As we begin another term together, we look forward to supporting each child as they continue to grow in confidence, independence, and a lifelong love of learning.

We look forward to another wonderful term of learning and growth and thank you for being such an important part of the Southside community.

Warm regards,
The Southside Montessori Team

NAPLAN Results Now Available

We are pleased to share that the 2026 NAPLAN results for our Year 3 and Year 5 students are now available.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all students who participated in the NAPLAN assessments. We are very proud of their efforts, dedication, and the positive attitude they demonstrated throughout the process. Every student should be recognised for the commitment they showed and the progress they continue to make in their learning journey.

The individual NAPLAN Student Reports are now available for parents and carers to collect from the school office. We encourage families to take the time to review their child's report and celebrate their achievements. We would like to remind families that due to national technical difficulties on the day, the writing results may not provide a true reflection of your child's abilities. NAPLAN should be viewed as just one of many assessments that students undertake during the course of their schooling.

We are delighted with the hard work and growth demonstrated by our students and thank our teachers and families for their ongoing support and encouragement.

Student Information Update – Sentral Parent Portal

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the beginning of each term, we kindly ask families to review the information we have on record for their child and ensure that all details are correct, current, and up to date.

We encourage families to please log in to the **Sentral Parent Portal** to review their child's information and make any necessary amendments. This includes checking contact details, emergency contacts, medical information, and any other important details that may have changed. Any updates can also be communicated directly to the school office.

Keeping our records accurate is an important responsibility and plays a vital role in ensuring we can communicate effectively with families and provide the appropriate support and care for every child. Having current information is especially important in the event of an emergency.

We sincerely appreciate your time, attention, and cooperation in helping us maintain accurate records. Thank you for your continued partnership and support in keeping our school community safe and well-informed.

Starr's Planetarium Incursion

Students will be participating in a Starr's Planetarium Incursion on **Thursday, 6th August 2026 (Week 3)**.

This engaging science experience will give students the opportunity to explore the wonders of space through an immersive digital 360° planetarium. Guided by experienced science communicators, the session will take students on an exciting journey through space, exploring astronomy and the wonders of our universe through engaging visuals and interactive presentations.

The incursion promises to be an exciting extension of classroom learning, inspiring curiosity and encouraging students to explore the world—and universe—around them.

We look forward to an exciting day of discovery and exploration!

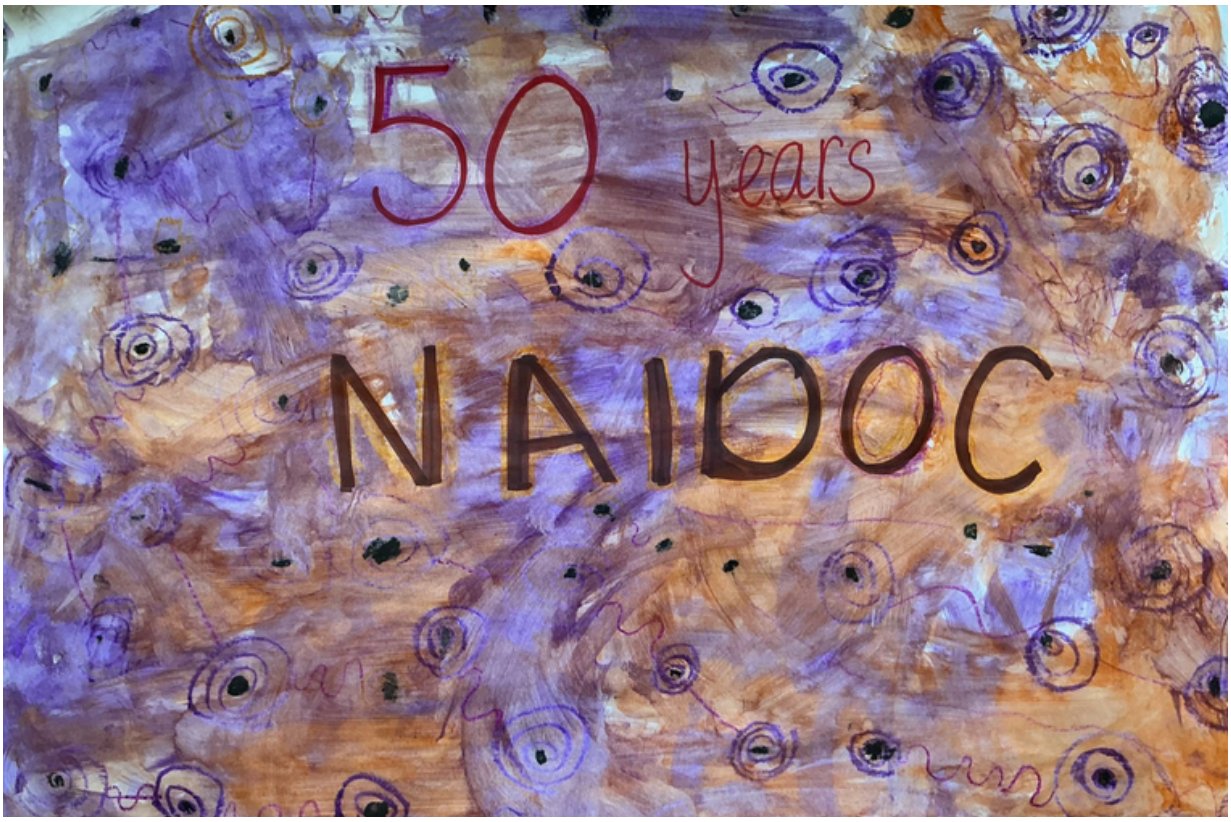
Bulletin Week 1, 2026 - Garden

This week, the Garden children celebrated and explored the significance of **50 years of NAIDOC Week** through literature, art, and meaningful conversations. Through shared stories and discussions, the children learned about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, and the importance of community. They explored how symbols can be used to communicate ideas and tell stories, developing an understanding of Indigenous ways of sharing knowledge.

As part of their learning, the children were introduced to symbols commonly found in Aboriginal artworks. They discovered that **circles can represent communities, meeting places, or people gathering together**, while **lines and pathways can symbolise connections, journeys, collaboration, and the links between communities**. The children incorporated these symbols into their own artworks, using learned drawing and painting techniques.

Appreciation for the rich cultural heritage and contributions of First Nations peoples is a continuous goal in our program. Through art, storytelling, and discussion, the children will continue to develop a deeper awareness and appreciation of First Nations people.

By Educational Leader
Marie Chahine



Welcome Back to Term 3 - Loft

It has been wonderful to see the children return to school enthusiastic, positive and ready to learn. They have settled back into classroom routines very well and have enjoyed reconnecting with friends and teachers. We have spent time revisiting our class guidelines, reflecting on how we can work together respectfully, make positive choices and create a safe and supportive learning environment for everyone.

This week, students have explored a range of engaging learning experiences across our key learning areas. In Science, they participated in hands-on investigations and discussions. In Mathematics, the children have been consolidating previously learned concepts while being introduced to new skills and strategies in accordance with the term 3 curriculum. In English they developed their writing skills alongside focused grammar activities. They also enjoyed participating in Sport and Music lessons, where they demonstrated teamwork, creativity and enthusiasm.

We look forward to another exciting term of learning and growth together.

An Exciting Term Ahead

We have a busy and engaging term planned, with a range of learning experiences and community events scheduled throughout the term, including:

- *Planetarium excursion*
- *Playball continuing for Early Years students throughout the term*
- *Ball sports and skills development in Physical Education throughout the term*
- *Pyjama Day*
- *Book Week*
- *Science Week*
- *National Child Protection Week*
- *Maria Montessori's Birthday*
- *Father's Day celebrations*

Further details about each event will be shared with families closer to the time.

The Term 3 calendar can be accessed below & through the Parent Portal by selecting the Calendar icon from the dashboard.

SSM Community Calendar

Term 3, 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	**Jul** 20 Staff PD Day- Pupil Free Day	Jul 21 School Starts - TERM 3	Jul 22	Jul 23 Music	Jul 24 Southside Scoop 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	Jul 25	Jul 26
2	Jul 27 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	Jul 28	Jul 29	Jul 30 Music	Jul 31 Playball - Garden 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	**Aug** 1	Aug 2
3	Aug 3 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6 Music Incursion- Star Planetarium	Aug 7 Playball - Garden Southside Scoop 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	Aug 8	Aug 9
4	Aug 10 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13 Music Pyjama Day	Aug 14 Playball - Garden 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	Aug 15	Aug 16
	Aug 17 Science Week 2:15pm - 3pm	Aug 18 Science Week	Aug 19 Science Week	Aug 20 Science Week Music	Aug 21 Science Week Playball - Garden	Aug 22	Aug 23

5	Ball Sports (K-Yr2)				Southside Scoop 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6		
6	Aug 24 Book Week □ □ 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	Aug 25 Book Week □ □	Aug 26 Book Week □ □	Aug 27 Book Week □ □ Music	Aug 28 Book Week □ □ Playball - Garden 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	Aug 29	Aug 30
7	Aug 31 Dr. Maria Montessori Bir thday 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	**Sep** 1	Sep 2 Early Educators Day	Sep 3 Music	Sep 4 Playball - Garden Father's Day Celebration Southside Scoop 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	Sep 5	Sep 6 Father's Day
8	Sep 7 National Child Protection Week □ □ 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	Sep 8 National Child Protection Week □ □	Sep 9 National Child Protection Week □ □	Sep 10 Music National Child Protection Week □ □ R U OK Day □	Sep 11 Playball - Garden National Child Protection Week □ □ 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Spor ts Yr3 - Yr6	Sep 12 MSCA Grassroots Conference - Adelaide	Sep 13 MSCA Grassroots Conference - Adelaide
	Sep 14	Sep 15	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 19	Sep 20

9	2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)			Music	Playball - Garden Southside Scoop 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports Yr3 - Yr6		
10	Sep 21 Internationa Day of Peace 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports (K-Yr2)	Sep 22	Sep 23	Sep 24 Music	Sep 25 Playball - Garden 2:15pm - 3pm Ball Sports Yr3 - Yr6	Sep 26	Sep 27

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2026 Term Dates

Term	Commences		Concludes	
1	Wednesday	28 January	Thursday	2 April
2	Tuesday	21 April	Friday	26 June
3	Tuesday	21 July	Friday	25 September
4	Tuesday	13 October	Thursday	10 December

Public Holidays (during school term)		
Term 2	ANZAC Day	Monday 27 April
Term 2	King's Birthday	Monday 8 June

Staff PD Dates (Pupil Free Days)	
Term 1	27 January
Term 2	20 April / 5 June
Term 3	20 July
Term 4	12 October/ 11 December

School Hours		
NIDO Program (Thursday)	11:15am	12:30pm
ParentChild Program (Wed,Thurs)	9:15am	11:15am
Pre -Primary Program (3-6)	9.00 am *Supervision from 8.30am*	3.00pm
Primary (6-12)	9.00 am *Supervision from 8.30am*	3.00pm

Extended Leave

Please note that Southside Montessori School does not generally support extended leave for students. Applications are considered at the discretion of the Principal and will be considered under
extenuating circumstances.