

Whyalla Secondary

Newsletter

College



Tricia Richman

Principal's Welcome

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through term 2 and only have 3 weeks left of semester 1. Staff and students are all really busy, engaged in a range of interesting and engaging learning experiences. A perfect example of this was having year 7 students from Samaritan College here yesterday to celebrate Italian Republic Day with our students. They spoke Italian, cooked a range of Italian food and then played a soccer game which resulted in a draw. Students from both schools had a fantastic day, forming new friendships and experiencing Italian culture. I hope that this type of learning experience can continue on a regular basis.

Staffing update

This term we have had some staffing changes. We have farewelled staff members to our team Mark Trimboli, Tricia Tran, Karlee Yarwood and Makayla Maxwell. We wish them well in their future career moves. As a college we have welcomed the following staff members to our team. Teaching staff members Harleen Manocha and Harry Philp and SSO staff members Janet Harvey, Rhiannon Nichol, Kylie Clothier, Kristy Hugo, Caroline Johnson and Megan Erskine. Christina and I are working hard with HR to try and fill 2 further teaching vacancies.

Pupil Free Day

Please be reminded that Whyalla Secondary College has a Pupil Free Day on Monday 27 June (week 9). Staff will be involved in a PD session around ICT and restorative practices. Well known and highly respected Kerrie Sellen, will be delivering the staff PD on restorative practices.

Semester 2 change over

Semester 1 ends on Friday 24 June (week 8). Semester 2 subjects begin from Tuesday 28 June (week 9), therefore there is a change in timetable for our year 9, 10, 11 and 12 students in particular. Year 7 and 8 students will continue with their current timetable and the semester changeover will not be noticeable for them.

Reports

Written reports will be sent home at the end of the term. The report will provide an update of your child's current grade for their subject. Staff feedback about specific assessment tasks for your child's mark can be found on the Daymap parent portal.

Communication

When seeking advice about your child's learning or wellbeing, the staff that you can make contact with first is their care group teacher, year level leader or relevant Assistant Principal. If you then require further support and assistance, Christina or myself become involved.

Thank you to all parents and community members for the ongoing support that you have shown myself and the college staff over the past 3 weeks. It has been greatly appreciated. My quote for the staff and students this week was;

"Courage doesn't mean you don't get afraid, courage means you don't let fear stop you."

College Updates

RUGBY JUMPERS

Rugby jumpers have arrived! They are located at each level's student services office and are available for collection at recess and lunch time only.

COVID-19 UPDATE

From May 30 (week 5), face masks in education and care settings (schools, preschools and children's centres) will be:

- Strongly recommended (but not required) for all adults (including visitors) while indoors, except when it impedes ability to teach.
- Strongly recommended (but not required) for students in years 3 to 12 while indoors.

Anyone who is a close contact and is aged 12 years and older will need to wear a mask when they leave the house for 7 days following exposure as per the SA Health close contact guidelines.

Employees and non-employees who are not fully vaccinated must continue to wear a mask while indoors, at all times as per the COVID-19 vaccination policies.

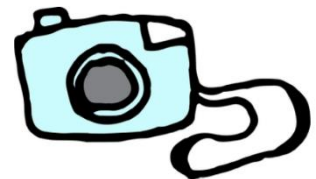


NAPLAN

During 9 May – 20 May (week 2 and 3) the college's year 7 and 9 students participated in NAPLAN testing. Thanks to the positive attitude of students and the efforts of staff the testing went well. The literacy and numeracy tests allow the school to collect data to help inform teaching at the college in the future. On 25 May we held a BBQ to celebrate students' excellent participation in NAPLAN. Congratulations to all students who completed NAPLAN!

CAREER READY PROGRAM

The Career Ready Transition Program is an alternative learning program we have implemented in support of students who require a need for more flexible and intensive learning opportunities. These opportunities are designed to support reengagement within our school and community. The program helps to provide learning options that are in line with student's individual literacy and numeracy needs. There are literacy and numeracy sessions and life skill sessions that have included cooking this term. So far we have mastered the art of homemade pizza dough and homemade rough puff pastry.



SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will arrive at the college next week. Students can collect their photos from student services.

STUDENT ID CARDS

Student ID cards are available for collection from student services. ID cards must be purchased at a cost of \$5.50.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK



National Reconciliation Week is celebrated each year from 27 May to 3 June. It is a time to celebrate and build on positive and respectful relationships and connections between Australians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Whyalla Secondary College celebrated this week by creating artwork that has been displayed around the college. DCP and SAPOL held a morning tea in the ATRiUM for all staff and students to enjoy cake and discuss the importance of National Reconciliation Week.

This year's theme is **BE BRAVE. MAKE CHANGE.**

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

National Careers Week involved the students interacting with lecturers and students from TafeSA and UniSA. Informative, engaging and hands on session were run, these sessions offered student's the ability to meet and discuss options for future pathways with lecturers, academics and people working in their desired field. Not only were the students given the opportunity to ask important questions about their future careers but also an insight into many different fields that might spark their interest.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL SECONDARY TRAINING ACADEMY: POWER CUP



The SANTOS SAASTA Aboriginal Power Cup took place last week, with staff and students attending the carnival in Adelaide. Students engaged in a variety of activities including a career expo at the Lights community centre, pathway talks at Flinders University and Adelaide University, domestic violence talks with special guests at Adelaide Oval, and the annual football carnival. The students got to walk out onto Adelaide Oval to perform the cultural dance, which for many was the highlight of this camp. The camp was a great experience and students can't wait to do it all again in term 4 at SAASTA Shield.

Hackathon

Imagine Cup Junior Hackathon

The Year 7-8 student did a fantastic job taking part in the Imagine Cup Junior Hackathon over 31 March and 1 April. A Hackathon is a term used by the technology industry where people come together and try to solve a problem in 1 day.

Hackathon and Integrated Inquiry Learning

Through scaffolded learning, students are guided to progressively develop questioning, study and research skills as they become self-directed leaders of their own learning.

The 4 guiding principles of inquiry learning are:

Voice: listening to students' opinions, experience, knowledge, worries, hopes and dreams.

Agency: developing action, responsibility and leadership.

Action: prioritising collective action of students.

Reflection: embedding learning and building empathy.

These guiding principles were demonstrated throughout the Hackathon:

Voice: listening to the problem areas in which the students identified and where their focus of an area of concern needs AI (artificial intelligence) to help resolve or improve this issue.

Agency: allowing the students to form groups and think outside the box to solve their issue of choice.

This promotes an agency for action, responsibility and leadership.

Action: actioning their plan by targeting key decision makers and influencers who can bring about proposed change.

Reflection: presenting their findings of their problem and solution.



Apprenticeship Opportunities

SA Water Industry Trainee

This 2-year program will see you working in the outdoors, under the coaching and guidance of our subject matter experts. Our Water Industry Trainees learn and study to perform the responsibilities of a Field Technician team member, who support the delivery of water, recycled water and wastewater services.

Success in this role would provide students with:

- Certificate III in Water Industry Operations
- Hard working, committed and dedicated to future careers, employers and customers.
- Developing skills and behaviours to work with a team.
- Building communication and customer interaction skills.
- Acquiring health, safety and environmental awareness.

To apply you will have completed year 10 and hold or be working towards a current driver's license.

Required to declare a full immunisation against COVID-19

[Applications close Thursday 16 June.](#)

Drafting Cadetship

Drafting is a specific and integral technical discipline of Engineering Design for developing technical drawings for the fabrication, assembly and installation of Mechanical or Civil/Structural engineering solutions. The process involves using software such as Autodesk Inventor or AutoCAD to develop a detailed 3D or 2D design model.

Students will learn to read, interpret and develop technical drawings through in-house mentoring by an experienced team of engineers, designers and drafters, while also pursuing a Diploma of Engineering Technical through TAFESA, fully supported and paid for by MCE.

Please contact the school on 8668 9600 to discuss these opportunities.



Term 2



What we've been doing



Australian Ballet Performance, National Reconciliation Week, fundraisers, music lessons, NAPLAN celebration lunches, National Careers Week, SAASTA Camp, Italian Republic Day and Career Ready program