

# In Flight 2022

IN THIS EDITION Unveiling our Master Plan Being Well at St John's Grammar Success in Sport

PHOTO: Junior School students prepare for their race at the Junior School Swimming Carnival



### From the

Principal

St John's Grammar is proud of its track record in sport. Our program is diverse, it's invitational and inclusive and it is well supported by a team of dedicated staff, coaches and officials. Our facilities continue to improve and so many students have excelled on the playing arena. In our community we have several National and State representatives, our School shines in triathlon, cycling, basketball, netball and tennis. Participation rates are rising, particularly in the sports of table tennis, volleyball and soccer.

The School recognises the importance of merging with community sports associations so we build schedules for sport that allow our students to participate for their School and for their local clubs.

School sport serves three main objectives. Firstly, our sport programs allows young people to develop skills, it is part of our quest to promote healthy and active lifestyles and sport provides structure for young people to play together and build that all-important understanding of team. It also serves to achieve all these outcomes in a fun and spirited environment.

New thinking and planning will steer our School program to loftier heights including a focus on our resources. I salute our hardworking staff who are passionate about providing first class opportunities and determined to motivate every student to join a sport. I also commend the many Old Scholars who have played pivotal roles in coaching and umpiring and pioneered a growing number of Old Scholar sports teams.

This publication of InFlight shares with our community some of the outstanding achievements of our students and Old Scholars, as well as showcasing new developments on the sporting front.

Richard Anderson Principal

# THE MASTER OF ALL PLANS

PHOTO: An artistic render of the new Education Centre on the Secondary Campus

We are delighted to share with our School Community that we have begun our exciting building and grounds projects across the School.

We are constructing a new Technology & Enterprise Precinct, Visual Art & Design Precinct and a multi-purpose Education Centre on the Secondary Campus and a new Year 5 Precinct on the Junior Campus. These works are in addition to many smaller scale renovations and upgrades taking place across both campuses.





The existing Design and Technology Centre will be renovated and expanded to incorporate workshops for wood working, plastics and metal. There will also be designated learning spaces for more contemporary high-tech equipment, an enterprise workshop and an improved digital technology space.







Two new art studios will be built and the spaces on the southern side of Retreat House will incorporate dedicated areas for ceramics and print making, as well as an expanded Year 12 studio. The White Chapel Gallery will be refurbished and there will be indoor/outdoor gallery zones and garden areas that will be exciting additions to the creativity complex.



The Education Centre on the Secondary Campus will be a firstclass learning facility for students, architecturally designed to capture exceptional and personalised learning. The Centre will include a new library space. and will also serve as a one-stop-shop for all things under the banner of student services. It will also become the main gateway entrance to the campus for our community. Staff facilities will be relocated to the Centre and include flexible, agile work areas, collaboration rooms, a conference theatre and other work zones.

#### YEAR 5 LEARNING PRECINCT

Ward Constructions has been engaged to redevelop the Year 5 classrooms to create a new Learning Hub, complete with new enlarged and connected classrooms, collaboration pods and staff work zones. The grounds between the Hub and the new Science Lab will also be landscaped to allow for further outdoor learning.

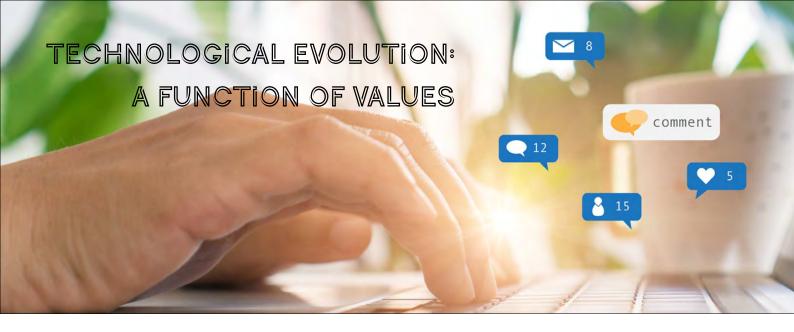
#### ADDITIONAL WORKS

The new Kitchen/Tuckshop has been completed in the Junior School and all lunches for our Reception to Year 6 students are now prepared and delivered via this new facility.

The WellNest Consulting rooms and walkways have been given their final touches and we have welcomed our first professional Partners Dave Scholz (Psychology) and Kay Bosworth (Learning Support) who have been delighted with the number of bookings already received.

#### FUTURE PROJECTS

In addition, the Year 3 and 4 Classrooms will also be refurbished and the new Year 6 General Learning Space will be constructed adjacent to the Centre For Creativity at the Junior Campus. Walter Brooke continue to develop the Performing Arts Extension of the Railway Cottages and surrounding learning areas, and a full grounds and landscaping plan is being developed for the Junior Campus. This major project is scheduled to begin in 2023. We aspire to be innovative, creative, progressive and collaborative and the planning and design really capture that mission.



Quite a few years ago, a younger and obviously more ambitious version of myself wrote a paper for a staff PD workshop titled "Technology, Gelassenheit and the Whores of Babylon: What the Amish Know That We Don't" (!) – copies for the brave available on request.

This followed an enjoyable trip I had made to Lancaster County in Pennsylvania, otherwise known as the 'Garden Spot' or, more commonly, ground zero for the Amish brethren. I found it fascinating to visit a community that seemingly rejects most forms of technology out of hand and to learn a little about the religious, moral and social constructs that drive these community decisions. I eventually concluded that, for me, the interesting thing about the Amish approach is not advocacy for some advanced form of luddite-ism, so much as a carefully considered approach that places the central, unshakeable values of the community at the heart of every decision about technology usage.

Whether they choose horse and buggy or motorised transport is possibly less interesting than why the choice is made – and how at the centre of this choice is the question 'what impact will this new thing have on our ability to uphold our core values?'

Compare this with much of the current discussions around technology in schools. In the past, I think technology learning tended to focus more on the here and now. I remember my own school experiences being about 'what exists now' (tools, processes, objects) and how to properly use, reproduce or emulate them. Learning stopped with skill development, and the skills were compartmentalised or limited to a set physical facilities and equipment.

Compare to the current day when we experience wave after wave of new technology; children need to learn how to shift seamlessly between the real and the virtual, using machines and materials that have just been invented; they have to think about digital security, intellectual property and data management. Online safety is as much of a concern as sharp things in the workshop, and rather than online technology spaces fulfilling some ethereal or utopian vision of a world connected through time and space, it has become a minefield of human chicanery, fraud and exploitation which it is our responsibility to help children negotiate.

We have, as a country, shifted in the space of just a few decades from chalkboards and exercise books to a massively complex digital ecosystem where every student has continual access to multiple digital devices, each connected to the world wide web. We collect, represent and interpret live data instantaneously, we interact partly in the real and partly in the virtual world. We design things on screens and then print them from goo and plastic string.

Our work is digital, our grades are digital, our interactions are often digital, and our exposure to all of the risks and pitfalls of the digital age is significant and real. At several points the educational narrative has enthusiastically claimed that 'the future of technology education is...' (Science? Mathematics? Coding? STEM? STEAM? Enterprise?), presenting us with layer after layer of new gadgets without much of a coherent view of what it actually is that underpins all of this wonderful technology learning.

Don't get me wrong; I'm a huge advocate for cutting-edge learning in schools and I have a significant personal history of trialling new tech in schools.

But, over the years I think I've also learned a lot about how good technology learning is a function of values over the more usual enthusiasm for new gadgets.

So – here it is: at St John's Grammar, we believe the future of technology learning in schools is to keep our focus on our own values and how the technologies we choose will act to enhance them. This is why we are interested in technologies that improve our understanding of climate, environmental and ecological systems; how sustainable development is enabled through new design and manufacturing processes; and how entrepreneurship can help us reduce inequality and improve the lives of others.

Reducing all of this to a set of strategic decisions about technology education in a school can be very tricky. Should we focus on core practical skills, or on coding and systems thinking? How much investment in pricey CAD/CAM machinery, or on drones and VR? Should we pour our effort and capital into specialist spaces, or on more blended learning areas – and at what point should the curriculum change to reflect our decisions?

The new technology and enterprise spaces at St John's Grammar will be a reflection of our responses to many of these questions. We are heartened that our own students echo these responses; there is a general sense that the range of exposure to new technologies should increase, and we are making significant investment in control technologies, drones and robotics, VR/AR, space technologies, digital graphics, enterprise technologies and 'free play/ exploration' opportunities with the technologies such as 3D printing and laser cutting.

However, the focus is not on the new toys so much as the opportunities they unlock; our students are keen to tackle design problems of increasing complexity, with freedom to combine technologies to produce working solutions. They like the option of flexible workspaces and learning environments, shifting away from the traditional 'hard and cold' workspaces, toward a 'Design Studio' environment with tools and equipment operating alongside collaborative design spaces.

Our Technology curriculum will evolve too – it has to – as we make use of our new spaces, tools and equipment.

Our long-term commitment in this space will however remain unchanged and is a very clear reflection of our whole-school values: we remain focused on how technology education is used to serve our community and to help students find their role within it, through industry connections working toward issues of local, national and global significance. We emphasise creativity and innovation through creative problem-finding and problem-solving. We seek to achieve excellence in student outcomes, and to be a flagship school in design, technology and enterprise education.

Finally, we believe that this learning should imbue a sense of empowerment: the learning in these new spaces should empower our students to "advocate and action change, with the skills, passion and empathy to live beyond ourselves and make the world a better place."

#### Nick Raimondo

Leader of Learning & Curriculum



Secondary Athletics Carnival















### Secondary Swimming Carnival















Throughout the year both Junior and Secondary students enjoy a number of sport carnivals and events. From our very own Swimming & Athletics Carnivals, as well as our Cross Country Carnival, through to participation in the Anglican Cup, our students strive to show their sporting prowess.

Importantly, these events provide so much more than a chance to be active. Participation in these events see our students flex their figurative muscles in teamwork, spirit, competition and endeavour.

Congratulations to all our students not just those who received awards, and beat records, but to every student who cheered, supported and took the opportunity to try something new.











#### Junior School Swimming Carnival & Cross Country

















### Anglican Cup



NARD









# Around the CAMPUS



#### WALK IN MY SHOES

Gooch House's 'Walk in my Shoes' campaign continued to focus on supporting the work of Zonta for women and children who have fled domestic violence. In a joint effort to raise funds and awareness, students walked two laps around the oval and wore different shoes for the day, they also created stations along the walk in an effort to share stories of women who had experienced domestic violence and reflect on their courage. Additionally, each homegroup designed a pair of canvas shoes to contribute to awareness and to continue conversations beyond the day itself. From gold coin donations, the event raised \$250 for Zonta.







#### FOOTY FUN

Our teams had great success and a lot of fun at the 9-a-side footy carnival. The girls were led by Sienna Manser and Annika Van den Berg and they were competitive and hard at the ball all day against tough opposition. Brilliant effort by all considering the team was made up of 3 footy players, 3 dancers, couple of netball players and those just giving it a crack! The boys, led by the dynamic duo (Mr Adams and Mr Travis), played out of their skins to finish second overall! They tackled hard, hit targets and put the jets on when required. Brilliant effort by all considering the team was made up of 2 footy players, 2 circus performers, one swimmer, a diver, mountain bikers and a couple of basketballers! A great example of our students giving new things a go!

#### SEA OF HEARTS FOR RECONCILIATION

Our students took part in a number of Reconciliation Week activities school-wide to commemorate two significant milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision. Our Early Learning Centre children joined other early learning facilities around Australia in the 'Sea of Hearts' challenge, supported by 'Connecting the Dots through Culture'. Children and teachers spoke about what reconciliation means to them, and decorated a heart in a way that represents their feelings and thoughts and displayed them on the front lawn of the ELC.

#### SUMO A-GO FOR ASIAN SPORTS DAY

To finish a busy Term 2 on a high, our Languages Team organised a range of authentic Asian sports activities for our Year 7 students to participate in as part of their Japanese and Indonesian studies. Students versed each other in Sumo suits, played traditional Indonesian volleyball, were challenged by a fast-paced Japanese bean bag toss and showed off their chopstick skills in a championship relay event requiring participants to run as fast as possible holding a piece of popcorn with chopsticks!

This highly anticipated - and extremely fun - annual event provides an opportunity for students to build their cultural awareness and understanding as well as their teamwork skills.





#### CONGRATULATIONS YOUNG INSTRUMENTALISTS

During Semester 1, our Year 2 students enjoyed learning the recorder during their twice weekly classroom music lessons. The recorder is a perfect first instrument for young learners, as it is easy to hold, portable enough for them to carry to and from school, and easy to clean. It also sets students up for learning more complicated instruments.

As the Year 2s move on to the Year 3 Strings Program and Year 5 Band Program in 2025, their experience learning the recorder will serve them well for an easier transition to their next instrument. To finish Semester 1, our three Year 2 classes performed a concert for parents and friends, following a space theme.

Students took turns as the compere, and proudly demonstrated their musical skills. They will continue to build on these skills in Semester 2, and will have another performance opportunity at the end of the year. Congratulations to our youngest instrumentalists!

#### **GIVING IT THEIR BEST**

A big congratulations to our Year 7 students who presented their Year 7 B.E.S.T (Business, Enquiry, Solution, Teams) Projects at the Finale. This is the Year 7 Innovative Agency Framework signature experience which allows our students to connect with local businesses to attempt to seek and solve their problems. The students pose questions, problem solve, generate ideas and share solutions to make improvements to the business.

Eight teams made it through to the Finale and 1st, 2nd and 3rd were judged by our external expert - Ben Campbell who runs his own entrepreneur business called *Self Made Theory*. This is the third year he has worked with us on this project and the students greatly appreciate his support and guidance.

Collectively the students connected with 21 businesses in our community and came up with creative and innovative solutions to business problems.

# Around the CAMPUS



#### **ROLE REVERSAL AT THE JUNIOR SCHOOL** Since 2013, our Junior School students and staff have been learning about and supporting the All Kids education sponsorship charity, as part of our CARES (courtesy, awareness, responsibility, empathy and service) program.

The Junior School has sponsored Ravy, a student who lives in Cambodia, throughout her primary school education and have followed her journey as she has studied a range of subjects through the All Kids Learning Centre.

Each year our Junior School Leaders have organised a fundraiser aimed at raising the \$370 needed to provide Ravy with uniforms, books, transport to and from school, medical and health support and educational support.

This year they organised a fun dress up day, with staff dressing as students and students dressing as staff, and everyone really embraced the theme!

#### PARTYING FOR PRIDE

As part of our annual Pride Week celebrations, our students were out in force to show their support and allegiance with the LGBTQI+ community.

Celebrations included a Pride Party with live music, games and delicious baked treats as well as a Student Forum on 'How to be an Ally', to show support for LGBTQIA+ inclusion at St John's Grammar. The forum had the opportunity for students to submit questions via an anonymous question box which helped to facilitate open discussion, greater understanding and allegiance through a range of interesting and curious questions.



### SPORT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Throughout the year, Junior and Secondary students enjoy a number of sport events. From our very own Swimming & Athletics Carnivals, and our Cross Country Carnival, through to participation in the Anglican Cup, our students have shown their sporting prowess.

Here's a snapshot of sporting success from the first half of 2022.



#### MOUNTAIN BIKE

A 30-student squad rode in the two-day MTB Schools Event. Our Primary Boys Team (Archie Winter, Jacques Bartlett and Joey Keynes) finished in 3rd, our Middle School Girls team got a silver medal (Emily Wilde, Char Langley and Allyssa Smith) and our Open Mixed team won their division (Anook Simpson, Jess Williams and Tom Williams). From a pool of nearly 1000 riders, we had a top six finish after winning the overall best school trophy on 4 occasions (including the last three vears).

#### **MS MIGHTY SWIM**

Our team, the Sea Eagles, participated in the 24hour MS Mighty Swim swimathon at Unley Pool to raise funds for MS Research. The Sea Eagles finished in the top five for laps achieved with more than 60 kilometres completed overall; quite a mighty effort, indeed! The team raised \$4000 to add to the \$40K+ it has generated over 10 years of involvement in this event.







#### PEDAL PRIX

A squad of over 30 students joined at Tailem Bend for Race 4 of the HPV series. A record 150 entries for this eight-hour endurance race staged at the new race track, The Bend. Our senior team, High Flyers, finished 8th in the Secondary School division in the new trike. The Griffin and Phoenix teams finished with solid placings.

We look forward to providing an update in the next edition of InFlight magazine following the big 24 hour event at Murray Bridge which will conclude the 2022 season of Pedal Prix.

#### STATE TRIATHLON

At the School Sport SA State Triathlon trials, St John's Grammar won the whole school championship shield - an enviable effort! Our result was achieved by 6 of our 13 teams finishing on the podium with individual wins by Joe Keating, through to team wins by Senior girls (Sienna Manser, Anook Simpson, Chloe Hanna) and Junior girls (Lotte Kennedy-Dinan, Allyssa Smith, Hannah Tourneur). Due to water quality issues, the swim stage was cancelled and this event became a duathlon with competitors running twice. Nevertheless, our students performed exceptionally given the circumstances.

#### ANGLICAN CUP

The 20-year sporting tradition that is Anglican Cup saw 90 Secondary Campus students competing in various events on the day. Students enjoyed competing in netball (2 wins, 1 loss), girls football (1 win, 2 losses), boys soccer (1 win, 2 losses), girls soccer (2 wins, 1 loss), girls basketball (1 win, 1 loss), boys basketball (2 wins, 1 loss) and mixed hockey (2 wins). Each team performed exceptionally, resulting in St John's Grammar finishing second. A special mention goes to four of our students who won the 'Fair Play' award. These students included Jack King for boys basketball, Zoe Leslie, who was runner up in the girls basketball, Emma Robinson in girls football and Poppy Letcher in netball. This award signifies that the students competed within the spirit of the day, were respectful towards opponents and officials and consistently encouraged team mates.

### SPORT IN THE SPOTLIGHT





#### SECONDARY SCHOOL SPORT

#### Over 40 teams and 300 Secondary students represent St John's Grammar in our weekly sporting program and they do so with pride, passion, purpose and endeavour.

The sporting calendar sees students, Old Scholars, external coaches and teaching staff create almost a club culture of community success. The sports that have seen a real boom in growth and development this year have been badminton, volleyball and basketball. Netball remains our most popular sport closely followed by soccer and cricket. Highlights this year included winning the School Sport SA State Triathlon Championships and the School Sport SA Cross Country Championships. In the State Cross Country event our Under 13 boys (Lucas Mitchell, Josh White, Leif Mosley, James Robinson, Eli Koh) finished first overall. We are once again the Open Netball Division Zone Sport Premiers. Added to plenty of team successes, a number of our current students have achieved great results this year.

#### Nicole Hobbs

Nicole Hobbs (Year 10) has been playing State representative cricket and soccer since 2019, representing SA at the School Sports SA SAPSASA U12 National Championships for both sports. Nicole has been part of the Football South Australia (FSA) and South Australian Cricket Association (SACA) pathways programs. She is currently in the FSA U15 State Soccer Team and the SACA U16 and U19 State Teams. She's just been selected from the U15 FSA Team to represent SA at the National Soccer Championships in Coffs Harbour in late September.

#### Abby Kennedy

Abby (Year 11) recently represented Australia in softball at the Canada Cup in Canada. The opposition was of a high standard, and Abby's Australian team had some really close games, including two tiebreakers where the team pulled off come-from-behind wins.

#### Jack King

Jack (Year 12) has been playing for Sturt Sabres Basketball Club since he was 5 years old. He made the U18 SA Metro Team last year and represented the State at the Nationals held in Werribee, Victoria. Jack was again successfully selected for the U20 South Australian team, playing at the Nationals in Mackay, Queensland. Jack aspires to play professionally, with his next step to travel to the USA to play at collegiate level in 2023.

#### Shane Obst

Shane (Year 8) is a star diver and recently competed in the Age Nationals. Injury restricted his preparation for the carnival but he still did very well. This season he has learnt to add tow dives with high difficulty ratings to his repertoire. To qualify for Age Nationals in 2023, Shane competed in the National Championships.

#### Bebe Power

Bebe (Year 10) has been selected to represent SA on the U17 Development Team for the Australian Youth

Volleyball Championships. She also plays for the Austral Phoenix Volleyball Club in the State League Junior (SLJ) team and is in the Volleyball SA Talent Development Squad.

#### Jack Button and Mitch Russell

It was great to have both Jack (Year 11) and Mitch (Year 10) from St John's Grammar School represented in the U16 School Boys National Hockey Championship. Jack loved the opportunity to represent South Australia and was honoured to be selected in the leadership group as a Vice Captain.

#### Kieran Smith

It's been a big year of sporting events for Kieran (Year 10) in both Gymnastics and Kayaking. Kieran placed 3rd all round in the State Gymnastics Championships and was selected for the SA State Team for the National Gymnastics Championships, winning Bronze in the Team Competition. Kieran also placed 16th out of 48 competitors in the All Around Individual Competition. For kayaking, Kieran trains with the 22/23 Paddle SA Talent Squad and was the recipient of 5 Golds at the State Championships for various distances. This was backed up at the National Championships with 2 Silvers. Kieran has now been selected for 22/23 Paddle Australia National Development Squad and, at the time of printing, he was competing in the Asia Pacific Canoe Sprint Cup in Japan with the U16 Australian Team.

#### Hannah Tourneur

Hannah (Year 8) recently competed in the State Athletics Cross Country Championships. In the U16s she came third but is a year younger than her competitors and will be keen to add to this success in the same event in 2023. This win follows Hannah's involvement in the Nationals in August and also the National Cross Country Relay Team. She also recently won the U15 Little Athletics State Cross Country Championships.

#### Jess & Tom Williams

Mountain bike star Jess (Year 11) finished 2nd at the National Championships and 4th at Oceania Championships as a first year U19, this followed her 2nd place at Nationals last year. Tom (Year 9) has had two consecutive top ten finishes at National level. Tom and Jess have been selected to be part of the South Australian AusCycling Development Academy.

#### Joe Webb

At the time of print, Year 8 basketballer, Joe Webb was representing South Australian in the SA Country Basketball Championships.

#### Brooke Watson

Head of Sport

#### JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

TEAMS: 17 BASKETBALL | 9 NETBALL | 6 SOCCER | 5 CRICKET | 3 FOOTBALL | 2 VOLLEYBALL | 2 HOCKEY | 1 TENNIS | 1 SOFTBALL

At the Junior School a total of 46 teams/squads - that's 222 students - have participated across Summer and Winter sports.

As well as supporting our students' growth and development, through sport our students learn the importance of teamwork as well as working towards and achieving a common goal with others who share the same interests. It also is an important part of community connection, with many parents, Old Scholars and staff ensuring the success of our extra curricular sporting program.

Growth areas in sport at the Junior School have been Basketball, Netball and Soccer.

We have had many highlights, however we wish to particularly commend the Year 5/6 Boys Basketball Team and Year 5/6 Boys Football West Adelaide Shield team for finishing third in their respective pool competitions.

#### Simon Laube Junior School Sports Coordinator

#### JUNIOR SCHOOL UP & COMERS

- Archie Winter Cycling
- Hamish Langmaid Gymnastics
- Damian Draganic SAPSASA Southern Heights Representative Swimmer
- Jacques Bartlett SAPSASA Southern Heights Representative Swimmer
- Harper Williss SAPSASA Southern
   Heights Representative Cross Country
- Lenny Mitchell SAPSASA Southern Heights Representative Cross Country
- Jett Thomas SAPSASA Southern Heights District Team for Australian Rules
- Lucy Daniel SAPSASA Southern Heights District Team for Australian Rules
- Alex McDermott SAPSASA Southern Heights District Team & Captain for Soccer
- Joe Welsh SAPSASA Southern Heights District Team for Soccer
- Benji Wiese SAPSASA Southern Heights
   District Team for Hockey







### Connected community

We are a connected community at St John's Grammar and there are a variety of fun and engaging opportunities for parents and caregivers. Here are some of the ways to get involved...

#### Parent Buddy System

Connecting new parents with current parents, hopefully with a similar aged child to help with questions such as 'What do students wear on casual day?' and 'How do I book vacation care?' Contact: pandf@stjohns.sa.edu.au

#### **ELC Book Reading**

The Book Reading Evenings at the Junior School Library to hear teachers, or well-known authors, read a story of their choice. Contact: GIllingworth@stjohns. sa.edu.au

#### **ELC Coffee Catch Ups**

These are a great opportunity to meet like-minded parents and caregivers who are part of the School community. Contact: GIllingworth@stjohns. sa.edu.au

#### **Events**

These will range from excursions, class art shows and sporting days. There will always be contact details made available specific to the event.

#### Library Assistance

Helping with activities such as covering books is always useful. Contact: KSaxby@stjohns.sa.edu.au

#### The Letters and Sounds Intervention Program

This one-on-one teaching program is conducted by the Learning Support Team. It is conducted from Year 1 – 6. Contact: SHillard@stjohns.sa.edu.au

#### Welcome Morning Teas

Held throughout the year at the School to meet like-minded parents and caregivers who are part of the School community. Contact: MHooper@stjohns.sa.edu. au

#### Sports

Many extracurricular sporting teams require managers and coaches, and the PE department appreciates support for jobs such as timekeeping and marshalling at Carnivals. Contact: bwatson@ stjohns.sa.edu.au

#### Performing Arts

Friends of the Performing Arts group provides support to the Performing Arts Department with food and drinks for performances, as well as behind the scenes assistance with costumes and preparation of props. Contact: Julie Mullner jmullner@stjohns. sa.edu.au and Patrick Penfold ppenfold@stjohns.sa.edu.au

#### Parents & Friends Association Committee

The Committee supports school events, organises social functions and activities and assists with communication between parents and staff.

Contact pandf@stjohns.sa.edu.au

#### Adult Choir

Parental Guidance Recommended is an adult choir which gathers on Tuesday evenings at the JBC from 6.45 – 7.45pm. Performances are held throughout the year. Contact: jchapman@stjohns. sa.edu.au

#### Come and Craft

The Craft Group sessions are held on the even weeks of the term on Thursdays from 7:30 - 9:00pm at the JBC. Contact: dbooth@stjohns. sa.edu.au

#### Second-hand Uniform Shop

Open Monday mornings and some Saturday mornings. Roles involve collection and tagging of uniform items, sales in the shop, and behind the scenes in updating inventory and reimbursing owners. Contact: secondhanduniforms@ stjohns.sa.edu.au



When skills and passion collide, the outcome can be phenomenal. This is something that our Year 11 students, Lachlan and Blake have discovered as they have combined their talents to invent HydroSoil, an irrigation product controlled via smart technology.



As budding entrepreneurs, Blake and Lachlan have been hard at work developing their invention and winning awards along the way. Earlier this year, the boys were recipients of the Westpac Youth Impact Challenge Awards which saw them score a Microsoft Surface laptop, a pitch opportunity at the Spill the Beans entrepreneurial event, mentoring with a panel of industry-leading professionals, financial education and funding and membership from Westpac's Davidson Institute

With a focus on innovation and entrepreneurialism at St John's Grammar School. Lachlan and Blake are fantastic examples of what our Innovative Agency Framework can lay the groundwork for.

"The goal for HydroSoil was to use our skills and passion for computer programming and engineering to help solve a worldwide problem."

"Through this experience so far we have seen how powerful and rewarding using our skills in a project like this has been." Blake & Lachlan said.

But the process, while enjoyable, has not been without its challenges.

"Learning new software to be able to code such a detailed app has easily been the hardest challenge. Whilst it has been hard, it's a fantastic thing to have learnt, and is an invaluable skill that has so many applications beyond HydroSoil," they said.

"App development takes a long time to refine and improve before a decent result starts to appear."

The process of innovation can be messy and non-linear and that's something that St John's Grammar explores at various

ages and stages through its Innovative Agency Framework.

Whether inventing something for Year 8 Innov8 or teaching their peers the ins and outs of their favourite thing in Year 6 Clinics, or even pairing with a local business and coming up with lateral and creative ideas to solve business problems in Year 7, our students have many opportunities to look at a problem from multiple angles and come up with a creative solution.

Armed with these skill sets and their big dreams, St John's Grammar is empowering students to turn their passion projects into reality; something Lachlan and Blake can attest to.

"We encourage anyone with a dream or passion to give everything a go,"

"Work hard because your skills can take you far." they said.

Never shy to dream big, the boys are looking beyond and one day "could expand to working on larger irrigation systems too, such as on larger properties and farms with a lot further development and research."

For now, Lachlan and Blake have their sights set on beta testing over the next 12 months with a range of users including the CEO of Australian School or Entrepreneurship, Taj Pabari, and his colleagues as well as family members including siblings and grandparents. During this time they will also work on developing their sensors which will allow more advancement with the app and its suite of features. Not to mention the Spill the Beans event as part of their Westpac Youth Challenge prize win. Add all of that to the mix with their Year 12 studies in 2023, it's going to be a jam-packed 12 months for these superstars!



hydrosoil.gq

@hydrosoil.gg



St John's Grammar was a finalist in the category Best Student Wellbeing Program in Schools at this year's Australian Education Awards Ceremony recently held in Sydney.

We were proud to receive an Excellence Award alongside a handful of schools from across the nation. Our success was on the back of our comprehensive approach to wellbeing.

Here's a quick snapshot that helps communicate the potency and reach of what our school does for young people in the wide area of wellbeing.

#### Unique Wellbeing Framework

We have a uniquely St John's whole school wellbeing framework, developed by our School in collaboration with external experts and review of wellbeing literature. The framework provides a shared language about wellbeing, and is the 'lighthouse' that guides all decisions about wellbeing initiatives and actions, whether that be in curriculum, within our pastoral programs, or within our wider culture of wellbeing at St John's Grammar.

#### Specialist wellbeing classes

Our approach has a strong proactive and preventative focus, with dedicated wellbeing specialist classes in the Junior School (Friendology), and Year 7, 8, 9 and 10. Our curriculum is not simply the adoption of an externally created program, it is the culmination of our research, our experiences with wellbeing and a deep awareness of the unique needs of our students. It is responsive to issues facing our students and is progressive, evidence based and holds inclusivity at its core. Wellbeing holds a prime place on the timetable across the School.

#### Wellbeing Newsletter & Transition Programs

We provide a Wellbeing newsletter utilising our six Wellbeing Pillars to educate students about ways to optimise their wellbeing. This is accompanied by a dedicated online Wellbeing page on Canvas, our school's Learning Management System. We also have a range of successful transition programs to support new students to the School, such as Bright Beginnings in the Junior School and a buddy program across both campuses.

#### Variety of House & Co-Curricular Offerings

The House, extra-curricular and co-curricular offerings are broad and includes things such as Yarn Club, Friday Morning Yoga, meditation and a LGBTQIA+ group, enabling all students a place to find like-minded peers and a sense of purpose and connection. This preventative approach is heavily supported by a highly responsive action to students with mental health challenges. We have a Circle of Care Approach where we embrace the premise that it takes a village to raise a child.

#### Specialist Wellbeing Focused Team

The Head of House Team, Head of School, School Counsellors, Leader of Student Wellbeing, Wellbeing Assistants and Leader of Exceptional Learning work alongside our classroom teachers to wrap around the social, emotional and intellectual needs of our students. We triage students to ensure we are best able to provide a truly personalised approach to managing their wellbeing. We utilise an online check-in platform to track all student wellbeing and this is followed up by the Wellbeing Assistants, who are trained in psychology/social work. The Wellbeing Assistants, in addition to providing a safe space for students to regulate, run targeted focus groups in response to patterns in student concerns, such as anxiety, stress management, culture-shock and self-regulation.

#### Age Appropriate Junior School Program

At Junior School level, students are engaged in the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum and the Friendology program, taught by Wellbeing Specialist teachers. Additionally, wellbeing concepts are further strengthened through our CARES (Courtesy, Awareness, Responsibility, Empathy and Service) approach and important pastoral programs like our Bright Beginnings transition program that enable successful transitions each year.

#### Respectful Relationship Task Group

Students, staff, professional partners, parents, leadership and board members have involvement in the Respectful Relationships Task Group, driving school-wide actions targeting respectful relationships to promote emotional and physical safety within our community. Part of these actions were to identify emerging issues and to develop safe passage for young people to report their concerns. We have also established an in-house psychology and learning support consultancy called the *WellNest Centre* which is an excellent available additional resource for our families.

#### Data Driven Action

Student wellbeing data through the SA Wellbeing and Engagement Collection and weekly Pulse (Educator Impact) check-ins helps guide decision making and support. Additionally, we have a student feedback survey that allows students to provide specific feedback about their learning and school experiences, including their Health and Wellbeing learning.



#### Student Wellbeing Ambassadors

Student Wellbeing Ambassadors role within the School (Junior and Secondary) are part of the Student Leadership Committee (SLC) that support student voice and agency in driving wellbeing policy in the School. Our Wellbeing Ambassadors lead a Student Wellbeing team, where students meet to share ideas and lead initiatives across all three campuses. The AWARE club (social justice) and LGBTQIA+ club provide avenues for strong student voice regarding issues and concerns of our students and the opportunity for action. These committees of student leadership have been focussing on building student allies for our diverse-thinking students and to take us from a school that goes beyond tolerance and acceptance to one of celebration of diversity.

#### Meaningful Success Measures

Measuring School success, more-so the potency and impact of wellbeing initiatives has been a challenge. St John's Grammar has developed a dashboard of success, a collection of data that help Executive teams and the Board in determining true and more meaningful measures of our growth. Wellbeing data is collected year-round and has helped us develop some key ideas about the impact not of one or two components of our offering, but the collective gains or losses in the pastoral domain.

It is an impressive catalogue of actions and commitments that extends into the staffroom and the family home. All the hard work over a number of years has certainly put St John's Grammar on the wellbeing map and a contender for national honours.



### Parents & Friends Association Quiz Night

On a Saturday evening earlier this year, approximately 300 people attended the P&F Quiz Night in support of our fundraising campaign for the construction of shade structures in the ELC.

It was an excellent event, superbly organised and a great show of community spirit and support.

It was terrific to see so many staff attend, we also loved having three tables of Old Scholars join us! The Quiz Master, Anthony Cobiac, spent hours developing 10 rounds of questions and Catherine Shepherd, Lisa Simpson, Lauren Robbins were among a host of hardworking parents who had spent all day getting the Hall ready. Raffle prizes and silent auctions were also a feature of the night.

The shade structures will replace the old sandpit cover in the Mussared play area and span the play equipment at the back of the Rectory at the ELC.

This \$30,000 project is mostly funded by P&F contributions over 18 months. We are very fortunate to have a band of committed and dedicated families working in the interests of the School.







### From the President



The Old Scholars Association has gone through a period of reinvigoration and we are excited to continue moving forward with new energy and more initiatives.

We have continued to greet new classes of Old Scholars with our *Welcome to the Old Scholars* event while at the same time beginning to support new events. The Old Scholar Cricket team had its first end-ofseason break-up event and the Old Scholars organised several tables for the Parents & Friends Quiz Night.

The Association is also seeking new and enthusiastic members to support its operations. We have established service, sport and social subcommittees to support our three key pillars.

If you are interested in joining, please contact me, Oliver Douglas at oldscholars@stjohns.sa.edu.au

Beyond this, if you are keen to get an Old Scholars sporting team together or to join an existing team you can do so. We have indoor Soccer and Cricket offerings for anyone who is keen.

Old Scholars Cricket Club President Chris Francis Mobile: 0450 030 054 Email: chrisfrancis1107@outlook.com Information: Summer Season commences 8th October

Old Scholars Indoor Soccer Captain Robert van Gorp Email: robertvangorp11@gmail.com Information: Summer Season commences early October

We are also planning a large summer social event so keep your eyes peeled for that!

Oliver Douglas (Class of 2018) President



Class of 2015 Reunion









#### Class of 2021 Reunion















### **Old Scholars Sport - Cricket**

Established in 2021, the St John's Old Scholars Cricket Club is proud to have formed the first Old Scholar team to represent our school.

In the 2021/22 season, the team played in Section 5 of the Adelaide and Suburban Cricket Association (ASCA). After the 14 minor rounds, they were undefeated and on top of the ladder. In the week leading up to the semi-finals, 5 players tested positive to COVID-19 leaving them with only 9 players, including fill-ins, for this crucial game. The challenge they faced proved too great and they lost.

The club is proud of what they achieved in their inaugural season along with their individual and team accomplishments. There were several notable individual performances, including 6 centuries, 11 half-centuries and 6 five-wicket hauls. The highest individual score was achieved by Oliver Styles with 160\* not out, and the best bowling figures were taken by Patrick Douglas with 6/8. At the end of season ASCA presentation night, the batting, bowling, fielding, and wicket-keeping awards for Section 5 were all won by St John's Old Scholars players. The Craig Lawn Batting Trophy went to Chris Francis, the John Heptinstall Bowling Trophy went to Oliver Styles, the Bert Crowhurst Memorial Fielding Trophy went to Liam Markham, and the Jim Coulls Memorial Wicket-keeping Trophy went to Sam Francis. Chris Francis was also awarded the Section 4-10 Ron Halliday Memorial Batting Trophy, and Oliver Styles was also awarded the Section 4-10 Frank Gray Memorial Bowling Trophy.

The St John's Old Scholars Cricket Club had an outstanding first season and look forward to what next season will bring.

#### 2021/22 Season Results

R1: St John's OS 215 def. Sheidow Park III 144 R2: St John's OS 5/209 def. North Haven II 6/205 R3: St John's OS 200 & 3/40 def. Morphett Vale 88 & 147

R4: St John's OS 9/314 def. Kenilworth II 8/312
R5: St John's OS 161 def. Grand Masters 112
R6: St John's OS 5d/320 def. Phantoms II 127 & 87
R7: St John's OS 226 def. Coromandel Ramblers III
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R8: St John's OS 7/185 def. Grand Masters 183 R9: St John's OS 6/265 def. Kenilworth II 103 R10: St John's OS N/A drew w/ Morphett Vale 4/13 (match abandoned)

R11: St John's OS 7/129 def. North Haven II 127 R12: St John's OS 160 & 6d/109 def. Sheidow Park III 65 & 9/115

R13: St John's OS 186 def. Coromandel Ramblers III 104

R14: St John's OS 3/295 def. Phantoms II 90 SF: St John's OS 83 def. by Coromandel Ramblers III 7/85

Chris Francis (Class of '20) Captain





Seeking Cricket players for Old Scholars Cricket Club, season commences October. Contact the Club President, Chris Francis ('20) on 0450 030 054 or chrisfrancis1107@outlook.com



Seeking Indoor Soccer players for Old Scholars Indoor Soccer team, season commences October. Contact the Captain, Robert van Gorp ('18) via email robertvangorp11@gmail.com

### Cycling champ

St John's Grammar Old Scholar, Talia Simpson (Class of 2020) is now the Under 23 National Champion for cyclocross.

The event was held in Woolongong as a precursor event to the World Road Cycling Championships. Talia achieved a great ride on a very tough course. During her time at St John's Grammar, Talia was a keen cyclist and was featured in InFlight several times for her achievements. Well done, Talia. We look forward to seeing what you achieve next!

**Reunion Notices** 

After a COVID-19 reunion hiatus, we have a number of upcoming reunions:

#### 2022

- Class of 2017 (5 Year)
- Class of 2012 (10 Year)
- Class of 2002 (20 Year)

#### 2023

- Class of 2018 (5 Year)
- Class of 2013 (10 Year)
- Class of 2003 (20 Year)

Please keep your details up to date via the Old Scholars website and regularly check the Old Scholars Association Facebook page for more details.

### Let's keep in touch

The best way to keep in touch with Old Scholar events and happenings is via our Facebook page and the Old Scholars Section of the St John's Grammar website



facebook.com/stjohnsgrammaroldscholars



stjohns.sa.edu.au/old-scholars-association/

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Celebrating the varied and interesting pathways our Old Scholars have taken in their lives after graduating.

### 2021 EMILY HARWOOD

Emily (Class of 2021) has been active in her wider community seeking to create change. Through Youth UN work, in which she was a finalist in the EVATT speaker of the Year award, and Youth Parliament, where she has advocated for legislative change within disability education, consent education and abortion rights, Emily has shared her voice and passion. She has also encouraged younger students and her peers to participate in the UN work, facilitating UN workshops at school as well as mentoring students at St John's Grammar School to attend the State events. Most recently, Emily was awarded the Old Scholars' Patron Award for Commitment to Community.





Charlie (Class of 2017) joined Restless Dance Theatre in 2017 after finishing high school. He fondly recalls his 10 years of dance training with Miss Carla while at St Johns Grammar.

With Restless, Charlie performed in *Creating the Spectacle* for the 2018 Adelaide Film Festival and in 2020 became a member of The Company (the professional group at Restless Dance Theatre). He went on to perform in *Guttered* for the 2021 Adelaide Festival and *Ecoute Pour Voir/Listen* to See for Adelaide's DreamBig Festival. Charlie also joined the cast of *Seeing Through Darkness* for the 2021 tour and *Rewards for the Tribe* at RISING Festival in Melbourne in 2022.

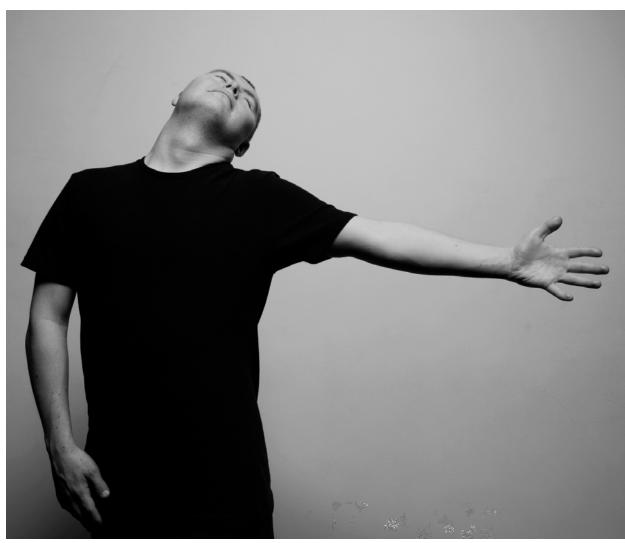
# 2017

Charlie is now performing *Home* with Restless and Patch Theatre Company.

Charlie said, "I love this show... there is a great cast and crew and I am having a great experience. It is a creative and fun show, for kids plus adults; even parents love it!"

In addition over August and September Charlie travelled to the Brisbane Festival to perform *Guttered* and also toured the UK, with *Rewards for the Tribe*.

"I love dancing with Restless....I just want to be the best dancer I can be."



# 2017







It has now been four years since Ella's graduation from St John's Grammar and in that time she has certainly packed a fair bit in! We are excited to see Ella back at the School in her role as a Boarding House supervisor.

Ella completed a Bachelor of Medical Science at Flinders University which provided a pathway into post-graduate degree in Medicine at Flinders, which Ella says has always been her dream vocation. Although it has been a challenging journey, Ella is enjoying her studies this year. Ella has also still managed to travel, despite COVID-19. A trip in 2020 to Japan was a highlight, as well as a memorable week in the Northern Territory last year with her family and Ella is also looking forward to a week in Bali at the end of the year.

Ella continued playing A grade netball for Matrics and juggled casual jobs with Orangetheory Gym and more recently with St John's Grammar's Boarding House. With her love for sport, Ella has said while the Crows have been hard to watch, she has enjoyed watching her partner Hayden shine with the Panthers in the SANFL.

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Since finishing Year 12 at St John's Grammar in 2002, life seems to have come full circle for Olivia. Twenty years on, she has started working at St John's Grammar this year as a student counsellor, a job which Olivia says she absolutely loves!

In the two decades since graduating high school, Olivia has worked across a few different careers – starting as a journalist at Messenger Newspapers and the Sunday Mail, before seeking a career change in her mid-20s. After a year living in Manchester working as a copywriter, and then a trip to India that led to a chance encounter with a social worker in Rajasthan, Olivia returned home to Adelaide and commenced a Social Work post-graduate degree. While back at Uni, Olivia worked casually in a café and as a youth mentor, while writing songs and playing gigs on the side. But, when she completed her Master of Social Work in 2011, it was time to put down the guitar (for a while) and start her new career!

Olivia has now been a social worker for over a decade, with her first job at Flinders Medical Centre, followed by a nine year stint at Novita (disability services), where she finished up in a Clinical Leadership role. At the end of 2021 Olivia made the big and scary career decision to quit her job and take up a part-time school counselling role at St John's Grammar, while establishing her own business, *Inclusive Social Work*. Through her business, Olivia provides clinical supervision to social workers and allied health professionals, NDIS services, as well as training and consultancy to a range of organisations across sectors. Her key training interests are inclusion and diversity, disability and clinical supervision.

Playing music remains one of Olivia's favourite hobbies and most recently saw her performing in a Cabaret Fringe show 'Tipsy Twain' with an all-girl Shania Twain tribute band.







Courtney Sandford (2012) married Lachlan Shields on April 2, 2022 at Crafers Church of the Epiphany / Lot 100 Hay Valley. Courtney's sister, Georgia Sandford (2012) was maid of honour. Asha Dowdell, a current student at St John's Grammar, sang in the choir for the ceremony.



We'd love to share your news!

Send your announcements and a photo to Jackie Burman, Community Development Coordinator at jburman@stjohns.sa.edu.au

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