Principal's Welcome



Tricia Richman

Dear parents and caregivers,

With the blink of an eye the school term is more than half way over.

It is with great excitement that we started this term with our new bus. Finally, after many months of waiting it arrived at the end of last term.

This term has seen us welcome the following staff to the college;

- Alternative Curriculum Leader Jenna Macdonald who has returned from maternity leave
- Teacher Angella Harvey who has joined the AHEAD IPP program and English/HASS Teacher Fathima Shiyas who is part of the Year 9 team
- Admin SSO's Karina Chandler and Jemma Shepherd
- Curriculum SSO Phillip Cash
- Grounds employee Dave Mulyk

We have also had a number of pre service teachers join us, and Candy Warren who has joined the Shooting Stars team.

This term has seen us farewell Teacher Emma Ainsworth and admin SSO Tia Head. We wish you both all the very best in your future endeavours.

Term three has had a very big focus on year 6 students transitioning to the college next year with a number of transition visits to the primary schools, and also half day visits at the college. Parents have also had the opportunity to tour the college.

Events at the college this term include;

- Health Science camp
- Encounter Youth
- VFT Block Week
- Year 12 Exams
- Year 7/8 and 9/10 Netball Carnivals
- 2026 subject Selections
- Spencer Gulf Basketball Carnival
- Sammy D Foundation presentations
- Table Tennis Tournament
- National Day of action against Bullying and Violence Day.
- Whyalla Show Display
- STEMfooty
- Year 12 Food class Community Activity
- PPE Program Talk (Periods, Pain and Endometriosis)
- Support Staff Week

Daily attendance of students continues to be a concern. It is so important that our students attend school every day, that is the only way we can ensure successful learning and outcomes for them. The Assistant Principals and Year Level leaders have been tracking and monitoring student attendance daily and will continue to do so over coming weeks, to see what else we can do to improve our daily attendance numbers.

Support Staff week was held recently. I would like to say thank you to all of our SSO staff at the College. We appreciate everything that you do to help and support the College. You all play a vital role in the success for our students on a daily/weekly basis.

The College also held subject selection meetings for 2026 recently. The change to include key staff was a huge success, and the positive vibe in the gallery with staff, students and parents all engaging was a pleasure to witness.

Unfortunately due to the weather forecast we had to reschedule our annual Sports Day, which is one of our most enjoyable events for the school year. Families are advised that it will now be held on Friday 12 September. Students are encouraged to dress in their house colours and support their team. The day will be a red day. I really hope that we have the majority of our students actively involved and enjoying the experience. GO BONYTHON!

Today is Wear it Purple Day, and it is nice to see both students and staff wearing purple accessories in support of the day.

Please remember that Friday 5 September is a school closure day and that Monday 8 September is the Pupil Free day. This will provide students a lovely four-day weekend, as students do not attend school on either of these days.

My quote for this newsletter is: "Sunflowers are a reminder to be strong, stand tall and always find the light."



College Updates



Principal's Day 🌟

In August schools throughout the state took a moment to say a very big thank you to more than 500 public education principals across South Australia, including our very own.

Whyalla Secondary College students and staff thanked Principal Richman for her dedication, passion, hard work and leadership that continues to inspire us all.

Thankyou Ms Richman for impacting so many young lives throughout your time not only as a Principal, but also as a Primary School Teacher, Drama and Special Education Teacher, Disability Coordinator and Deputy Principal.



An Important Update to Barring Notices and Other Protections

Schools, preschools, children's services and other education settings are places where all members of our community should feel safe. While the vast majority of parents, caregivers, and other community members behave respectfully when visiting our sites and communicating with staff, the Department for Education will not tolerate adults behaving in a way that is violent, threatening, abusive, intimidating, or disorderly in our working and learning environments.

The Education and Children's Services (Barring Notices and other Protections) Amendment Bill 2024 has now passed Parliament, and will improve and strengthen site leaders' powers to manage parent and visitor behaviour that puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk. Some of the key changes will include:

- Broadening the grounds on which a site leader may issue a barring notice
- Increasing the maximum barring period, from 3 months to 6 months
- Providing options for barring notices to bar a person from being within 25 metres of a boundary or communicating with staff, except as expressly permitted
- Increasing the timeframe that a person who has been directed to leave or not enter premises from 48 hours to 2 business days
- Increasing the maximum penalties for offences from \$2,500 to \$7,500.

Families can learn more at www.education.sa.gov.au/respectful-learning-environments



A black puffer jacket has been added to our uniform range, and is available via our website <u>Student Puffer</u> <u>Jacket - Whyalla Secondary College</u> The jackets retail for \$88.



Governing Council Term 3 Kytons Fundraiser

Families are invited to place orders through the QKR! App.

The ordering deadline is Wednesday 17 September, with orders being delivered to the college on Wednesday 24 September.

For more information contact the school, or visit our Facebook page.

Money raised will assist with the Presentation Night student awards.



College Updates



Week

Monday

Tuesday

2025 Parent Survey

The annual parent survey is underway and closes midnight Sunday 7 September. For more information please visit the <u>department's website</u>.

This survey aims to get your views on:

- what we're doing well
- where we can improve
- what's important to you as a parent/carer.

Your answers won't identify you or your child and only collated feedback is provided to our school.

You should have already received a link to the survey via email or SMS. Reminder emails are currently being sent to you unless you have completed a survey or have unsubscribed.

Please take the time to complete the survey, this is valuable information for our school. If you cannot find the previously sent link, then please use this one:

https://survey.education.sa.gov.au/sc/kH2LgEJXppQOreWTxNprLA2

Friday

Thursday

Whyalla Secondary College Calendar of Events

week	ivionday	ruesday	weanesday	inursday	Friday
7	1 September		3 September	4 September	5 September
7/9 Indigenous Literacy Day	Literacy & Numeracy Week Year 9 Camp Port Lincoln PAT-M & PAT-R Testing Yr 7-10 (concludes 26/9) Shooting Stars, Stars & Steel Day (Steelworks Tour)	Literacy & Numeracy Week Year 9 Camp Port Lincoln	Literacy & Numeracy Week Year 9 Camp Port Lincoln Spencer Gulf Swimming Lessons (Yr 7 & 8) 9.30-11.10am State Theatre Co (MAC) Looking for Alibrandi Yr 10-12 Yr 11 AHEAD LSPS ((1&2) Whyalla Choir Rehearsal (Bunyarra) 12-2.30pm	Celebration for Literacy & Numeracy Week Year 9 Camp Port Lincoln LSPS Sports Day Assistance (Yr 10 B&M)	Whole School Closure Indigenous Literacy Day (7/9)
8	8 September	9 September	10 September	11 September	12 September
	Pupil Free Day (SA Curriculum Design)	World Suicide Prevention Day	Spencer Gulf Swimming Lessons (Yr 7 & 8) 9.30-11.10am WTPS Half Day Visit (1-3.30pm) Yr 11 AHEAD LSPS (L1&2) 6.30pm Finance Meeting 7pm Governing Council	R <u>U</u> OK? Day NAPS Half Day Visit (1-3.30pm)	Sports Day Shooting Stars Deadly Minds Matter Community Netball Celebration CEG Working at Safe Heights Course Spencer Gulf Year 6 Visit (1-2.30pm) Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (13/9)
9	15 September	16 September	17 September	18 September	19 September
	VET block week	VET block week Whyalla Choir Rehearsal (MAC) 12-2.30pm Learning Conversations (5.30-7.30pm)	VET block week Clontarf Yr 10/11 Senior Camp Spencer Gulf Swimming Lessons (Yr 7 & 8) 9.30-11.10am Whyalla Choir Rehearsal (MAC) 9.30-12pm Kytons Fundraising Orders Close	VET block week Clontarf Yr 10/11 Senior Camp Yr 12 Rec HPE Coaching NAPS (12-1.10pm) Whyalla Choir Performance (MAC) 7pm	VET block week Clontarf Yr 10/11 Senior Camp
10	22 September	23 September	24 September	25 September	26 September
	RAA Street Smart Year 10	RAA Street Smart Year 10 Whole Staff Meeting	RAA Street Smart Year 10 Spencer Gulf Swimming Lessons (Yr 7 & 8) 9.30-11.10am Kytons Fundraising Orders Arrive	RAA Street Smart Year 10 Yr 12 Rec HPE Coaching NAPS (12-1.10pm)	PAT-M & PAT-R Testing concludes Early dismissal 1.30pm

Wednesday

