

# Principal's Welcome



*Tricia Richman*

## Important Dates

### Year 8 Urban Experience Camp 1

Tuesday 3 to Thursday 5 June

### Public Holiday

Monday 9 June

### Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 10 June

### Year 11 Exams

Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 June

### Year 7-10 Knockout Football

Friday 13 June (Bennett Oval)

### Year 8 Urban Experience Camp 2

Monday 16 to Wednesday 18 June

### Clontarf Senior Camp

Tuesday 17 – Thursday 19 June

### Finance Meeting

Wednesday 18 June at 6.30pm

### Governing Council

Wednesday 18 June at 7pm

### Spencer Gulf Year 7/8

### Interdisciplinary Work Display

Thursday 19 June (after school)

### Start of Semester 2

Monday 23 June

### Clontarf Big Day Out

Tuesday 24 June

### VET Block Week

Monday 23 – Friday 27 June

### H2 Grand Prix Adelaide

Thursday 26 – Friday 27 June

### Year 12 Formal

Friday 27 June

Dear parents and caregivers,

As we reach the middle of the term 2, we reflect on how busy it has been with some of our events being;

- Spencer Gulf swimming lessons
- Year 10 Parent VET/IPP/SACE Information night
- Year 7 & 10 Immunisations
- VET block week
- Do it for Dolly Day
- Shooting Stars Mother's Day event
- National Careers Week
- Clontarf Year 8/9 Basketball Carnival Berri
- SAASTA Power Cup
- Flinders University Assessment Centre Test
- IDAHOBIT Day
- National Volunteer Week
- House Madness/Red Day
- Safer Journeys road safety event
- Career Expo
- Reconciliation Week
- Football carnivals
- Try a Trade sessions
- Animals Anonymous

Recently Deputy Principal Christina Nicholas and I had the pleasure of presenting at the Department for Education Wellbeing Conference in Adelaide, alongside Social Worker Candice Blayney. Candice presented information on Student Review Teams in Education, whilst Christina and I spoke about the collaboration between Children in Care and Whyalla Secondary College, together with student case studies and the positive outcomes that have been achieved.

This term our Leaders have been busy engaging in the Middle Leaders Orbis PD. I am so pleased that our leaders have the opportunity to be involved in this valuable PD.

The college has welcomed the following staff since the start of the term; Case Manager Wendy Vandertuuk and SSO's Tennyson Frost and Kate Deakin. They have already made valuable contributions to the staff and students.

Today we farewell Curriculum SSO Mitchell Morris. Wishing you all the best in your future endeavours Mitchell.

We would like to congratulate staff member Billie McMillan and partner Cadell who welcomed baby Cole in May. Year 7/8 Assistant Principal Anthony Wilkinson together with wife Teegan and son Luca welcomed Matteo into their family a few days later. Wishing both families all the very best with their new additions.

This term we have seen a number of staff graduate from University. These include Georgina Wedding, Jessica Scott, Julia Shang, Stefania Chrominska, Andrea Wu and Tahlia Coombes. Within our Centacare space Ethan Ferris and Rachel Fitzgerald also graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work. More information along with some photos can be found on our Facebook page. Congratulations to all of you.

Families are reminded about our semester change over. The last day of semester 1 is Friday 20 June, with students receiving their new timetables in time for the start of semester 2 which starts on Monday 23 June 2025.

Year 11 families received an email last week informing them that exams will be conducted next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from UniSA. If you have any questions, please contact Year 11/12 Assistant Principal Rebecca Ramm.

Year 12 families will soon receive information about the upcoming year 12 exams.

Finally please be reminded that next Monday 9 June is a public holiday and Tuesday is a pupil free day. The school will be closed on both days.

Next week I will be on leave and Christina Nicholas will be the Acting Principal.

My quote for this newsletter is *"You are the most valuable investment, that you will ever make."*

### NAIDOC Week

6 – 13 July

### Shooting Stars Senior

### Leadership Camp (Perth)

30 June – 7 July

### End of Term 2

Friday 4 July

### Early Dismissal

Friday 27 June

1.30pm

### Start of Term 3

Monday 21 July

# College Updates

## Reminder for students and families.

At Whyalla Secondary College every person deserves to feel safe!

By keeping your hands and feet to yourself and maintaining your personal space, you show respect for others, help keep the school a safe place and avoid misunderstandings.

## Playfighting

At Whyalla Secondary College, we want everyone to feel safe, respected and ready to learn. That's why we're reminding all students that playfighting and being physical with others is not okay—whether you're in the classroom, on the oval, in the yard, or walking between lessons.

Even if it seems like “just a joke” or “having fun,” it can lead to:

- Accidental injuries
- Damaged friendships
- Conflict or disciplinary action
- Unsafe learning and play spaces

By keeping your hands and feet to yourself and maintaining your personal space, you show respect for others, help keep the school a safe place and avoid misunderstandings.

There are plenty of ways to have fun and enjoy time with friends that doesn't involve rough play.

Let's all make choices that support a calm, safe and positive school environment for everyone. If you're not sure what's okay—ask a teacher or staff member. We're here to support you.

## SAASTA

Last week, our Whyalla SAASTA students travelled to Adelaide for the SANTOS Aboriginal Power Cup—and what an incredible experience it was! Throughout the camp, students embraced every opportunity: from a leadership day and cultural dance to a career exp and the exciting footy carnival. A massive congratulations to Sharontae, who was honoured at the Adelaide Oval Awards Ceremony with the major individual leadership award—a well-deserved recognition of her dedication over the past 3 years! To top it all off, students were treated to an unforgettable performance by Indigenous hip-hop legend Barkaa. We're so proud of everyone who took part—you've done Whyalla proud!



At Whyalla Secondary College, we believe EVERY DAY COUNTS!

If you miss just 1 day of school per fortnight, that's:

- 20 days per year
- 4 weeks per year
- Nearly 1 ½ years of lost schooling over 13 years!

If you are 10 minutes late for school every day, that's:

- 50 minutes per week
- Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year
- Nearly ½ year of lost learning over 13 years!

Every moment in class helps you build your future. Whether it's a day off or being a little late, it adds up!

If you want to be successful, then YES, attendance does matter!

## DOES ATTENDANCE MATTER?

1 or 2 days absent a week doesn't seem that much but...

If you miss ...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

How about 10 minutes LATE a day? Surely that won't affect me?

If you miss ...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

## EVERY DAY COUNTS!

If you want to be successful then YES, attendance does matter!



# College Updates

## Spencer Gulf Showcase

Our year 7/8 Spencer Gulf classes are learning new skills in the kitchen! At the end of this term students will be using their new skills to cook for their families and teachers at their learning show case. Students have been busy practicing and preparing for this exciting event. Here is what some of the students have shared about their experience so far:

**Samantha:** "We have been cooking amazing things. We baked a cake in the oven and it tasted yummy. I am excited to learn how to make cookies."

**Jessica:** "We have learnt how to make pancakes and cake in our cooking lessons. The cake was my favourite because it was delicious. I also want to learn how to make cookies."

**Matthew:** "Cooking in Spencer Gulf is fantastic. The pancakes were my favourite as we added smarties to the mixture. I would like to learn how to make donuts."

**X-Zander:** "My favourite part of cooking is eating it at the end. It was really fun cooking the cake as we use teamwork for everything we make."

**Jezhiah:** "Spencer Gulf cooking is really fun. I like making food for other people. I made pancakes and cakes for Principal Richman and she enjoyed it."

**Leighvi:** "We learn how to cook with a partner and it is fun. This week we made vanilla cake and it was easy to make. For the show case I want to make nachos and cupcakes for everyone invited."



## Celebrating the Success of our SSO Pilot Team

We are delighted to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of our SSO staff studying to be teachers during their recent classroom experiences. These aspiring educators have demonstrated exceptional dedication, creativity and adaptability in their teaching roles, making a significant impact on their students at Whyalla Secondary College.

Throughout their placements, our staff have excelled in:

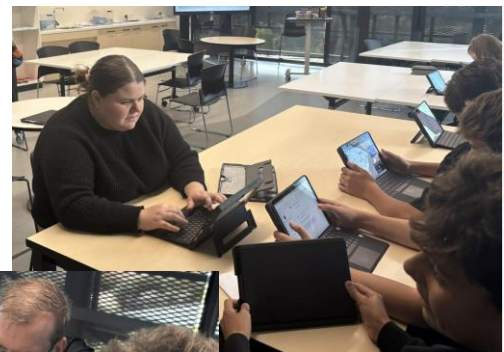
**Innovative Teaching Methods:** They have supported the use of modern pedagogical strategies, integrating technology and interactive learning to engage students effectively.

**Classroom Management:** With a focus on creating inclusive and supportive learning environments, they have successfully supported diverse classrooms, fostering a sense of belonging and respect among students.

**Professional Growth:** Our team have shown a commitment to continuous improvement, seeking feedback from university mentors and peers to refine their knowledge.

**Community Engagement:** They have actively participated in school activities and collaborated with colleagues, contributing to a positive school culture and building strong relationships with our students and staff.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements and confident that they will continue to inspire and educate future generations. Their success is a testament to their hard work and passion for teaching, and we look forward to seeing their continued growth as they successfully balance their work and study in education.



# College Updates

## 2025 Year 11 Mid-Year Exam Timetable - Term 2, Week 7 (11 June- 13 June)

Monday 9 June	Tuesday 10 June	Wednesday 11 June	Thursday 12 June	Friday 13 June
Public Holiday	Student Free Day	9:00am-9:30am Care Group	9:00am-9:30am Care Group	9:00am-9:30am Care Group
		9:30am-10:20am 4	<b>Physics</b> UniSA – Physical 9:30am to 11:10am	<b>Psychology</b> WSC- Electronic 9:30am to 11:10am
		10:20am-11:10am 4		
		11:10am-11:40am Recess	11:10am-11:40am Recess	11:10am-11:40am Recess
		<b>Essential Mathematics</b> UniSA – Physical 11:40 to 1:20pm	11:40am-12:30pm 3	<b>Chemistry</b> UniSA – Physical 11:40 to 1:20pm
			12:30pm-1:20pm 3	
		1:20pm-1:50pm Lunch	1:20pm-1:50pm Lunch	1:20pm-1:40pm Lunch
		<b>General Mathematics</b> UniSA – Physical 1:50pm to 3:30pm	<b>Biology</b> WSC- Electronic 1:50pm to 3:30pm	1:40pm-2:30pm 4

\* Specialist Mathematics and Mathematical Methods exams will be scheduled under the supervision of their support staff, in conjunction with the local delivery timeline.

The future's in our students' hands.

That's why phones shouldn't be.

Phones **off**  
while  
school's on.

Families are reminded that in line with the Department for Education mobile phone ban, Whyalla Secondary College became a phone free school in February 2023. Points to remember include:

- Year 7-10 students are to store their mobile phones and smart watches in a lockbox during the school day. They must be on silent and in flight mode.
- Year 11-12 students must keep their mobile phones and smart watches on silent and in flight mode in their bags, in their lockers. Alternatively they can store them in a lock box located in the relevant Student Services office.
- Students are not to use headphones during lesson time. Where headphones are required for curriculum and/or wellbeing purposes, a request to the teacher by the parent/caregiver can be made to allow an individual student to borrow a set of WSC headphones.
- Whilst on camp, students may take personal digital devices at their own risk; however, they must remain in a lock box throughout the entire day. The same expectations will apply during camp as at school, as outlined in the Mobile Phone Policy which can be found on our website [wsc.sa.edu.au](http://wsc.sa.edu.au)  
Students are permitted access to their mobiles during a designated period after dinner, providing them the opportunity to contact family before returning their phones to the lock box at lights out. Students who infringe the guidelines set out in this policy will be sent home from camp.  
Students are also not permitted to post any information about camp to any form of social media (e.g. Facebook/Snapchat etc.) for the duration of camp. This is to protect the safety of students and staff while participating in the camp. Whilst away, staff have a camp phone which parents can contact should they need to reach their student in an emergency. This number is on the parent letter sent home prior to the camp commencing.