

Principal's Welcome

Tricia Richman



Dear families,

As we come to the end of a very busy Term 3, it is evident that both staff and students are ready for a well-earned break.

It has also been a challenging time for many families in Whyalla following the announcement of the permanent Blast Furnace closure and the loss of 500 jobs. As a college, we are mindful of the impact this is having on our community and will continue to promote the support services available. If you or someone you know is affected, please do not hesitate to contact the college for support.

This term, we officially welcomed Mat Mason as Deputy Principal while Christina Nicholas is on maternity leave. We also congratulate Christina, Riley and Leo on the arrival of Remy Oliver Nicholas.

A highlight for the college this term was being named a finalist in the 2026 Public Education Awards in the Excellence in Collaborative Partnerships category, recognising the outstanding work led by Christina through the SSO Pilot Program in partnership with Adelaide University.

We have also had several staffing updates. Congratulations to Anthony Wilkinson, Ema Botei, Sabrina Stallon-Gibbs and Robert Schofield on their leadership appointments, and to Rebecca Walton on winning the Deputy Principal position in Cowell from next year. We warmly welcomed new staff Louise Redmond, Henry Lei, Jordaan Wihongi, Kiraly Campbell and Sharontae Swan (Shooting Stars), and thank placement teachers Qixin Fang, An Ninh Pho and Dac Thien Vu Tran for their contributions.

Term 3 has been filled with positive learning opportunities and events, including Book Week, Learning Conversations, the CHAT Café and Creche, STEM Girls Academy, VET block weeks, Year 12 testing and exams, Science Week, Bullying No Way, R U OK? Day activities and a range of presentations from external organisations supporting student wellbeing, safety and future pathways. Thank you to Melissa Kober and the Pathways team for their continued work on subject selections for 2027.

Students have also been involved in an extensive range of camps, tours and off-site learning experiences. From transition visits for our future Year 7 students, to curriculum-based learning opportunities in swimming, STEAM and project-based learning. These experiences continue to enrich student learning and build confidence.

Despite the uncertain weather, Sports Day went ahead successfully thanks to Jacob Ellidge and the HPE team. It was wonderful to see students, particularly our Year 12s, embrace the spirit of the day. Congratulations to [LOWLY](#) for taking the win, with the staff relay once again being a highlight. Other sporting events this term included basketball, netball and football carnivals, as well as the highly successful Clontarf Soccer Carnival, where the Whyalla boys were crowned Grand Final winners. Congratulations to Academy Director Harrison Haynes and his team for hosting such an outstanding event.

Other highlights this term included the Aboriginal Education Showcase, the Year 12 Formal, the Youth Opportunities Graduation, and the Visual Arts Exhibition and SACE Performing Arts presentation, Glass Children. Each of these events showcased student talent, courage and achievement and reflected the strong sense of pride within our college community.

Our recent Pupil Free Day, led by Mat Mason, was highly successful, with a strong focus on the South Australian Curriculum and valuable professional learning for staff. We also took time during SSO Week to acknowledge the important contribution of our Admin and Curriculum SSOs to the successful running of the college.

I would also like to sincerely thank everyone who made Principal's Day so special. The kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity shown by staff and students was deeply appreciated and reminded me what an honour it is to lead such a wonderful school community.

At the recent Governing Council meeting, the committee reviewed the college uniform policy. As a result, the policy has been updated to clarify that jeans, leggings and flared leggings are not accepted as school uniform pants. The updated policy is available on the school website.

A reminder that Year 12 Study Sessions will be held during the school holidays on Monday and Tuesday of Week 1, and Thursday and Friday of Week 2. The school will remain open on weekdays during the holidays, excluding the public holiday, from 8.30am to 4.30pm. My quote for the holidays is: *"Keep your face always toward the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you."*

Please take the opportunity to enjoy a well-deserved break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 12 October for what promises to be a busy and successful Term 4.

Term 3 Highlights

Around the College...

Please join us in welcoming...

Mat Mason

Dear WSC community,

I'd like to formally introduce myself to you as the new Deputy Principal backfilling Christina Nicholas until the end of term 1 2027.

It is a great privilege to be leading in our learning community and look forward to meeting as many of you as I can in the near future. I bring over 10 years' experience working in Department for Education secondary schools, as well as system-level leadership from a recent appointment in a corporate position. I am passionate about creating learning environments where all young people feel welcome, safe and have a strong sense of connectedness to school, which I have already seen reflected throughout our college over the last few weeks.



On a personal note, I enjoy spending time with my beautiful family, going to the gym and walking my dogs Murphy and Fletcher. I like to watch a good movie (when I get the time) and as a history teacher I love to read about the 20th century.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss your child's learning and get to know you better as I continue working in the community over the next several months.

Warm regards,

Mat Mason
Deputy Principal

🍫 Cadbury Goody Boxes! 🍫

We are excited to announce we are now offering the following varieties of boxes:

- Freddo & Friends Carry Box (12g Dairy Milk Freddo, 15g Caramello Koala, 15g Freddo Strawberry, 12g Freddo Milky Top)
- Freddo Fun Pack (35g Caramello Koala & Freddo Frog)
- The Natural Confectionery Co. Lolly Box (230g Snakes, 220g Party Mix, 220g Sour Squirms)

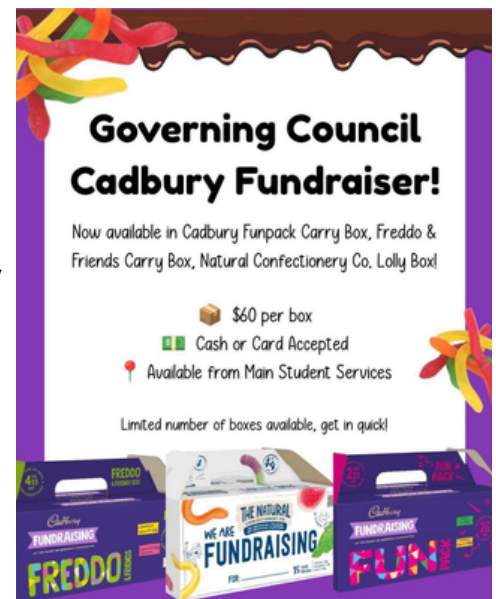
📍 Purchase from Main Student Services

💰 Cost: \$60 per box

💳 Payment: Cash or card accepted

Every purchase helps support Governing Council to contribute towards initiatives that benefit our college community, such as Presentation Night 🎉

Get in quick while stocks last and thank you for your support!



🎓 2027 Year 12 Senior Hoodies – Order Now! 🎓

The portal is now open for 2027 Year 12 Senior Hoodie orders!

⚠️ Orders close Friday 2 October 2026 – this deadline is important and late orders may not be possible.

💰 Cost: \$80 to be paid at check out

📏 Sizing samples available: Main Student Services

🕒 Try-ons before school, recess/lunch and after school

Please choose sizes carefully, as hoodies are made to order and refunds cannot be given for incorrect orders.

🔗 Order here:

<https://onlinestore.devonclothing.com.au/whyalla.../>

If you have any concerns about ordering by 2 October 2026, please contact the school to discuss options

Term 3 Highlights

Tailored Learning at WSC

Tailored Learning provides personalised pathways and support for students with diverse learning, wellbeing and engagement needs. Through targeted interventions, case management and strong partnerships with families, staff and external agencies, helping remove barriers and create pathways for success.

Flexible Learning, part of the Tailored Learning program, offers smaller classes, personalised teaching, practical learning and enhanced wellbeing support. Providing the right environment for students to reconnect with learning, build confidence, strengthen relationships and achieve meaningful outcomes while maintaining high expectations.



It has been another busy and rewarding term for our Flexible Learning students, with a strong focus on building confidence, creating pathways and providing meaningful learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

Our 'Beyond the Toolbox' program has continued to grow, providing students with opportunities to visit local businesses, meet industry professionals and explore future career pathways. Students also had the opportunity to hear from AFL legend Eddie Betts, whose inspiring presentation encouraged conversations around resilience, leadership and making positive choices.



In the classroom, students have continued building practical and academic skills through cooking, woodwork, art, literacy, numeracy and SACE subjects, with programs tailored to support individual success.

This term also introduced targeted literacy and numeracy intervention, expanded practical learning opportunities and stronger community partnerships, helping students build engagement and create pathways into employment, further education and training.

We are incredibly proud of the growth, perseverance and achievements our students have demonstrated this term and look forward to building on these successes throughout Semester 2.

Hear from our students...

"Flex has helped me enjoy coming to school again."

"Beyond the Toolbox showed me jobs I didn't even know existed."

"The teachers here actually take the time to help you."

Term 3 Highlights

Around the College...

Science Week

National Science Week was celebrated in Week Five, this year's theme, "Seeds of Science," sprouted curiosity and hands-on fun across our school.

Students delved into the wonders of seed germination and got creative by making their own quirky cress heads during Care Group. Throughout the week, the energy was high with a series of DIY science experiments at recess and lunch, including Ninja Ruler Snap, Rainbow Skittles, Shouting Bowl, Red Cabbage Indicator, and the mysterious Invisible Fire Extinguisher.

A highlight for our Year 7 and 8 students was the "Time for Tech!" livestream incursion, a fast-paced, interactive STEM sketch comedy show that brought science to life. Students were taken on an inspiring journey through how science and technology can shape a sustainable future.



STEM Aboriginal Camp

In week 4, a group of Year 7 students had the fantastic opportunity to travel to Adelaide and attend the Aboriginal Learner STEM Congress.

The students took part in a variety of STEM activities. They explored how Aboriginal culture, knowledge and perspectives can be connected with STEM learning.

One of the biggest highlights was meeting 'Dem Mob', who are the first Aboriginal rap group to rap in Pitjantjatjara language, and having a photo with them.

It was a memorable week filled with learning, culture and plenty of inspiration!



Book Week

In Week 6, Whyalla Secondary College staff and students celebrated National Book Week, embracing this year's theme "Symphony of Stories" through a range of activities held during Care Group and break times across the week.

A highlight of the celebrations was the Book Week Parade, held at recess on Thursday. Students and staff dressed as their favourite book characters, with prizes awarded for the best costume in each year level, as well as for the best group costume and best staff costume.



Term 3 Highlights

Sports Day

On Friday 4th September, Whyalla Secondary College came together for our annual Sports Day, a fantastic day full of memorable moments, broken records, personal achievements and plenty of team spirit!

Students embraced ATRIUM at its fullest, taking part in a wide range of activities including drone racing, WSC Got Talent, MasterChef, the STEM Challenge, team sports, and track and field events. There was something for everyone, and the energy throughout the day was incredible.

Congratulations to Lowly on taking out the overall win for 2026!

2026 Student Champions:

Year 7 Champion: Deacon – 28 points
Year 8 Champion: Stephanie – 46 points
Year 9 Champion: Emma – 54 points
Year 10 Champion: Caleb – 46 points
Year 11 Champion: Halle – 66 points
Year 12 Champion: Mia – 48 points

Whyalla Gift (100m):

Boy: Alex (11.34s)
Girl: Azalee (14.28s)

House Culture Award:

Fitzgerald

Lowly – 893

Bonython – 881

Wetlands – 690

Fitzgerald – 655

Thank you to all of our students, staff and supporters who helped make Sports Day 2026 such a successful and enjoyable day. We are proud of the way our school community came together to celebrate participation, teamwork and house spirit.



Term 3 Highlights

Around the College...

Aboriginal Education Showcase

We were proud to host the Whyalla Aboriginal Education Showcase at Whyalla Secondary College on Wednesday, 2 September. The event brought together stalls from a range of sites, each highlighting the richness of Aboriginal culture and educational initiatives within our community.

A big thank you to Shooting Stars, Long Street Primary School, Nicolson Avenue Primary School, Memorial Oval Primary School, Whyalla Stuart Primary School, Hincks Avenue Primary School, Whyalla Special School, McRitchie Crescent Children's Centre, Whyalla Secondary College, Nunyara Aboriginal Health Service, The Smith Family and Adelaide University for their wonderful contributions.

Our Workabout students did a fantastic job sharing their new skills, preparing coffees and hot chocolates for guests throughout the afternoon. Congratulations to Jeff for coordinating the showcase on behalf of the Whyalla Aboriginal Education Network!



Knockout Football

Recently, our students proudly represented the college in Knockout Football across two exciting carnival days. Both the boys and girls teams competed strongly against quality opposition and showed excellent determination throughout.

Highlights included the Year 11/12 boys reaching the grand final and both Year 7-9 and 10-12 girls teams progressing through to grand finals after impressive performances. Although all three teams finished as runners-up to strong Caritas College sides, every student represented the college with pride and great sportsmanship.

Congratulations to all students involved, they should be very proud of their efforts.



Term 3 Highlights

Year 12 Formal

The annual Whyalla Secondary College Year 12 formal was recently held at the Westland Hotel on Friday 7 August. It was a wonderful night it was as we celebrated the outstanding class of 2026!

A huge thank you and congratulations to the entire formal team for their incredible work in planning and running such a fantastic event. Your dedication, creativity and genuine care helped create a truly memorable evening for our students, families and staff.



Upcoming Events

Term 4 Important Dates

Note: dates are subject to change

Week 1

12/10 Term 4 Begins

Week 2

VET Block Week

19/10–23/10 Shooting Stars On Country Camp (Flinders Ranges)
23/10 Clontarf Awards 3pm–4.30pm
21/10 Australian Dance Theatre Incursion

Week 3

26/10–30/10 Yr 12 Spirit Week
30/10 Year 12 Farewell
30/10 World Teachers Day

Week 4

02/11–06/11 Year 12 Exams
05/11 Spencer Gulf Market Day
06/11 Shooting Stars Awards Night

Week 5

09/11–10/11 Year 12 Exams
11/11 Remembrance Day
11/11 Governing Council 7pm

Week 6

16/11–18/11 Yr 7 Camp – Reflect & Celebrate (Blanchetown)
20/11 Final Day for Yr 11's

Week 7

25/11 Pupil Free Day
26/11 White Ribbon Day

Week 8

01/12 Presentation Night (Middleback Arts Centre)
03/12–04/12 Whole Town Transition

Week 9

07/12–11/12 Headstart
07/12 Governing Council end of year dinner
11/12 Last Day of Term 4 (1:30pm dismissal)

Year 12 Holiday Sessions

SEPTEMBER 2026 | OCTOBER 2026

SUBJECT	TEACHER	DATE	TIME	ROOM
Essential Maths General Maths Mathematical Methods	Tania Coombe	28 September (Mon)	10:00am – 2:00pm	3.G.18
AHEAD Health Science AHEAD English Community Connections	Blake Turner-Watson	28 September (Mon) 29 September (Tue)	10:00am – 2:00pm	AHEAD Room
Recreational PE Community Connections	Scott King	28 September (Mon) 29 September (Tue)	10:00am – 2:00pm	AHEAD Room
Stage 2 Psychology and Essential English	Vandana Itoh	28 September (Mon)	10:00am – 2:00pm	3.G.18
Specialist PE and Health Science	Jack Elledge	28 September (Mon) 29 September (Tue)	10:00am – 2:00pm	AHEAD Room
Visual Art Photography Digital Publication STEM Practical Construction	Pete Bear	28 September (Mon) 29 September (Tue)	9:30am – 3:30pm	84.2.05 (Art) 83.1.04 (CAD)
Child Studies Health Community Connections	Lauren Vellum-Rachel	28 September (Mon) 29 September (Tue)	10:00am – 2:30pm	84.1.18 (Textiles)

SUBJECT	TEACHER	DATE	TIME	ROOM
Media Creative Arts	Brittany Styles	8 October (Thu) 9 October (Fri)	10:00am – 2:00pm	83.1.04 (CAD)
Performing Arts	Anna Hildebrandt	8 October (Thu) 9 October (Fri)	10:00am – 12:00pm 10:00am – 2:00pm	83.1.04 (CAD) – may move to performing arts space if numbers allow
Advancing Technology	Robert Schulz	8 October (Thu) 9 October (Fri)	9:30am – 3:30pm	83.1.04 83.0.32 (if required)
English & Business Innovation	Adriana Watson	8 October (Thu) 9 October (Fri)	10:00am – 2:00pm	3.G.13
Essential Maths General Maths Mathematical Methods	Tania Coombe	9 October (Fri)	10:00am – 2:00pm	3.G.18
Food and Hospitality (Cooking and Hospitality Training)	Melissa Fisher	8 October (Thu) 9 October (Fri)	10:00am – 2:00pm	Ground Floor Kitchen
Tech	Witch Jackson	8 October (Thu) 9 October (Fri)	9:00am – 3:00pm	Tech room

Whyalla Secondary College



Use the break to get ahead!



Stage 2 Examination Schedule 2026

Date	Time	Subject	Duration	Location
Mon 2 Nov	9:00 am	Mathematical Methods	2 hrs 10 mins	Adelaide University
Mon 2 Nov	1:30 pm	General Mathematics	2 hrs 10 mins	Adelaide University
Wed 4 Nov	9:00 am	Chemistry	2 hrs 10 mins	Adelaide University
Wed 4 Nov	1:30 pm	Psychology	2 hrs 10 mins	Whyalla Secondary College
Thu 5 Nov	9:00 am	Physics	2 hrs 10 mins	Adelaide University
Fri 6 Nov	9:00 am	Biology	2 hrs 10 mins	Whyalla Secondary College
Fri 6 Nov	1:30 pm	Essential Mathematics	2 hrs 10 mins	Adelaide University
Tue 10 Nov	9:00 am	Specialist Mathematics	2 hrs 10 mins	Adelaide University



* For all examinations held at Adelaide University, students must arrive at the Whyalla Secondary College Front Office at least 15 minutes prior to the examination start time.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCREENINGS

SPRING 2026

24 – 30 Sept	31 Sept	1 Oct	2 Oct	3 Oct	4 Oct	5 Oct	6 Oct	7 Oct	8 Oct	9 Oct	10 Oct
Practical Magic 2	10:00am (G.F.)	7PM	7PM	SPM							
The Last Whale Singer	9:15am	1PM	4PM	4PM	1PM	4PM					
Shoun The Sheep: T.B.O.M.B.	8pm	11AM (E.S.)	2PM	2PM	2PM	11:00	2PM				
Fall 2: Deadpoint	10:00am	SPM	7PM	8PM	7PM						



1 – 10 Oct	1 Oct 2026	2 Oct 2026	3 Oct 2026	7 Oct 2026	8 Oct 2026	9 Oct 2026	10 Oct 2026
Shoun The Sheep: T.B.O.M.B.	8pm	4PM	10AM	11AM	2PM		
Coyote Vs ACME	10:00am	10AM	1PM	2PM (E.S.)	11AM	10AM (E.S.)	11AM
Forgotten Island	10:00am	11AM (E.S.)	1PM	4PM	1PM	10AM	2PM
Stitch Head	8pm				SPM	1PM	4PM
Heart of the Beast	10:00am				8PM	5PM	7PM

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8.8/10 Screening Experience

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School Holiday Screenings

Looking for something to do during the school holidays? Check out what's screening at the Middleback Arts Centre.



A reminder that on Sunday 4 October 2026 daylight savings will start.

At 2.00am clocks are turned forward 1 hour.



Whyalla Secondary College

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