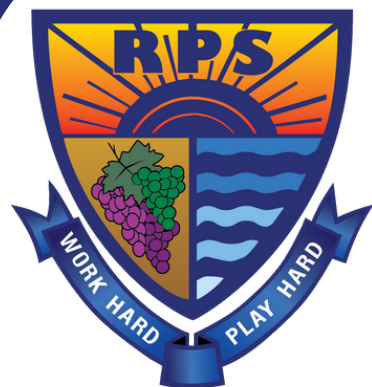




# WELCOME TO **RENMARK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY LEARNING**



# WELCOME MESSAGE



**SALLY SCHWARTZKOPFF**  
PRINCIPAL

It is with great pleasure that I extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to each and every one of you as you consider joining our vibrant Renmark Primary School family. As the proud principal of this school, I am committed to fostering an environment that nurtures academic excellence, personal growth, character development, and a lifelong love for learning. I am also a parent who deeply values the transformative power of public education and my own children are proud students here at Renmark Primary School.

At Renmark Primary School, we believe in the power of education to transform lives. Our dedicated team of teachers, educators, staff, and supportive community members are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and inspiring atmosphere where students can thrive both academically and socially.

Here at Renmark Primary School, we embrace diversity and value each individual's unique talents, experiences, and perspectives. Our curriculum is designed to challenge and engage young minds, helping them discover their passions, develop critical thinking skills, and prepare for a successful future in an ever-evolving world. We believe in fostering a well-rounded educational experience, helping our students develop not only as scholars but also as compassionate and responsible citizens.

I invite you to learn more about the opportunities that await your child at Renmark Primary School. Feel free to reach out to our dedicated team if you have any questions or would like further information. Just like you, I want the best for my children, and I know that a solid educational foundation is crucial for their future success. That's why I have personally chosen Renmark Primary School for my family, and I'm excited to have the opportunity to extend the same invitation to you as principal of the school.

Thank you for considering Renmark Primary School for your child's educational journey. Together, we can shape a future filled with knowledge, growth, and endless possibilities.

# SCHOOL CONTEXT

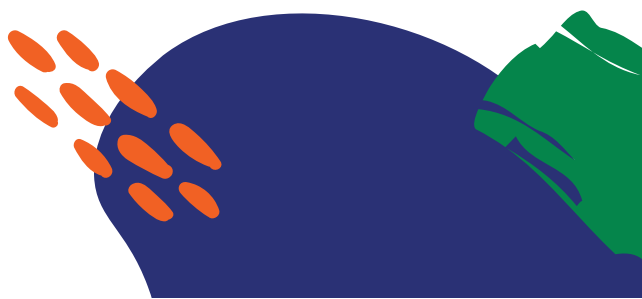
Renmark Primary School is a dynamic and growing community, currently catering to approximately 225 students spanning from reception to year 6. Our diverse student body reflects a range of backgrounds and cultures, and we take pride in our commitment to inclusivity, valuing each student's unique experiences and fostering an environment where everyone feels welcome.

At Renmark Primary School, we believe in nurturing individual academic growth. With the amalgamation of the junior and primary schools in 2013, our facilities were thoughtfully refurbished to create an optimal learning environment. These enhancements included the addition of an impressive indoor basketball court, gymnasium and hall space, as well as a purpose-built library and science laboratories designed to inspire a love for reading and exploration.

Our curriculum is designed to provide students with a high-quality education aligned to the eight areas of the Australian Curriculum. We understand the significance of a balanced timetable, ensuring that our students receive the optimal amount of learning time to support their educational development. Our teachers use the Department for Education units of work to deliver high-quality content across the curriculum, with a particularly strong focus on problem solving and conceptual understanding in mathematics.

We recognise that positive relationships between teachers, students, and parents are crucial for a thriving school community. We foster these relationships through open and effective communication channels. Starting each day with 'Care and Connect', teachers intentionally build relationships with students before the school day begins. Cultural connections are celebrated, enriching the experience for both students and their families. We empower our students with a sense of agency, encouraging them to actively participate in their learning journey.

Renmark Primary School is dedicated to providing a supportive and enriching environment where students can achieve their full potential, both academically and personally, ensuring a bright and fulfilling future for every child.



# OUR SCHOOL VALUES

This year, we introduced our newly crafted school values, thoughtfully designed to align seamlessly with our expectations for student behaviour. These values are more than just words; they serve as the foundation of our supportive ecosystem, fostering a culture of growth and positivity. We embrace the core values of kindness, respect, responsibility, and learning, weaving them into our daily interactions. By instilling these values, we equip our students with a robust moral compass, empowering them to navigate life's challenges with integrity, empathy, and a profound sense of purpose. These values are integral to character development, enhancing not only academic excellence but also shaping responsible, compassionate, and resilient individuals.

Embedded within our classroom practices, these values ensure that every step of each student's educational journey at Renmark Primary School is firmly built on these essential principles. Through this deliberate focus on values, we not only create a harmonious and enriching experience for all but also inspire our students to become ethical, thoughtful, and empathetic citizens, ready to make meaningful contributions to the broader community.



# A SAMPLE OF OUR PROGRAMS

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## 1. INITIALIT

Initialit is an evidence-based whole-class literacy program providing all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers. Initialit is a three-year program, covering the first three years of school (Foundation to Year 2). This program is embedded in all junior primary classrooms.

## 2. ORTON-GILLINGHAM INTERVENTION

The Orton-Gillingham (OG) reading program is made up of systematic, multisensory, phonics and language instruction. It is a scientific research-based diagnostic and prescriptive therapy to remediate and teach reading (literacy) and language skills. We use the O-G Intervention program for students requiring additional support in learning to read.

## 3. THE RESILIENCE PROJECT


The Resilience Project is an engaging R-6 program that provides evidence-based, practical strategies to build resilience. This program is designed to include students, teachers and the community to be practising the key pillars of resilience: Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM). This program is an important part of our school's effort to look after the mental health of our community.

## 4. SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

We take pride in offering specialised instruction through our dedicated teachers who focus on the science, health, physical education, and languages curriculum. These specialist teachers create captivating and immersive learning experiences, ensuring that our students are not just educated but also thoroughly engaged.

## 5. TRAUMA INFORMED PRACTICE

This approach embeds practical strategies that promote student engagement, wellbeing and success in learning, through understanding the impact of trauma on the developing brain, promoting pro-social behaviours, building positive relationships for healing trauma, and creating and rebuilding healthy, positive and reparative connections in the child's brain. Trauma-informed practice in education is a process of cultural change that enables educators and support staff to understand the impact of childhood trauma and respond to the learning and engagement needs of vulnerable children and young people.



# STUDENT WELLBEING

Renmark Primary School's approach to fostering positive student behavior is grounded in the principles of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL). This framework recognises that positive behavior is a skill that can be cultivated, and it emphasises creating environments conducive to effective teaching and learning for every child. PBL is implemented across various levels, including whole school, class, small group, and individual interventions. We believe that these comprehensive strategies are essential for instilling life-long self-regulation skills.

Our dedicated Student Wellbeing Leader plays a pivotal role in supporting student wellbeing across all classrooms. The Student Wellbeing Leader actively engages with whole class groups, small groups, and individuals to promote emotional regulation, enhance engagement in learning, foster positive peer relationships, and facilitate referrals to external agencies when needed. This holistic approach ensures that students receive the support they need to thrive both academically and emotionally.

In addition to our commitment to wellbeing, we offer valuable programs to enrich students' experiences. Breakfast Club ensures that students start the day ready to learn, while our Peer Mediators program promotes conflict resolution and positive interactions among students. The Peers and Leaders program is a peer support initiative for the playground to promote positive playtime, ensuring the playground is a safer, more enjoyable space for younger children.

At Renmark Primary School, we recognise that academic success is intertwined with emotional well-being, and we are dedicated to creating an environment where both aspects flourish. We invite students and parents to actively engage with these programs and initiatives, fostering a supportive and nurturing community that embraces each child's unique journey.

# CONTACTS

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**Government of South Australia**

Department for Education