

Principal's Welcome



Tricia Richman

Dear parents and caregivers,

Welcome officially to the 2025 school year. It's hard to believe that we are already in week 6!

It's nice to see that students have settled in and are ready to engage with learning. The staggered start at the beginning of the term was a real success. Year 7 and Spencer Gulf in particular have had a very smooth transition and have achieved some great things already this term.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Anthony Wilkinson is our new Year 7/8 Assistant Principal behind Pete Usher this year. Anthony previously held the position of Year 7 Leader, a position which Kiersten Humphrey has won this year.

This year we have welcomed the following staff; Yixin Wu (Andrea), Isabel Dawson, Vandana Nath, Pravinesh Mudaliar, Jinming Shang (Julia), Stefania Chrominska, Alanah Gonzalez, Trudy Robinson, Taylah Shepperbottom, Roy Webb and Katie Lee who has returned from maternity leave.

Emma Ainsworth has returned this year in the role of AET for 2025. This is the first time that this role has been filled since opening the college.

Over the holiday break we farewelled SSO Joyce Kloosterman, and more recently Gurinder Jhawar and Rachel Vasey. I would like to thank them for all of their work at the college and wish them all the very best in their future endeavours. We have since welcomed SSO's Amy Farrell and Keith Illingworth.

This term has already seen some fantastic learning opportunities for the students. They include;

- SACE Merit Ceremony in Adelaide
- Our first 2 VET block weeks for the year
- Year 7 Parent Meet and Greet
- Governing Council AGM
- Health Science and Year 12 Leadership camps

Well done to Anthony Wilkinson and the year 7 team on a very successful parent meet and greet evening recently. It was excellent to see families connecting with staff. The students were excited to show their families their new learning spaces and introduce their new teachers.

The Governing Council AGM was held this week, with our first official meeting to be held on Wednesday 26 March at 7pm. If you would like to nominate, it's not too late. Please contact my EA Kylie Morris on 8668 9600 or email Kylie.Morris668@schools.sa.edu.au. The positions of secretary and treasurer remain vacant at this stage. At the meeting governing council approved our first Red Day for the year. It will be on Tuesday 25 March.

Last year you would have seen our exceptional SACE results with 109 students completing their SACE, 8 Aboriginal students completing their SACE, and 5 students achieving their modified SACE. 39 students received an ATAR last year, which is the strongest results college have had, with 8 achieving over 80. The college Dux was Shalini Sarkar with 99.95%. Shalini featured in The Advertiser. 46 of those received an ATAR because they studied VET. Two students received merits last year for Research Project, which is compulsory for year 11 students. It is now called Activating Futures. Factory days and intervention also negated an exceptional result. Overall the college's SACE data was very strong, with the highest B and A grades than we have had before (65%) which meant we met our Site Improvement (SIP) goals. This is an 11% increase compared to 2024.

This year we are excited to announce the SSO to Teacher Pilot Program, which acknowledges that SSO's possess the qualities and passion required to become outstanding educators themselves. The college has partnered with UniSA, to launch the program to support SSO's to train as teachers and engage in an accredited and flexible teaching degree to meet the needs of the experienced staff and of the school.

My quote for this newsletter is in recognition of International Women's Day tomorrow:

"Don't sit down and wait for opportunities to come. Get up and make them".

Wishing you all a safe and relaxing weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday.

Learning Conversations

Tuesday 1 April

Year 7 Port Vincent Camp 2

Monday 7 to Wednesday 9 April

Year 7 Port Vincent Camp 1

Wednesday 2 to Friday 4 April

Early Dismissal

Friday 11 April (1.30pm)

Clontarf Year 7 Induction Day

Thursday 3 April

Term 1 School Holidays

Monday 14 to Friday 25 April

Important Dates

Public Holiday – Adelaide Cup

Monday 10 March

NAPLAN

Wednesday 12 to
Monday 24 March

Flexible Learning Aquaculture Excursion (Cowell)

Thursday 13 March

Harmony Week

Monday 17 to Friday 21 March

Clontarf BMD Site Tour

Tuesday 18 March

ACE Workabout Centre Block Week 1 (year 10)

Thursday 20 to Friday 21 March

Close the Gap Day

Thursday 20 March

World Down Syndrome Day

Thursday 20 March

Stage 2 Art Camp (Adel)

Thursday 20 to Friday 21 March

VET Block Week

Monday 24 to Friday 28 March

WASSAC Carnival / Red Day

Tuesday 25 March

Clontarf Year 7 Induction Camp

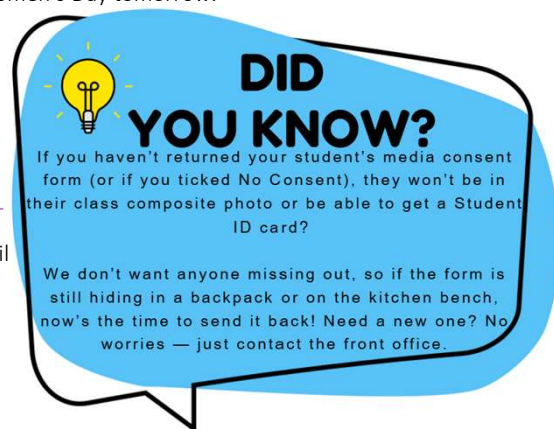
Thursday 27 to Friday 28 March

Year 9 Performing Arts Excursion to MAC (Gravity Workshop) 2-3.30pm

Monday 31 March

Year 9 Performing Arts Excursion to MAC (Gravity Performance)

Tuesday 1 April



College Updates

Cultivating Future Educators: School Services Officers to Teacher Pilot Program

Our School Services Officers (SSO's) play a vital role in supporting educators and students at Whyalla Secondary College, with their classroom experience providing them with insights into the world of teaching. The SSO to Teacher Pilot Program endeavours to draw on these insights, acknowledging that SSO's possess the qualities and passion required to become outstanding educators themselves. This year, the college has partnered with UniSA, to launch a pilot program to support SSO's to train as teachers and engage in an accredited and flexible teaching degree to meet the needs of the experienced staff and of the school. We are very pleased to share with the Whyalla community that 12 of our SSO's have been offered a place in the Bachelor of Secondary Education at UniSA Whyalla campus. Congratulations to all – we are excited to see you become teachers through this unique opportunity!



L to R: Principal Tricia Richman, Ryley Sanders, Chelsea Kwaterski, Corey King, Shianne Hartwell, Paige Alexander, Gemma Wynands, Megan Cox, Jemma Bodinner, Brooke Nieborg, Jason Suffolk and Deputy Principal Christina Nicholas. Absent are Emily O'Connor and Billie McMillan

2025 Governing Council

- Tracey Watson – Chairperson
- Nicola Casey – Vice Chairperson
- Robyn Pedler
- Ali Zimmermann
- Philippa Cockcroft
- Keren Burke
- Louise Smith
- Rhiannon Howell
- Charmaine Papadontas
- Kylie Clayton – Community Rep
- Robert Schofield – Staff AEU Rep
- Kiersten Humphrey – Staff Rep



MINT CAFETERIA MENU

Open from 8:30am - 3:30pm
Order from the Okr! App

SOMETHING HEALTHY	SOMETHING HOT	SOMETHING SWEET
CAESAR SALAD \$8	SWEET CHILLI CHICKEN SUB \$8	BANANA BREAD \$4
CHICKEN SALAD \$8	CHICKEN BURGER \$8	FINGER BUN \$4
GARDEN SALAD \$8	CHICKEN NUGGETS (6) \$5	CHOCOLATE MUFFIN \$4
FRUIT SALAD \$4	HOT DOG \$5.50	BLUEBERRY MUFFIN \$4
FRUIT AND YOGHURT \$4	HOT DOG AND CHEESE \$5.50	
NOURISH BOWL \$5	HOT HAM AND CHEESE \$6	
	MEAT PIE \$6	
	CHICKEN PIE \$6	
	SAUSAGE ROLL \$5	
	BBQ PORK RIBLET ROLL \$8	
	BUTTER CHICKEN AND RICE \$7	
	HAWAIIAN PIZZA \$4	

DAILY SPECIALS AVAILABLE!

Visitor Parking

Due to the limited parking available at Concept Window Tinting and Country and Outback Health families are reminded not to park in this area as it impacts on their staff and customers.

Families are also reminded that vehicles are not permitted to block the flow of traffic by waiting in the WSC Spencer Gulf kiss and drop loop, particularly at the end of the school day.



SACE Merit Ceremony

At the end of last year 2 Whyalla Secondary College students, Amaya and Hertu received a Merit in Research Project. The SACE Merit Ceremony which is hosted by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, recognises the academic success of students across the state, as well as students who achieve a Governor of South Australia Commendation. Earlier this term, Principal Richman attended the ceremony for Hertu along with his family. Unfortunately due to the extreme heat, Amaya's ceremony was postponed until early April. We look forward to sharing some photos from Amaya's ceremony as well. Congratulations to both Amaya and Hertu on this significant achievement! 🎉

