



InFlight

Semester 1, 2024

In this edition:

The EDC is open!

All the fun from our Carnivals

Celebrating student achievement

Performing Arts in the spotlight





From the Principal

At St John's Grammar we encourage students to take responsibility for the care of themselves and each other. We do that in many different ways but ultimately, we want our young people to be driven independently in their willingness to be kind, generous, thoughtful and supportive. That desire to be the best version of themselves should come from within, part of their DNA; genuine and intentional. Moving the hearts of our students helps them appreciate the importance and impact of service. Building empathy and understanding of the needs of others, within and beyond our school gates, and then actively working in the interest of those people, can shape who they become.

Our service program enables that inner sense of mission and greater purpose. After a recent audit of our service experiences, a number of changes were made. We found that we needed more meaning, more learning, more grunt and more student involvement.

In the Secondary School, each year level is involved in a service project, connected to an area of the curriculum they are studying and supported by additional presentations in our health and wellbeing program, 'Wings', and the pastoral and spiritual programs.

Our Middle School students focus on connection to country through conservation work and a focus on indigenous expressions of Anglican faith; relationship building with the older generations around us and personal identity, justice, and charity as part of their Rite Journey program, which culminates in Year 9.

Our Senior School students' service projects have allowed us to deepen our relationship with Anglicare. Our Year 10 students support the mentoring and community partnerships team by running holiday programs for young people in Anglicare's foster care programs and our Year 11s and 12s explore the complexities of homelessness by taking an active role in preparing meals at the Mary Mags Centre.

At the Junior School, student-driven campaigns such as the Jump Rope for Heart and the Diabetes Research campaign are designed to be inclusive for all students and there is an ongoing quest to celebrate and promote all the wonderful work our very young stars do.

So much of InFlight reports on this sense of giving and showcases what a caring and supportive community we have. Our children are fortunate to not only have wonderful opportunities to immerse themselves in service, but to learn from so many outstanding role models who are walking the service talk!

Richard Anderson
Principal



EDC OPEN FOR EDUCATION

A vibrant hub of all things students, the EDC is a first-class learning facility that has been architecturally designed to offer a seamless student service experience.

Home to student services, wellbeing and counselling, the library and so much more, this space has been designed with students in mind.



As the result of much hard work, we were proud to officially open this space earlier this year in front of our entire Secondary Campus, along with some very special guests. We were pleased to have The Honourable Peter Malinauskas MP, Premier of South Australia, officially open the building at a special opening ceremony packed with excited students, parents and staff.

Hosted by our School Captains, and featuring our Big Band music ensemble, the occasion included an address by Chair of the School Board, Naomi Lindermeier, and a blessing from the Archbishop of the Adelaide Diocese, The Most Reverend

Geoffrey Smith. Other VIPs in attendance included Louise Miller-Frost MP, Member for Boothby, and Heather Holmes-Ross, Mayor of The City of Mitcham, as well as members of the School Board, and representatives from numerous organisations who have helped deliver the project - and of course, our entire Secondary student and staff body!

Principal Richard Anderson, who personally led tours through the buildings, was in fine form as he passionately spoke about his excitement for the School's future as we add yet another excellent facility to the grounds where our young Eagles learn to soar.



HUB OF LEARNING

During the first Semester, our Year 5s relished learning in their new dedicated space alongside the Centre for Creativity.

Gently rising from the hillside, the building feels as if it's amongst the treetops. With huge windows allowing daylight to stream in, this lovely bright and open space is an inviting place to learn. Ward Constructions were engaged to redevelop this space with an outlook to create a comfortable and adaptable space suited to our ever-growing learners.

Built with flexible teaching and learning in mind, this space is a learning hub, complete with new enlarged and connected classrooms, collaboration pods and staff work zones. The indoor/outdoor connection was considered as part of the design with the grounds between this learning hub and the Science Lab landscaped to allow for further outdoor learning.

BLUE SKY THINKING

St John's Grammar believes in helping every student learn to soar, at school and in life.

Contemporary, progressive schools understand the importance of expanding and evolving their functioning and services to meet the growing needs of families.

Renovating a space on our campus to accommodate a number of consulting rooms has ensured we can create a fit-for-purpose space on our campus to welcome practitioners.

We are proud to be a base of operations for a number of allied health specialists, both through our WellNest Centre at the Junior School and through our capacity to host on-campus sessions with allied health professionals.

The benefit of this support means that families have priority access to a wealth of expertise and have those services conveniently delivered on campus.

WellNest consists of both an in-house consulting team of specialists, as well as partnerships with a number of learning support professionals who visit our classrooms or use the WellNest as a base to provide their services.

Below are our current partners who are using our WellNest to provide their services to our students and their families.

PSYCHOLOGY

Positive Minds Australia
Connect Psychology
Upward Psychology

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

OT GO
Learn Sense Grow

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Chat Well	Language &
Roar Speech	Literacy Speech
Sound Bites	Pathology
Chelsea Hayes	
Jasmine Story	

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Laura Law (Literacy Tutor)
Drumbeat
Acting Up Drama
What's The Buzz

NEWS IN BRIEF

CATCH UP ON NEWS FROM ACROSS OUR CAMPUSES



CULTURAL WHIRLWIND FOR LITERATURE LOVERS

Our students soaked up the culture as part of the Literature Tour to Melbourne in June. A cohort of 23 students from Years 8-12 took part in this whirlwind tour that visited some of Melbourne's most culturally significant sites in recognition of its title as an UNESCO City of Literature.

In just four days our students experienced the masterful play *Julia*, immersed themselves in ACMI's cutting-edge *Beings* exhibition, went to the hit musical *Wicked*, learned about visual symbolism at the NGV, were guided through Melbourne's explosively colourful laneways, became the art at Artvo, were transported to 1950s Hollywood for the opera *Sunset Boulevard*, visited some of Melbourne's best book shops, the State Library, the Museum, the Old Gaol, and the Sea Life Aquarium, experienced the immediacy and surrealism of local arthouse theatre production, *Swallows*, and—finally—ended the jam-packed four days with a challenging new film out of Japan, *Monster*.



What an opportunity for our students to immerse themselves in an array of story telling mediums, celebrating all things Arts and Literature. With this opportunity open to any Secondary student with a curious mind, those who signed on for the experience found it was the perfect trip—they were inspired, they were thrilled, they were challenged; and by the end of the tour, they were exhausted!



SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

Amongst a sea of blue and smiling faces, our Junior School students took part in National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS). Each year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, family day cares, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. It is a much-loved initiative of the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and one we take part in each year. This year our guest reader was Madhavi Nawana Parker (from *Positive Minds Australia*) who read the story, *Bowerbird Blues*. To tie in with the book, children were invited to wear a touch of blue.



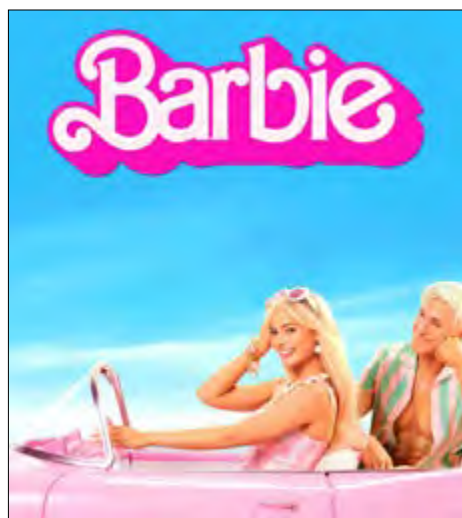
TOY TESTERS PUT YEAR 8s THROUGH THEIR PACES

Our Year 8 Technology and Design students were put through their paces by the toughest toy testers - our ELC students! An abundance of wooden toys handcrafted by our talented Year 8s saw our ELCs joyfully engage in dramatic play with planes, cars, trains, fishing rods, cameras, tools and a few creative surprises too! To expand on the process, our Year 8s dug deeper into the reactions of the ELC students, asking what they liked best, why and whether their opinions changed as they spent time playing with the toy. More than simply grading for a 'subject pass', this was a chance for our Year 8s to experience real-world feedback from some VERY straightforward testers.



TACKLING THE SLOPES AT SKI TRIP

Mount Buller was the destination for the fun-packed Year 12 Ski Trip, a final school highlight for many. Students enjoyed the comforts of the Mansfield Traveller's Lodge with several days on the slopes. A qualified ski instructor took students through the basics, with plenty of free time to master the skills they'd learnt. A games night and movie night also ensured many great memories were made and friendships strengthened.



PERIOD POVERTY STOPS HERE

Everything came up pink as the AWARE club raised funds for *Share the Dignity*, a charitable organisation putting an end to period poverty. The *Barbie* movie screened to a packed JBC Theatre, while a sausage sizzle and bake sale raised additional money. The funds raised will help *Share the Dignity* in providing period products to those most in need and contribute to achieving menstrual equity in Australia.

Sport NEWS IN BRIEF

CATCH UP ON NEWS FROM ACROSS OUR CAMPUSES



TASTING VICTORY FROM THE ANGLICAN CUP

St John's Grammar took top place at the Anglican Cup, equal first-place recipients alongside Pultney Grammar. In the 20th year of this event, 125 of our sporting superstars competed in Soccer, Hockey, AFL, Netball, Table Tennis and Basketball. As well as sporting prowess, our students displayed all the qualities that we encourage our young people to possess - things such as fairness, commitment, team-focus, and being supportive and respectful. We're proud that this vibrant culture has become a hallmark of our teams.

Leading in to our success at this event was an 8-week campaign of trials and trainings before and after school, as well as lunchtimes and holidays. Certainly, an epic commitment for our students and their dedicated coaches.

Some highlights from the day include:

- Girls Basketball winning all games, with Hayley Mules (Year 8 in a senior comp)

winning the Fair Play award, and judged the best and fairest player out of all girls basketballers.

- Mixed Hockey had a draw and two wins. Liv Tijdhof won the Fair Play award, judged the best and fairest player out of all Hockey players.
- Boys Soccer had two draws and one win. Seven Ding scored a ridiculous scissor-kick/riding a bicycle in the air type of goal that brought the house down.
- Girls Soccer didn't get a win but there could not be a more positive group of girls.
- Boys Basketball won two, and lost one, with Logan Myers named MVP for that game.
- Girls Footy had a great win in their first game and competed well in the other two.
- Boys footy had a resurgence after a 3-year hiatus, winning their first game to Pedare.
- The girls netball team won two and lost one but the future is bright.



CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN OF SUCCESS

A cohort of 30-plus Secondary students represented our School at the annual School Sport SA Mountain Bike Championships. This massive event sees more than 1000 students competing and is a hotly contested day.

In perfect conditions, our teams showed plenty of teamwork, grit and determination on what was an incredibly challenging track. For the second year in a row, we claimed the overall Schools Championship. To achieve back-to-back titles is a tremendous effort from all involved. Every rider that competes earns points for their school, so it definitely takes a collective effort to end the day on top of the podium. This effort takes on even more precedence when you consider we did not field any teams in the Year 11/12 categories.

Congratulations to our teams that finished on the podium for their respective categories:

- Year 7/8 Girls 1st - Daphne Lim & Skye Mackinnon
- Year 7/8 Girls 2nd - Lucy Young & Hayley Mules
- Year 7/8 Boys 1st - Archie Winter & Joey Keynes
- Year 9/10 Girls 1st - Sophia Manariotis, Allyssa Smith, Emily Wilde

Following on from the Secondary teams' successes, we had a number of students compete at the Junior School Championship. This burgeoning group of riders also gave a magnificent effort, finishing second overall. A highlight was also the Year 5/6 students winning two of the three categories, an effort that ensures St John's will be well placed to defend our title again next year.



SWIMMING CHAMPS SURGE OUT OF THE WATER

The St John's Grammar School Sea Eagles came second in the B Grade Interschool Swimming Championships. The 37-strong team of students from Years 7-12 came away not only with the second place but also with some significant achievements, including 31 top-three placings, six race wins from five different students, and Jesse Obst making four personal best times. We celebrate the achievements of the team, who over the years have progressed from F Grade through to B Grade. The team's achievements at the Championships are a result of weekly swim training sessions and a strong team culture.



Junior School Athletics Carnival

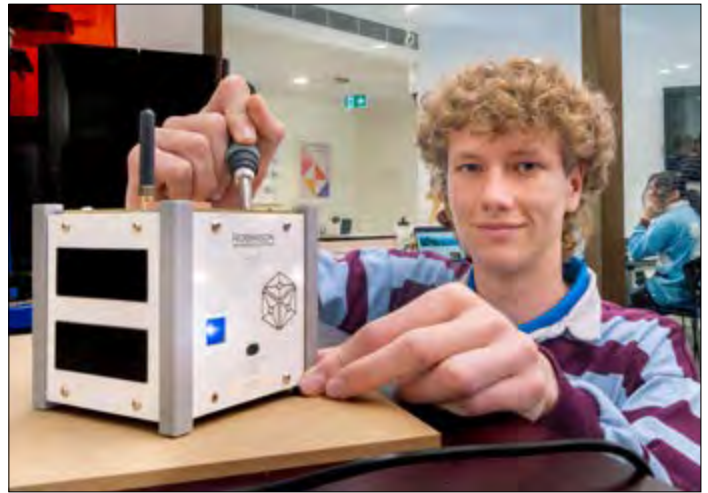


Junior School Cross Country





SHOOTING FOR THE STARS



'Learning to Soar' has taken on a whole new trajectory, with two of our students sending their own rocket into orbit on a Space X rocket early next year.

Year 11 students Abe King and Charlie Clark have been hard at work creating a satellite module as part of the Space Call initiative, a multinational collaboration between European commercial space businesses, The Exploration Company and Space Elevator, and local SA education organisation, Robinson Aerospace Systems.

While Abe and Charlie are the only Australian students taking part, they have worked alongside peers from seven other countries to develop the seven satellite modules.

These tiny modules, measuring approximately 3cmx5cm operate by blinking morse code to communicate with each other.

Requiring multi-disciplinary skills, the students took practical matters into their hands, soldering parts and programming circuit boards to build the modules that will be sent into space. While at times it was a steep learning curve, particularly in the area of programming, the boys relished the opportunity to extend their skills and dive into new learning with real world application.

As a first glimpse into the space industry, Abe and Charlie are inspired to continue to shoot for the stars, with Charlie interested in pursuing engineering in the future, and Abe considering the space industry as an avenue after graduation.

**Pictured above: Mr Tom Oliphant, Head of Technology & Enterprise, with students, Abe King and Charlie Clark.*



Our budding Year 2 authors held their first book launch to rave reviews, sharing their fascinating and imaginative stories with their families.

As part of our Junior Literacy Program our Year 2s have been exploring narrative genre writing, the features of books and the process behind how to be 'published'.

Beginning with a story plan, students either typed or used voice-to-text programs to get their ideas on to the page, before rounds of editing, creating blurbs, author summaries and even dedication pages. Illustrations added that extra flair, before the cover images finalised the product. It was then off to the publishers (a.k.a our Year 2 staff) for printing and covering.

Recognising that stories can extend beyond the printed page, our Year 2s also relished the opportunity to record audiobooks in their own voices with a handy QR code placed in each book for listeners to also enjoy the story.

The project culminated in a special evening event, complete with red carpet, where the finished books were officially launched in front of proud families. These special guests not only delighted in a variety of compelling stories and gifts of handmade bookmarks, but were also invited to share their handwritten - and heartfelt - book reviews.

Young Archies



Amongst more than 4000 entries from across the nation, two St John's Grammar students were named Finalists in the Young Archie competition.

An offshoot of the prestigious Archibald Prize competition, the Young Archie event invites budding artists between the ages of 5 and 18 to submit a portrait to the Art Gallery of NSW for competitive judging, with strict conditions of entry including that the portrait must be "of a person who is special to you – someone who is known to you and who knows you and plays a significant role in your life."

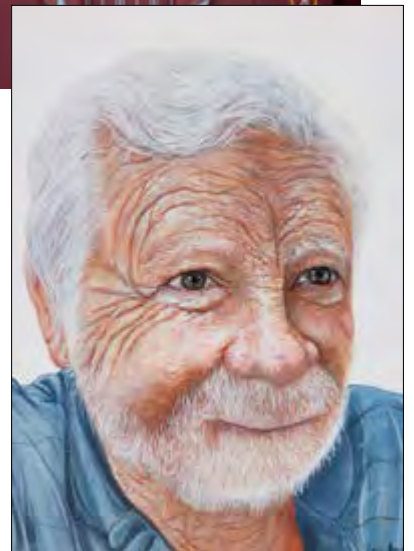
Year 11 Lexie chose to paint her Pop in a piece entitled '*Kindness*'. In Lexie's own words:

"When I look at my Pop, I have so many memories of my happy childhood growing up, and I see the kindness in his eyes that I have tried to capture in my painting."

In contrast to Lexie's inter-generational choice of subject, Year 9 student Sinead chose a subject (much) closer in age - their twin, Eden! The artistic statement provided by Sinead to go with the submission included an explanation on how special the twin relationship is; an inseparable bond of friendship and support. Sinead also shared the metaphor behind the background imagery in the painting, citing:

"The setting sun in this painting has two meanings. It signifies that even when things seem bleak, my twin is right beside me. It also displays the beauty of nature, which makes us both feel connected to, and at peace with, the world."

Both art pieces were exhibited alongside the Archibald Prize works at the Art Gallery of NSW, from 8 June to 8 September this year.



Vietnam Trip

Students from Years 9 and 10 spent two wonderful weeks travelling Vietnam as part of a cultural and learning journey.



Traversing one end of Vietnam to the other, our students embraced an incredible cultural experience, seeing all that Vietnam had to offer.

Specifically designed for enquiring young minds, this trip provided an exploration of Vietnam, its culture and people, and gave perspectives on its past conflict and War history. Destinations on the itinerary included Ho Chi Minh City, the Mekong Delta, Hoi An, Hue, Hanoi, Mai Chau and Ha Long Bay. While the typical tourist hot spots featured on the itinerary, a significant portion of the trip was focused on community and service initiatives. The enriching experiences included supporting the work of organisations committed

to helping disadvantaged children, visiting orphanages and community building projects. Home comforts became distant memories as the students adapted to a range of accommodation including hotels, homestays and even overnight sleeper trains.

Lots of laughter was shared during cooking classes and while riding basket boats, not to mention while cycling through lush countryside. New experiences such as exploring caves, trekking and visiting traditional villages offered varying perspectives of Vietnam. Overall, it was a wonderful experience that offered so much learning and enrichment.



GOOD CAUSES

An important part of 'soaring' at St John's Grammar is thinking beyond yourself and recognising how you can be of service for the benefit of others. This value is instilled in our students throughout their journey at St John's Grammar and you only need to look through the photos below to see how our students are striving to make a difference in their own unique ways.



MEALS FOR MARY MAGS

The Mary Mags Dinners initiative has gathered momentum this year with our Year 11s and 12 taking ownership of this worthy cause. From donating non-perishable food items, through to spending hours on a Saturday to prepare more than 100 three-course meals for those experiencing homelessness and financial hardship in Adelaide, our students have embraced the challenge. From its humble beginnings of sandwiches in Hurtle Square, the Mary Mags Dinners program now sees volunteers providing and preparing approximately \$1000 worth of food to feed those in need. Each year our Houses share responsibilities (bi-annual commitment) so that many student groups in the School and their families can be involved. In June, a student team from Moffatt House took ownership, cooking up a storm, with Gooch House leading the effort in August.



GROWING CHANGE

Move over choccie frogs, and climb down off your tree Caramello Koala, a new fundraising initiative has given our students and families the opportunity to contribute positively to biodiversity while raising funds for the School. As the first SA school to take part in the School Forest Box fundraiser, organised by LCS Environmental and Edinburgh Parks Nursery, our families relished the opportunity to purchase endemic seedlings with a share of the proceeds being donated to the School. This initiative came about as a result of our Year 7 BEST (Business Enterprise Solutions Teams) program. Developing on a connection with one of our parents, Tom Atkins, of LCS Landscapes, our students took the initiative to develop the marketing materials for this fundraiser, applying their learnings from working alongside local businesses to solve real-world problems. How's that for empowering our students to apply their creativity, business acumen, and critical thinking skills to make a positive impact on our community?



SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUPPORT

Our Year 12 Drama ensemble used their stage as a platform to take action against some of the more confronting issues they tackled in their play, *The Book of Everything*. Set in 1951, this play examined many topics such as facing fear and violence, finding strength and happiness, and questioning religious beliefs. The talented Year 12 Drama ensemble staged this play with sensitivity and courage, however one of the student actors, Sasha Babina, felt that they could go beyond an artistic exploration of the more confronting topics of this play, such as domestic violence. As a result, a fundraiser for Catherine House, an organisation that supports women facing homelessness and domestic abuse, saw this epic cast rally their community to raise more than \$600 for this worthy organisation.



HOP, SKIP AND A BOOT SCOOT TO SUPPORT YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Prince House were the boot skootin' champions, raising nearly \$600 for Dolly's Dream, an organisation focusing on youth mental health and suicide prevention. A sausage sizzle provided the sustenance to fuel our determined dancers as they converged in the Sports Hall to attempt line dancing en masse! It was a sight to behold, after weeks of practise during buddy sessions learning the Macarena, The Nutbush and even choreography to Cotton Eye Joe, the day was an explosion of energy all with a country-style theme. The collective effort of all students, in conjunction with Prince House, made for a lunch time filled with camaraderie and fun, all for an excellent cause! Yeehaw!

NEWS IN BRIEF

CATCH UP ON NEWS FROM ACROSS OUR CAMPUSES



RACE TO THE WIN

A group of talented students took part in the Hydrogen Grand Prix (H2GP), winning a Design Award for the car with the best design and engineering, as well as recognition for their performance in their team interview with the judges. This competition challenges tomorrow's innovators to design, engineer, build and race their own hydrogen-powered cars. It is supported by the South Australian Government, with select schools involved to help promote careers in STEM, and hydrogen fields. Throughout the program, students develop the creativity, ingenuity and real-world problem-solving skills needed to tackle tomorrow's energy challenges and to reduce the education and training gap for the future.



Despite facing many obstacles during the day, and needing to change courses, the teams persisted and faced their challenges head on. To have been recognised for their achievements speak volumes about the hard work these students have put in, learning valuable technical and student agency skills.



LEADING AND LEARNING ON THE LAWNS

The Rite Journey is our signature Year 9 program and is designed to support the development of self-aware, responsible, respectful, resilient and resourceful adults. Part of this journey is surrounding yourself with good people and creating opportunities to interact and to learn from them. Each year, our Year 9 boys share time with a grandfather, uncle or other significant mentor as they team up for lawn bowls. Along with developing their understanding of the sport and their skill level, the mentor-student partners had meaningful discussions about becoming a great adult.



TWIST IN THE ROAD FOR OUR YEAR 9 PERFORMERS

Our Year 9s gave an impressive performance, as they took on the play, *Oz*. In a world suspiciously resembling the familiar and favourite film, *The Wizard of Oz*, the main character, Beth, finds herself caught up this classic story gone awry. The Year 9s further challenged themselves performing matinees for visiting students from our Junior Campus. Using these audiences as a sounding board, the Drama class got immediate feedback on what worked, what didn't, and all all important, what did you think?. Rather than treating the audience as a passive means to an end, the Junior visitors became a living part of the drama classroom, informing their seniors' education and providing valuable feedback.



CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS SEUSS

Our Reception spent a morning entranced in the world of Dr Seuss, as part of their Dr Seuss Dress Up Day. This annual event celebrates Dr Seuss stories, and their valuable literacy, numeracy and scientific concepts. With a mix of silly and sensory activities, our Reception could be seen joyfully squishing and squeezing goo, helping Horton speak a word or two, counting their fish and colouring them too, and even making green eggs - ewww!



CAMPS: CALLING FOR COURAGE

A sense of adventure, resilience and capability are just a few of the important aptitudes that are strengthened as part of our exciting camp program.





For many it is a thrilling opportunity to push beyond their limits, both mentally and physically. Camps provide a unique rite of passage and at each year level they serve to foster bonds, deepen peer connections and provide safe challenges in a fun environment.

While there's plenty of empowering opportunities to bolster students' learning, the camps are also a lot of fun! These pages show just a few of the camp experiences in Semester 1. Pictured above are some of our Secondary students' camp experiences, and below is the Year 4 camp experience at Mylor.





String & Woodwind Concert





Band Bonanza





Choirs in Concert



Together in RECONCILIATION



Hosted by our Junior and Secondary Reconciliation Ambassadors Maggie, Scarlett, Izaak and Henry, we celebrated this year's National Reconciliation Week theme of *'Now More Than Ever'* at a special Reconciliation Week Assembly in May.

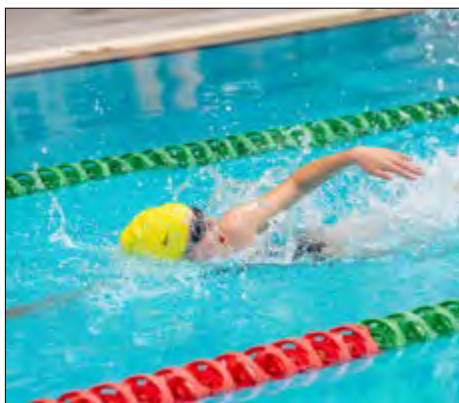
And we were joined by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, who shared her personal experiences with Kaurna culture.



Proud Kaurna, Narungga, Ngarrindjeri, Ngadjuri and Arrrente man, Cliffy 'Tangku Munaitya' Wilson, gave an official Welcome To Country, sharing his language and an insight into local culture. We were also fortunate to witness a compelling presentation by St John's Grammar School student and proud Miriam Mir person, Ophelia, who spoke very well, bringing wisdom and meaning to *'Now More Than Ever'* in a context that resonated with all present.

We also watched two videos highlighting our School's engagement with indigenous culture - one poignantly covering the School's annual APY Lands trips, and the other showing our ELC students participating in 'Bush Time'. Musically, our School Choir filled the hall with glorious song, and the Assembly was brought to a close with the line 'stand up and be counted' sounding out from the student body during teacher Pat Penfold's performance of Warumpi Band's hit *'Black Fella/White Fella'*.





Secondary Campus Swimming Carnival





COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Our Year 8s forged intergenerational connections as part of their Signature Experience program. This program provides each year level with a tailored initiative aimed at developing core future skills and providing experiences to enrich their learning. The Year 8 Signature Experience was to develop and cultivate intergenerational bonds, share life experiences and differences and to forge a common bond with the residents of Kalyra Belair Retirement Village.

Engaging proactively with people you have never met - not to mention those on the far side of the generational divide - can be daunting for all! Despite some initial trepidation, our students and the residents of Kalyra soon joined together, developing meaningful connections. Both age groups found themselves in conversation, challenging each other in games, and reflecting on their own personal experience of life. With everyone richer for the engagement, our Year 8s left with their world a little wider, their comfort zone expanded and another step in personal growth under their belt. Sometimes the encounters you've never considered leave you with moments of value you carry forward, deepening the appreciation for the journey we are all on.



JP FUN DAY





ELC

MOTHER'S DAY MUFFINS

To celebrate the important 'mother' figure in their lives, our ELC children welcomed their special people for a 'Muffins for Mums' breakfast. The sun shone brightly and there was plenty of laughter, as our youngest students had some extra special time with their loved one.



Let's welcome

St John's Grammar Board Chair

Naomi Lindermeyer



With more than two decades of experience in the education sector, we were excited to welcome Naomi Lindermeyer to the St John's Grammar School Board of Governors as Board Chair earlier this year.

In her role, Naomi is responsible for leading the 14-strong Board of Governors, ensuring the School upholds its values and performance, while delivering on its policies, strategic directions, and objectives, whilst complying with all its legal, financial, and ethical obligations.

As founder and Company Director of Kimberlin, Australia's leading education creative agency, Naomi comes to St John's Grammar with significant educational experience. Spending the first ten years of her career as a primary teacher, she identified a niche to bridge the gap between industry and education through digital innovation. Over the past fourteen years, her company has created hundreds of award winning programs, transforming curriculum outcomes into engaging real-life learning experiences.

"I've seen firsthand the transformative power of education and I'm genuinely passionate about ensuring we continue to provide a world-class education in an environment where each student is individually nurtured as they grow."

Under her leadership, Kimberlin

Education has partnered with 100+ organisations and reached thousands of schools across the Asia-Pacific. Naomi was a 2017 recipient and alumni of the EY Accelerating Entrepreneur of the Year Award, and also mentors start-ups, SMEs, and entrepreneurs, champions women in business and tech, serves on a number of education advisory boards, and is a regular speaker at education conferences and on podcasts.

Naomi says she is thrilled to be part of our Hills community and is eager to contribute to the ongoing success of our School.

"I'm excited to bring my knowledge and commercial acumen to the position and pledge to always have the best interests of our School and community in mind," she said.

A mother of two boys at St John's Grammar School, Naomi proudly serves on the Board, passionate about nurturing a holistic approach to teaching and learning.

We look forward to working with Naomi to continue to deliver the unique St John's Grammar experience.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION



It's been a busy first Semester for our hard working Parents & Friends Association which has been at the forefront of a number of fun days and events across our School.

Just in the first Semester alone, the P&F have run the Mother's Day Stall, the Easter Raffle, discos and socials on each campus, the Quiz Night, whilst also giving their usual support at events like JP Fun Day and the various Carnivals. Pictured on these pages are just some of the fun events that the P&F has organised in the first Semester of 2024.

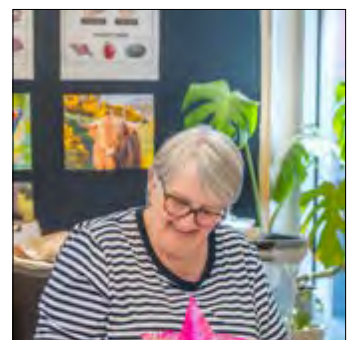
Looking ahead, the major event of the year, the Community Spring Fair in Belair is coming on Sunday 13 October from 10am - 4pm. This fun-filled fair has something for everyone, and with free entry we hope you will join us on the day! To find out more about this event, visit the Spring Fair website:

www.stjohns.sa.edu.au/community-spring-fair-in-belair/

Easter Raffle



Mother's Day Stall



Junior School Disco & 'Soaring' Middle School Social



Quiz Night



FREE ENTRY



COMMUNITY SPRING FAIR *in belair*



Sunday 13 October 2024 10am - 4pm

St John's Grammar School - 29 Gloucester Ave, Belair

www.stjohns.sa.edu.au/community-spring-fair-in-belair

**SILENT DISCO | FOOD KIOSK | PETTING ZOO | BOOK STALL | WINE & CHEESE MARQUEE | LIVE MUSIC
FACE PAINTING | MARKET STALLS | JUMPING CASTLE | AMUSEMENTS | GAMES & ACTIVITIES**

Supported by a City of Mitcham grant



CLASS OF 2003 - 20 YEAR REUNION



OLD SCHOLARS



CLASS OF 2003 20 YEAR REUNION





CLASS OF 2013 10 YEAR REUNION

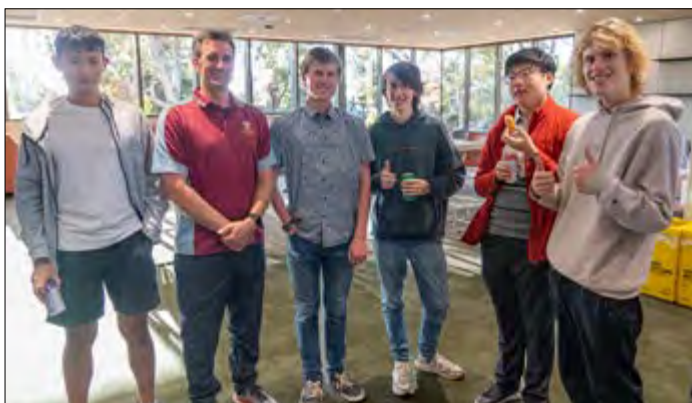





CLASS OF 2019 5 YEAR REUNION



CLASS OF 2023 **WELCOME TO THE** **OLD SCHOLARS** **EVENT**



DEFYING LIMITS & INSPIRING THROUGH SPORT



Alana Tiller (Class of 2021)

Alana Tiller, a 20-year-old university student and avid competitive shooter, exemplifies resilience and determination.

Photography: Dustin Wilson for Guide Dogs SA/NT



Living with Oculocutaneous Albinism, a condition that often leads to vision loss, Alana experiences life with "around 3 per cent vision on a good day." Yet, despite this challenge, she embraces her condition, crediting it for shaping her into the person she is today.

"I actually think that my disability has shaped me into the person I am today, and it's not something I absolutely hate about myself," she reflects.

Alana's journey is a powerful testament to her belief that one can lead an extraordinary life with low vision, challenging common stereotypes and stigmas.

A former student of St John's Grammar School, Alana has excelled in various sports, particularly Goalball – a Paralympic sport designed for vision-impaired athletes. Her impressive achievements include a silver medal at the 2019 IBSA Goalball Youth World Championships. Beyond Goalball, Alana has expanded her athletic pursuits into the field of 10m air rifle shooting.

Alana is currently the top vision impaired shooter in Australia and came 4th in an international competition at the beginning of this year.

In 2020, she embraced this new challenge, using infrared LED audio-sighting equipment under the guidance of the National Rifle Talent Coach of Shooting Australia. This innovation allows her to engage in the sport with remarkable precision, demonstrating the potential of vision-impaired athletes.

As a talented athlete, over the years, Alana also competed in both T12 and T13 classifications due to fluctuating vision. She holds Australian records in

the T12 classification for the Long Jump (Under 20) and Triple Jump (Open and Under 20). Additionally, she has achieved numerous South Australian records in the F12 and T13 classifications. In F12, she set records in the Long Jump (Open, Under 20, and Under 18) and Triple Jump (Open, Under 20, and Under 18). In T13, she holds records in the 200m (Open, Under 20, Under 18, and Under 16) and the 100m (Under 17 and Under 18).

Alana's story extends beyond her athletic achievements. She is currently a third-year student pursuing a Bachelor of Psychological Science at the University of Adelaide. Her academic pursuits, coupled with her sports accomplishments, highlight her multifaceted talents and dedication.

Notably, Alana's presence on the panel of the recent Women in Sport Brunch, in partnership with Sport SA, at the SkyCity Ballroom Adelaide on March 21, underscored her inspirational journey. Her participation as a guest speaker was a recognition of her journey and an opportunity to inspire others by sharing her experiences.

Accompanied by her loyal guide dog, Rocket, Alana navigates the world with grace and confidence. She hopes to shift the conversation around disabilities, encouraging people to see them not as limitations but as integral aspects of one's identity. "I think people need to hear that it's something you can love about yourself and you don't want to be, in quotes I guess, 'cured' or 'fixed'," she says.

Alana Tiller's journey is not just a story of overcoming challenges; it is a celebration of embracing oneself fully and the extraordinary possibilities that come with it.



Rising star in the Jazz world

Thomas Voss
(Class of 2014)

For those who taught Thomas Voss during his time at St John's Grammar School, it comes as no surprise that he has blossomed into an exceptional talent in the music world.

The Thomas Voss Big Band, headlined the International Jazz Day at the Adelaide Festival Centre – what a testament to his remarkable journey. The event showcased an array of prominent South Australian musicians, performing a complete set of Tom's original compositions – works that have begun to receive international acclaim.

Since graduating from the Elder Conservatorium, Thomas has established himself as one of Adelaide's most versatile trombonists, composers, arrangers, and educators. His dynamic presence in the music scene is reflected in his leadership of the Thomas Voss Big Band and various small group projects.

Thomas's collaborations with notable artists

such as Vanessa Perica, Vince Jones, and Kate Ceberano further highlight his versatility and talent. His performances have graced major stages at prestigious events, including the Melbourne International Jazz Festival, Perth International Jazz Festival, Sydney Conservatorium International Jazz Festival, and the Adelaide Festival Centre's 2019 International Jazz Day Concert.

Thomas's achievements are not limited to performance. In 2017, he made history as the first Australian to win the International Trombone Association's Carl Fontana Jazz Competition. He was also shortlisted for a South Australian Music Award in 2019 and nominated for the esteemed 2022 Freedman Jazz Fellowship. These accolades underscore his significant impact on the jazz community.



Photography above: Isabel Armstrong @eyewher.e
Opposite: Matt Houston Iron Bark Photography

As a composer and arranger, Thomas has made substantial contributions to the Australian jazz scene. He was the Featured Composer for Creative Original Music Adelaide in 2023 and served as Composer-in-Residence for the West Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra in 2022 and JazzSA Superbands in 2019. His work as Program Coordinator for JazzSA since 2021 demonstrates his commitment to nurturing young talent and fostering a vibrant jazz culture.

Thomas has also composed test pieces for the ABODA SA and Generations in Jazz band festivals, where he has served as both an adjudicator and guest artist. His dedication to the craft of jazz, both as a performer and educator, continues to inspire and uplift the music community in Adelaide and beyond. The St John's Grammar School community eagerly anticipates his upcoming performance and celebrates his ongoing success in the jazz world.



A Journey Through Art: Coping With Anxiety and Finding Courage

Gisele Draper (Class of 2023)

Old Scholar Giselle Draper created two interconnected pieces of artwork that tell a powerful story of coping with anxiety and finding the courage to reach out for help.

The first piece, titled *Grasping*, is a series of digital photographs that represent the struggle and complexity of anxiety. The second piece, *Reaching*, features moulded plaster hands, symbolising the act of seeking support and connection.

Having dealt with anxiety throughout school, Giselle wanted to share their journey and let others know that it's okay to ask for help. The subtle yet powerful way hand gestures convey emotions greatly influenced the concept behind these works.

Being a part of the SACE Art Show was an incredible and rewarding experience for Giselle. Walking into the gallery and seeing their art displayed on the wall was unforgettable. Not to mention seeing the diverse and creative works of their peers and attending the awards night. Giselle is excited to see what this year's Year 12 students will create and hope they find the same sense of pride and fulfillment in their work.

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