

Principal's Welcome



Tricia Richman

Important Dates

National Principal's Day

Friday 4 August

Year 10 Workabout/SAASTA ACE Immersion Block Week (Adelaide)

Sunday 6 – Friday 11 August

Knockout Boys Football (Whyalla)

all grades Monday 7 August

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

Wednesday 9 August

Clontarf Employment Forum

Wednesday 9 – Friday 11 August

ACEE Excursion to Stuart Primary School

Wednesday 9 & Thursday 17 August

STEM Girls Creative Challenge

(Day 3) Thursday 10 August

Regional Boys Knockout Football 7/8, 9/10 & Open (Whyalla)

Friday 11 August

Year 11/12 Boys & Girls Basketball (Adelaide)

Wednesday 16 (pm) - Thursday 17 August

Spencer Gulf Excursion (Port Augusta)

Friday 18 August

Dear parents and caregivers,

Welcome to term 3! It has been yet another busy start to the term with every floor full of activity and engagement for students, which has been great to see.

I am pleased to report that the toilet key process has been working well with excellent results. We have not had one damaged or blocked toilet this term and it is no longer possible for groups of students to hide and be truant in a toilet.

College highlights over the past 2 weeks include;

- VET block week for many of our senior school students
- House Madness Day
- Year 9/10 and Year 11/12 Netball carnival
- National Principal's Day
- Mount Hotham Snow Tour
- Year 11 and 12 information session re SACE/ATAR and the SATAC application process
- ABC radio interview about our mobile phone policy
- Year 7 STEM footy
- Census Day

Many of our senior school families attended the recent presentation in relation to SACE, the new Learner Profile and IPP programs. Staff members Alexandra Holeva, Belinda McEvoy and Ricky Paveltish, provided a very informative session to senior school parents and caregivers.

Well done to Year 7/8 Assistant Principal Pete Usher and the team on an extremely successful House Madness Day on Tuesday. I have had nothing but positive comments about the morning and activities from staff, students and parents. This was a perfect lead up to Sports Day which will be held on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 September.

In HR news we welcome SSO Jason Suffolk, who has started with us and is working in the Year 8 Student Services area. We also welcome Nicole Grant as an official staff member. Nicole did her final placement with us last term and now joins our staff team. This is fantastic for the students that Nicole developed relationships with last term. This week we say farewell to two staff members. SSO Molly McGovern and Teacher Jasleen Kaur. We wish you both well and thank you for your time and work at the College.

Today is Census Day. This is an important data exercise for us as it helps paint the picture of student numbers, year level classes and staffing required for 2024.

The 2023 NAPLAN results are now available for all sites and individual student information has been posted home to families. Thank you to Katie Edwards and Rebecca Walton for their work in this space.

Last week I gave an ABC radio interview about our mobile phone policy. As you be aware all high school across the state had to adhere to the mobile phone policy from the start of term 3.

My quote for this newsletter is:

"Not all storms come to disrupt your life, some come to clear your path"

College Updates

House Madness Day

On Tuesday 1 August students dressed in their house colours and had a morning of fun filled activities to promote house culture. There was a number of activities to participate including; Lego masters, cake boss, indoor soccer, WSC Got Talent and more!

It was also a Red Day with menu items such as; hot chips and gravy, chocolate bars, soft drinks and burgers available to purchase from the Mint Cafeteria.

House Madness Day was an excellent display of our ATRiUM philosophy and school values of Inclusion, Innovation and Integrity.



Netball

Congratulations to the Year 9/10 & 11/12 netball teams who have made it through to the state finals in Adelaide on Tuesday 29 August



Snorkel with Cuttlefish Tour

Our Stage 1 and 2 Outdoor Education students were fortunate enough to undertake a snorkel tour with The Giant Australian Cuttlefish!

Students braved the cold water and had a fantastic time learning more about the cuttlefish and their environment. The educational experience was facilitated by Experiencing Marine Sanctuaries (EMS) in conjunction with National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia who provided students a terrific insight into the Upper Spencer Gulf Marine Park. Students will now use their newfound knowledge and personal connection to complete an investigation around the sustainability of the area.



Toilet Key Process

WSC has encountered numerous cases of vandalism in the student toilets which has resulted in excessive maintenance costs for the college. In addition to this, our behaviour data has increased in student vaping and truancy, with students using the toilets as a place to hide.

After significant considerations and in consultation with governing council, the decision has been made to lock the student toilets. The college has incurred an additional cost to install the locks, however we believe that this will reduce the number of vaping, vandalism and truancy incidents throughout the school.

The initial data from the first few days of implementing this decision, has indicated a reduction in incidents by 25%.

Teachers have explained the new process to students, specifically;

- The class teacher issues a toilet movement slip to the student.
- The student signs out a toilet key from the relevant student services office closest to their class. Student services will not issue a toilet key without a toilet movement slip.
- Students return the key to the relevant student services office. The key is signed in and the student returns to class.

Special considerations have been given for cases where students need to access toilets for health reasons. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Assistant Principal on 8668 9600.



Whyalla
Secondary
College

Ph 08 8668 9600
117 Nicolson Avenue
Whyalla Norrie SA 5608
dl.1035.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Term 3 Week 2, Friday 4 August 2023