

Issue Date 22 May 2025



## **Upcoming Events**

### Instrumental Music **Concert** - **Primary** Years

Date: Wednesday 28 May Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Year 11 Retreat Date: Thursday 29 May -

### Instrumental Music **Concert** - Secondary Years

Date: Wednesday 4 June Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm

### Student Free Day -Staff Professional Development Date: Friday 6 June

# King's Birthday -Public Holiday

Date: Monday 9 June

### Year 10 & SACE **Music Performance** Evening

Date: Thursday 26 June Time: 4:00pm - 5:30pm

Friday 30 May

### Parents and Friends Meeting

Date: Monday 16 June Time: 6:00pm

**Primary Music** Afternoon Date: Wednesday 25 June Year 4 Camp Date: Thursday 26 June -Friday 27 June

Term 2 Concludes 3.10pm Date: Thursday 3 July

Student Free Day -Staff Professional Development Date: Friday 4 July

#### 23.05.25

### From Josh Foulis, Deputy Principal



### **Catholic Education Week 2025**

Alongside 100 other Catholic schools across South Australia, last week our college celebrated Catholic Education Week.

As a Catholic College in the Edmund Rice Tradition, we are most fortunate to be connected with both Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) and Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) This connection affords our students and staff with immeasurable opportunities and a broader mission, as we educate young people to be thriving people, capable learners, and leaders for the world God desires.

The week celebrated the work of almost 9000 staff across 101 Catholic schools in SA, educating approximately 52,000 students in the 180th year of Catholic schools in our state. With that in mind, I celebrate the staff of St Paul's College for their work within our college and broader Church.

Above all, our Christ-centered community remains a source of life and meaning for St Paul's College, and Catholic education Week served as a great reminder of why we do what we do, for our young people and their families.

I hope that all members of our community see themselves as part of the vision and mission of Catholic Education and so too celebrate the work of St Paul's College and Catholic Education more broadly.

#### Learning Conversations

With gratitude to families and staff alike, Learning Conversations across the college last week provided an essential opportunity to review the academic and holistic progress of students.

There were 270 Learning Conversations in our Primary Years and 1,269 across our Middle and Senior Years (7-12), which demonstrate exceptional commitment from our families towards the development of their children.

Understanding that ongoing communication between students, families and educators is essential to a successful journey for any young person, I am grateful to all families who attended Learning Conversations and our staff who diligently prepared for meaningful

Josh Foulis - Deputy Principal

## From Anthony Farina, Head of Secondary

### **Parent-Teacher Interviews**

Last Tuesday saw the college's first round of Parent-Teacher interviews for 2025, providing an opportunity for secondary parents to meet with teaching staff to discuss students' academic progress. To further support parent engagement, this year the college trialed a student-free day to allow for more opportunities for students and families to meet with teaching staff to discuss their child's learning. This change in format proved to be a resounding success, with a total of 1322 interviews conducted across Years 7 to 12 throughout the day, which was a significant increase from the 850 interviews held in 2024.

Should any parents have missed the opportunity to meet face-to-face with a particular teacher, you are encouraged to make contact via phone or SEQTA. Similarly, parents are encouraged to proactively contact teachers throughout the year to discuss any matters or concerns relating to their son or daughter's academic progress.

### Year 8 Camp

In Week 2 our Year 8 students attended camp at Victor Harbor, hosted by Beyond the Classroom. This camp provided an opportunity for Year 8's to engage in a range of physical and challenge-based activities including Surfing, Bike Riding, Damper Cooking, Raft Building, and Orienteering. The camp was a fantastic experience for our students, making lifelong memories as part of their St Paul's College journey while also providing an opportunity to develop leadership skills and demonstrate teamwork.

A sincere thank you to Ms Genevieve Turnbull (Head of Wellbeing – Middle Years) for her coordination of the camp and to all staff and students for their commitment to the experience. With Year 7 Camp taking place in Term 1, our final Middle Years camp will be held in Term 3, which our Year 9 cohort will participate in as part of the Rite Journey Program.

### Year 7 Student Leadership

Congratulations to the following students who have recently been elected as Year 7 Student Leaders for 2025:

Dally – Mika Apikotoa Gleeson - Taylor Ngo Marlow – Colin Protaccio Nagle – Dau Mabil O'Loughlin – Kaan Aksoy

Applying for a student leadership position not only demonstrates great courage and pride in our school community but also highlights a commitment to serve others and be a voice for all students. Thank you to all Year 7 applicants for their willingness to apply for a student leadership role in 2025.

Anthony Farina - Head of Secondary

# Year 8 Camp to Victor Harbor



# From Marianne Loftus, Head of Primary Years

### Dear Families,

Last Friday, 16 May, a number of our families came together to take part in *Walk to School Day* – an initiative that promotes not only healthy habits but also helps reduce our environmental footprint. It was heartening to see over a dozen families and children gather at the park near Gilles Plains Shopping Centre, full of energy and smiles as they set off on their walk to school. The air was alive with conversation and laughter as students chatted with their peers and parents, whilst enjoying a gentle start to the day. This sense of community and connection is a wonderful reminder of how small moments like these can have a big impact.

This week also brought with it a celebration of the joy of reading, as our Primary Years joined in the *National Simultaneous Storytime* on Wednesday, 21 May. At exactly 12pm, students across the Primary Years and in the Resource Centre, gathered to read the engaging picture book *The Truck Cat* by Deborah Frenkel and Danny Snell. This delightful story captured students' imaginations as they followed the journey of a cat who finds belonging and friendship in unexpected places. The themes of acceptance, kindness and finding home wherever we are, deeply resonate with our own college community, which is proudly diverse and inclusive.

National Simultaneous Storytime reminds us of the importance of shared reading experiences and the power of stories to bring people together. Watching students of all ages come together to enjoy the same book at the same moment created a sense of unity and excitement across the Primary Years. It also reinforced the idea that every child – no matter their background or ability – deserves access to the joy and learning that reading provides.

Looking ahead, we prepare to mark *National Reconciliation Week*, beginning next week. This important time invites all Australians to reflect on our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. As a school that values inclusivity and respect, we take this opportunity to listen, learn and stand in solidarity with our First Nations peoples, guided by the principles of truth-telling, understanding and unity.

As we move through this term, these moments – walking together, reading together, and reflecting together – highlight what makes our Primary Years such a vibrant, nurturing part of the College. Whether we're sharing a story, stepping forward with purpose, or deepening our understanding of one another, we continue to grow as a community that celebrates diversity, values connection and walks together towards a bright and compassionate future.

With gratitude, until next fortnight.

Marianne Loftus - Head of Primary Years



# National Simultaneous Storytime 2025

On Wednesday we celebrated National Simultaneous Storytime. National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association. This year the picture book "Truck Cat", written by Deborah Frenkel and illustrated by Danny Snell, was read simultaneously in our library and in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres and bookshops around the country and in New Zealand. Last year, 2.3 million children read the book in 20,000 locations.

At St Paul's, we had guest readers in classrooms. In the resource centre, the year 4s read the story with Ms Haskey and enjoyed activities including a treasure hunt, where they searched for characters from the story that were hidden within the resource centre. Other activities for the Year 4s were word searches, colouring and code breaking puzzles from the story.

To celebrate National Simultaneous Storytime, we are having a drawing competition, where we have asked children in each year level to draw a cat or truck – Due Friday week 5. Drawings will be displayed in the resource centre.

Kate Haskey - Library Technician



Welcome Lola to our Primary Years Community

We are delighted to reintroduce our exciting partnership with the **Dogs Connect Program**, marking a new chapter in wellbeing across our Primary Years. This initiative brings a gentle and supportive presence into our school community through the introduction of our very own wellbeing dog — **Lola**.

Lola, a lovable **Groodle**, will be joining us in **Term 3** as part of a long-term, evidence-based program aimed at supporting the social and emotional wellbeing of our students, staff and families. Far more than a pet, Lola is a trained wellbeing dog with an important job — to help us feel calm, connected and safe during the school day.

Lola's integration into our community is being carefully guided by the Wellbeing Dog Core Group, with her training and schedule designed to meet the highest welfare standards. During this early stage, we're laying the groundwork to ensure her transition into school life is thoughtful and positive.

To help Lola feel safe and comfortable in our busy school environment, we have three simple expectations for all members of our community:

1.Say hello to the person, not Lola.

2. Give Lola space when passing by.

3.Keep moving — no stopping or crowding.

These respectful behaviours allow Lola to stay calm and happy, so she can continue doing her important work.







To learn more about the Dogs Connect approach and the impact of wellbeing dogs in schools, feel free to explore their website HERE

We look forward to sharing Lola's journey with you as she becomes a much-loved and valued member of our St Paul's College Primary community.

Click HERE to access letter sent to families

# SAPSASA Cross Country

SAPSASA North East Cross Country carnival was a great success as all students represented the college with great effort and pride as they competed in 2 and 3 kilometre races against other schools. 12 out of 28 students finished in the top 10 which is fantastic.

The following students qualified for the state race at Oakbank by finishing in the top 6 of their respective races:

### U10 girls:

Kayla R 1st Ada C 5th Gursees S 6th

U11 boys:

Ollie B 1st

### U12 boys:

Seb I 4th

A special mention to Zaliah for embodying what it means to fight the good fight by helping some of her peers across the line through the latter stages of her race.

Well done to all!

Chad Wood - Primary PE Teacher/Cocurricular Assistant (Primary)



# Year 8 Christian Service Learning Program - Helping Hand

As part of the Christian Service-Learning program, Year 8 students had the opportunity to visit Helping Hand Aged Care at their Ingle farm and Lightsview locations and engage with residents through conversation and companionship.

While many students initially felt apprehensive about entering an unfamiliar environment and connecting with individuals from a different generation, these feelings soon gave way to warmth and understanding. Through shared stories, and meaningful interactions, students found common ground and developed a deeper appreciation for the wisdom and experiences of the elderly.

By the conclusion of the visit, students reflected with gratitude on the opportunity to serve and learn. This visit served as a timely reminder of the importance of building intergenerational connections and valuing the dignity, history, and humanity of our older community members. Such encounters enrich both the lives of the residents and the growth of our St Paul's students as compassionate, socially aware individuals.

Ms Christabella Iuliano - Leader of Identity and Mission (Secondary)



Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition



On Saturday 10 May, a group of students represented the College at the Rostrum Voice of Youth competition, held at Immanuel College. Jean (Year 12), Alicia (Year 11), Manny (Year 10), Navid, Eva, and Rachel (Year 9), Mishka (Year 8), and Hercules (Year 7) each delivered thoughtful and engaging speeches on a range of current issues, such as ways to cope with change, advocating for change to address violence against women, breaking the cycle of generational trauma, and from small things, big things grow.

Although our students were not successful in advancing to the next phase, it was a fantastic opportunity for them to share their perspectives, build confidence, and refine their public speaking skills. Congratulations to all those involved.

Ms Christabella Iuliano - Key Teacher: Gifted Education (7-12)

# Ethics Olympiad - Senior Years

Congratulations to Alicia, Alessandra, Manny, and Aryan, who represented our school in the Senior Ethics Olympiad as part of the College's Gifted Education program.

Competing against schools from across the state, our team showcased exceptional ethical reasoning, communication, and teamwork — earning an impressive 4th place overall. Our Middle Year will represent the College in November.

Well done to our students and their mentor, Miss Petrovski, for their hard work and outstanding representation of our College!

"This year was my second year competing in the Ethics Olympiad. I think, as a team, we did significantly better than last year and I am really proud of us. I really enjoyed the discussions on philosophy with the judges. I think one of my favourite debates was the one we did on Prenatal Screening. It was just a really interesting conversation since the team that we were facing was really strongly against our perspective on the ethical issue. Overall, really good day and I would love to do it again next year." – Manny (Year 10)

"The Ethics Olympiad was a great opportunity to combine our ethical knowledge, debating skills, and oral presentation skills. It was very enjoyable, especially considering our success with a great group of students. Looking forward to doing it next year with likely a larger group." – Aryan (Year 11)

Christabella Iuliano - Key Teacher: Gifted Education (7-12)

### Year 11 Students Take Action Against Period Poverty



As part of our ongoing commitment to social justice and service, our Year 11 students recently participated in a presentation by KickStart for Kids on the issue of period poverty in our community. The presentation featured founder Ian Steel, and ambassadors Connie Bonaros MLC, Matilda Sholz, and Jenna with the Pink, who shared personal stories and insights about the challenges faced by many girls and women in South Australia who do not have reliable access to sanitary products.

In response, the Year 11 cohort will lead a **Sanitary Drive** as part of the College's **Christian Service-Learning** program. The drive aims to collect donations of sanitary items, such as pads, tampons, and menstrual hygiene products, which will be distributed to those in need through KickStart for Kids. This drive coincides with World Menstrual Hygiene Day on the 28th May.

# If you're able to donate, all donations can be dropped off to Student Services or your child's Home Group between now and the 10th June (Week 7).

Identity and Mission Team

### Music Performance News

### The Value of Music Education

At St Paul's College, we value music not only as an art form but as a powerful tool for cognitive and emotional development. Dr. Anita Collins, founder of **Bigger Better Brains**, has shown through her research that music learning enhances brain development, particularly in areas related to language, memory, and executive function. Her work underscores the importance of integrating music education into the curriculum from an early age, highlighting its role in fostering academic achievement and personal growth. By incorporating Dr. Collins' insights, we aim to enrich our students' educational experience, nurturing not only their musical talents but also their overall cognitive abilities. Through our music program, we strive to develop well-rounded individuals equipped with the skills and confidence to succeed in all areas of life.



Instrumental and Vocal Music Solo Concert Series: Primary and Secondary Concerts

Instrumental Music Concert - Primary Years. Wednesday, 28 May. 4-5pm - Auditorium

### Instrumental Music Concert - Secondary Years. Wednesday, 4 June. 4-5pm - Auditorium

Our <u>Solo Concert Series</u> begins next week, starting with the Primary Years event on **Wednesday**, **28 May**. Students who receive instrumental or vocal lessons are encouraged to sign up through their teacher. If your child has lessons outside of the College Instrumental Music Program, they are still welcome to participate. Please contact Mrs Veronica Marrie at VMarrie@stpauls.sa.edu.au to register.

We encourage families to collect their child/ren at the end of the school day and return to the auditorium **5 minutes prior to the concert's start** to enjoy the performance. Students performing should wear their full winter uniform.

### **Catholic Schools Music Festival - Update**

We are thrilled to announce that St Paul's College will once again be part of the Catholic Schools Music Festival (CSMF), set to take place at the Adelaide Convention Centre from Monday 22 to Thursday 25 September (final dates to be confirmed by organisers). This prestigious annual event brings together students from Catholic schools across South Australia to celebrate and showcase their musical talents.

This year, both our CSMF Choir and our Boys' Choir will be performing as part of the festival, and preparations are already well underway. Students are working hard in rehearsals, developing their performance skills and building the confidence to shine on stage.

The Catholic Schools Music Festival is a wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in a professionally staged event, connect with peers from across the state, and be part of something truly inspiring. We'll be sharing more details in the coming months – stay tuned!

Veronica Marrie - Music & Performance Coordinator

## Festival Choir Rehearsals in Full Swing for CSMF

The Catholic Schools Music Festival may not be until September, but our talented students are already hard at work preparing for this exciting annual event.

Our energetic and enthusiastic Festival Choir — made up of Year 5, 6, and 7 students — has been diving into rehearsals.

Students have been rehearsing "The Trolley Song" under the guidance of CSMF's musical director, Denise Rothall. Ms Rothall praised the group for their excellent work and congratulated them on a job well done — a fantastic recognition of their efforts so far.

We look forward to watching their progress in the lead-up to what promises to be a wonderful festival performance in September!

Victor Oria - Music Support Officer

### Social Justice Committee Supports Doco in a Day

This term, the Social Justice Committee is proud to support Doco in a Day, an initiative by Edmund Rice Foundation Australia that brings powerful, real-life stories of courage, resilience, and change to the forefront – all captured in just 24 hours of filming.

Students will have the opportunity to create a short documentary that highlights the importance of education and how it can liberate individuals within marginalised communities.

Successful applicants will earn the chance to take part in an unforgettable immersion experience in East Africa with Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA).

### Why It Matters to St Paul's

As a school in the Edmund Rice tradition, St Paul's is committed to forming young people that have a sense of compassion, service, and justice. Doco in a Day aligns perfectly with our mission, offering our students the opportunity to not only learn about social justice, but to act on it.

### How to Get Involved and Fundraise

By visiting the following link, you can help fund this important initiative, which seeks to help fund life-changing education opportunities for marginalised communities across the globe.

Miss Christabella Iuliano - Leader of Identity and Mission (Secondary)

## Cocurricular Program

Click HERE to view Week 4 fixture

### Pedal Prix - Tailem Bend 17/05/25

**Team COGS** Finished 20th in their category with 47 laps. Team COGS: Elijah A, Alonso A, Alexander B, Charley C, Sebastian G, Xavier H, Alexis L, Daniel R, Lucas R and Lucas T.

Fastest Lap: Xavier H - 4:36.012

**Team BELTS** Finished 22nd in their category with 66 laps. Team BELTS: Luke B, Lachlan E, Harrison H, Jacob I, Adonis J, Harrison L, Ethan R and Jacob T.

Fastest Lap: Harrison L - 4:19.952





## Cross Country â€" SAAS Shield



Cross country season has started with a bang at St Paul's! We had 3 athletes compete in round 1 of the SAAS shield at St Peter's College. In picture perfect conditions and with sun shining, our first runners took advantage and lit up the track. Josiah LK (year 7), Charley C (year 7) and Kayla R (year 4) showed grit and determination with the older students competing over 4km and our youngest over 2km. A special mention to Kayla, who as one of the youngest runners in the field (some as old as 12) managed to place in 6th position out of 41 participants.

Round 2 saw two more keen runners join our week 1 crew after recovering from camp the week before. Charlotte T (year 8) and Jacob M (year 8) hit the undulating course at Kensington Gardens Reserve with enthusiasm and a smile. The week 2 shield race saw some huge numbers from the eastern suburbs schools and even some competitor falls at the beginning of some races due to a few stray elbows! However, not to be deterred, our St Paul's runners again impressed. Kayla R led the charge burning through the 2km course in 9 minutes and 14 seconds and placing 5th. Charlotte T in her first attempt over 4km showed her

fitness running the course in 18 minutes and 1 second to finish in 6th position. Charley smashed his week 1 personal best by more than one minute and Josiah held his own placing 26th. Jacob pushed hard and showed that despite camp the week before, he was there to compete with a sprint to the finish line!

We are looking forward to the week 3 shield race at St Ignatius in Athelstone as we continue to show that despite our smaller cohort of runners the St Paul's team are real contenders! We are also looking forward to sending a small contingent of our runners to the state championships at Oakbank later this term. Should your child wish to join the cross-country team it isn't too late, please directly reach out to Mrs Alexandra Harrison to sign them up.

## Cheerleading World Championships



Congratulations to Year 9 student Mila, who's just come back from an incredible experience—representing Team Australia at the ICU World Cheerleading Championships in Florida, USA.

The event was held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando and brought together athletes from over 70 countries. Mila competed in the Youth Co-Ed Median Division over two days, and her team took out first place! They came home with a gold medal, championship rings, and the title of world champions!

# Strategic Planning

Over the last term, we have undertaken significant consultation and collaboration in developing our 2026 Strategic Plan.

All staff, including teachers, ESOs, and members of the Advisory Council, participated in the first phase of our strategic planning process. We identified what we love about St Paul's College and what must be celebrated, the ideal qualities and characteristics of a St Paul's graduate, and provided valuable feedback on key areas of growth and opportunity.

In the second phase, staff collaborated to identify common themes to guide our planning and priorities moving forward.

Next, we will engage with our students, families, and the wider St Paul's community, beginning with our students. Student voice is crucial as we continue shaping a future that empowers every young person to strive for excellence and be the best version of themselves.

This is about acknowledging the past, understanding the present, and shaping an exciting future for St Paul's College.



### SHAPE - Technologies Precinct Development

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> of May was an exciting day for St Pauls College, with SHAPE breaking ground on our new Technologies Precinct development.

SHAPE is a leading national fitout and construction services specialist driven by diverse capability, local impact, sector experience, and a people-focused company culture. SHAPE delivers high-quality interior, new build, and modular construction projects across diverse sectors, including Commercial, Defence, Education, Health, Hotels & Hospitality, and Retail. Backed by a team of more than 670 professionals, an award-winning company culture, and an impressive Net Promoter Score of +88, SHAPE brings transparency, a partnership approach, and three decades of experience to undertake any type of construction project.

The SHAPE team is being led by;

Project Director - Kara Cursaro

Project Manager - Tim Peters

Site Managers - Felix Zevenboom and Shannon Shultz

and Project Coordinator - Lucio Malatesta (St Paul's old scholar, class of 2013)

The initial phases of the development will involve the demolition works through the interior of the Trade Training Centre, together with the subsurface works associated with the new two-story building. The aim will be to have the new building slab poured in June/July. Fingers crossed for some good weather!

We will start to see the new building coming out of the ground from July.

The College hopes to have some construction progress photos very soon. Keep an eye on the website for further updates!

Tim Martin - Business Manager

### Homework Club

Monday to Thursday, between 3.20pm and 4.20pm, students from Years 5 to 12 are welcome to attend Homework Club in the Resource Centre. Staffing for Week 5 and 6 will be:

Week 5

Monday - Mr Campbell (Science) Tuesday - Mr Wyndham (English, Art, History) Wednesday - Mr Dodson (Religion, English, History, Geography) Thursday - Mr White (Design & Tech)

Week 6

Monday - Miss Vicario (Science & English) Tuesday - Mr Domiszewski (English, Geography, Religion) Wednesday - Mrs Van Aardt (Science) Thursday - Mr Torode (English, Media, Geography, Design & Tech) "We're thrilled to be partnering with St Paul's College on this exciting new chapter for their school community. This project is a fantastic opportunity for our team to apply our experience in education construction to create a modern, purpose-built space that will support both teaching and learning for years to come."

Kara Cursaro – Project Director SHAPE

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\* Sharing his personal journey following the tragic loss of his 17-year-old son.

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