



Upcoming Events

Reconciliation Week Assembly

Date: Tuesday 28 May

Year 11 Retreat

Date: Wednesday 29 May - Friday 31 May

Year 11/12 AFL Knock Out

Date: Tuesday 4 June

Year 9/10 Girls Knock Out Soccer

Date: Wednesday 5 June

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Development

Date: Friday 7 June - Monday 30 November

King's Birthday - Public Holiday

Date: Monday 10 June - Monday 30 November

Stage 2 Outdoor Ed Bushwalking Expedition

Date: Tuesday 11 June - Thursday 13 June

Year 11/12 Boys Knockout Basketball

Date: Thursday 13 June

Year 12 Formal

Date: Friday 14 June - Monday 30 November

Parents and Friends Meeting

Date: Monday 17 June - Monday 30 November
Time: 6:00pm

Middle Years Learning Expo

Date: Wednesday 19 June
Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

From Josh Foulis, Acting Principal



Families and School – on the same journey for success

A highlight of the past fortnight has been Learning Conversations that involved families and young people discussing learning, school experience and wellbeing.

While perhaps obvious, wherever families positively engage school community and staff, their child(ren) is more likely to experience connection to the school community, trust and relationship with teachers, and success (whatever that looks like for each student). For this reason, St Paul's College expresses heartfelt thanks to families who booked and attended Learning Conversations to begin Term 2.

As a staff of St Paul's College, we pride ourselves on proactive communication with families, especially wherever there have been successes or challenges. Of course, these conversations are centered on the child and student, meaning they are deeply important and often emotional conversations.

As we all know and appreciate, healthy conversations remain respectful and focused on the care that family and school have for the young person. There are opportunities to respectfully raise concerns and it is important that families and staff can talk freely with one another; however, the college continues to seek the trust and confidence of families that we always act in the best interest of all young people.

Above all, St Paul's continues to prioritise partnership with families and seeks families to continue trusting that all decisions are made in the best interest of you and your child(ren).

Catholic School Parents Australia (CSPA) offer an array of information and resources for families around supporting their young people and the school, noting that families can and must support both parties, not one or the other.

As one body of work completed by CSPA, you may also find interest in the information at Gearing Up for Parent Engagement in Student Learning. Here, you can find resources for connecting with schools and teachers, as well as young people, as they navigate Primary or Secondary education.

From the perspective of St Paul's College, there are some crucial point we encourage for all families:

Do not hesitate to communicate: sometimes a 'wait and see' approach to your child's concern may seem appropriate – it isn't! Please communicate early so that any concerns do not compound.

Phone and in-person is most effective: while it is sometimes appropriate to use email or SEQTA, emotion can often be confused in these modes of communication, making phone calls and in-person conversations most effective.

School staff are asked to communicate proactively and often: A college directive to staff is for them to communicate with families often, especially where there are challenges or concerns. Understanding that families are busy, we commit to this communication.

Staff don't make things up: great work and effort goes into supporting students through moments of challenge, perhaps poor decisions, and moments of success. Like anybody, we make mistakes; however, we do ask for implicit trust from families in the first instance, whereby staff and families are the adults best equipped to support young people through challenge.

Thanks again for the ongoing connection of families with our college and its staff; may this continue as we strive to support our young people.

[View this article online to read more](#)

From Frank Ranaldo, Acting Deputy Principal

National Reconciliation Week

As we embrace National Reconciliation Week (NRW) this year, our school community comes together to reflect, learn, and actively engage in fostering understanding, respect, and unity among all Australians. NRW, held annually from May 27th to June 3rd, provides us with a significant opportunity to acknowledge the histories, cultures, and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and to work towards a reconciled Australia.

Throughout NRW, students at St Pauls will participate in a range of activities aimed at deepening their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, and experiences. We are very excited about launching our own Acknowledgement of Country video at our NRW Assembly on Tuesday morning which we will also share with the broader community.

We recognise that reconciliation extends beyond the school gates. As members of the broader community, we have a collective responsibility to advocate for justice, equity, and reconciliation. We encourage our students, families, and staff to actively support NRW initiatives, and amplify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices.

As we commemorate NRW, let us reflect on the importance of reconciliation in building a fairer, more inclusive society. Let us commit to walking together with courage, empathy, and humility, as we strive towards a future where all Australians can live harmoniously, grounded in mutual respect and understanding.

Supporting our Children

I would like to share with you the following story:

A young boy came across a butterfly cocoon and brought it into his house. He watched, over the course of hours, as the butterfly struggled to break free from its confinement. It managed to create a small hole in the cocoon, but its body was too large to emerge. It tired and became still.

Wanting to help the butterfly, the boy snipped a slit in the cocoon with a pair of scissors. But the butterfly was small, weak, and its wings crumpled. The boy expected the insect to take flight, but instead it could only drag its undeveloped body along the ground. It was incapable of flying.

The boy, in his eagerness to help the butterfly, stunted its development. What he did not know was that the butterfly needed to go

through the process of struggling against the cocoon to gain strength and fill its wings with blood. It was the struggle that made it stronger.

You may have heard a variation of this story before. It's a reminder of the fact that while it's hard to watch those who we are close to struggle, often the best help we can provide is to do nothing. By intervening, and shouldering the burden ourselves, we rob those we care about of the opportunity to grow and get stronger.

As a parent, as a friend, or as a spouse, the instinct to help is hard to resist. We see our kids struggling at school, interacting with other children, or falling behind on the playing field, and we want to step in and save them from hardship. We want to offload their pain onto ourselves.

By doing so, however, we're eliminating the circumstances that the people we love need for their own personal development. It's instinctive, and understandable, to want to help. But often the best course of action is to wait and, like the butterfly, let the process unfold on its own terms and timeline.

As Author Robert Tew once wrote, "The struggle you're in today is developing the strength you need for tomorrow. Don't give up."

Sometimes the best gift we can give is to stand on the sideline, shouting encouragement, but allowing the process of growth to run its course.

From the Secondary Years

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Last week saw the college's first round of Parent-Teacher interviews for 2024, providing an opportunity for secondary parents to meet with teaching staff to discuss students' academic progress. In total, there were over 850 interviews conducted across Years 7 to 12 highlighting the shared commitment to the 3-way partnership between students, parents, and families to foster academic success. 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 7 Camp

Throughout week two our Year 7 students attended camp at Wallaroo hosted by Beyond Limits. This camp provided an opportunity for Year 7's to form new friendships and engage in a range of challenge-based activities including Survival Skills, Brain Twisters, Water Obstacles and Beach Games. Overall, this was a fantastic experience for the 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 Mr Carlo Librino (Head of Wellbeing – Middle Years) for his coordination of the camp and to all staff and students for their commitment to the experience.

AFL Max Camp

In week three a select group of students across Years 9 and 10 attended an overnight camp facilitated by AFL Max and White Ribbon Australia. The purpose of the camp was to raise awareness about gender-based violence, focusing on respectful relationships, consent, online respect, and how to advocate for positive change within the community. Importantly, students were reminded of the important role that they play to 'stand up and speak out' to prevent gender-based violence. It is anticipated that the knowledge and information shared at this camp will be used to support the college Pastoral Care Program in preparation for White Ribbon Week later this year.

Anthony Farina - Head of Secondary

Year 7 Camp



From the Primary Years

Dear Families,

Last Friday we had our very first Primary Years Disco thanks to our wonderful P&F team. The night was split into two sessions for Reception – Year 3 and Year 4 – Year 6. It was a tremendous night filled with dancing, music and fun. These events are not possible without the generosity of our parents, so on behalf of all the students - thank you! Thank you also to our fantastic staff who were able to attend to assist with volunteering their time to supervise on the night. It is another great example of building connection and a wonderful sense of community at St Paul's.

This week our Year 6 students have been away on a 2 night camp at Aldinga. On my visit, they were happily tired from the surfing experience they had at Silver Sands Beach. There was also a buzz in the camp kitchen after dinner. They worked in teams, some of whom were seriously competitive, not wanting to name names - Mr Wood $\delta\check{\Upsilon}\check{\text{S}}$, to win the Quiz night. They have been treetop climbing, participated in team-building activities and generally had fun. Overnight camps are an excellent way to build resilience and stamina in students.

Next week is National Reconciliation Week, which is “a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The National Reconciliation Week theme for 2024, Now More Than Ever, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will —and must —continue.” This direct quote is from the **Reconciliation Website**. Please take the time to read and learn that now, more than ever, we need reconciliation.

On Friday 7 June, we have a Pupil Free Day. This is to enable our college staff to participate in Professional Learning. Our Primary Years staff are focussing on continuing to build a positive, collaborative team culture and create an aligned and cohesive team working in positive partnership with our families.

This leads up to the King's birthday Public Holiday on Monday 10 June, and is a wonderful opportunity to set aside time to rest and spend time together as a family. OSHC is available on Friday 7 June if your child requires care on that day. Please remember to book online.

As always, I thank you for your ongoing support as we learn and grow together in walking Our Common Ground.

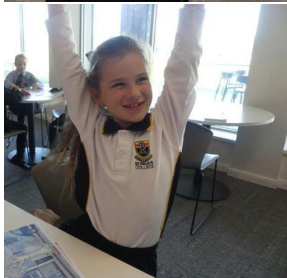
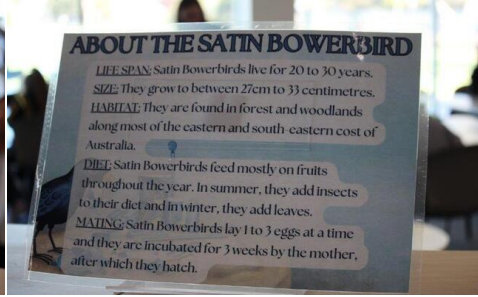
Until next fortnight.

Marianne Loftus - Head of Primary Years

National Simultaneous Storytime 2024

Wednesday our Primary Students participated in Simultaneous Storytime! Students shared the book Bowerbird Blues by Aura Parker along with over 2 million other children around Australia. After the story, students participated in a treasure hunt and other fun activities in the library.





Paul Belton, Leadership Excellence



We are thrilled to share that Mr Paul Belton (College Principal) has received 2024 'Leadership Excellence' Award, presented by Catholic Education South Australia. Mr Belton's dedication to Catholic education spans an impressive 45 years, including 10 years of exceptional leadership as Principal of St Paul's College!

Mr Belton is known for his unwavering commitment, humility, student-centred approach and strong Catholic ethos. His commitment to fostering an environment where every student can thrive spiritually, academically, and personally is exemplary.

Under Mr Belton's leadership, St Paul's College has seen remarkable growth and transformation, from significantly increasing enrolments to fostering a co-educational environment. His dedication has ensured improved student outcomes and state-of-the-art facilities, while maintaining our proud mission as a Catholic College in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

Beyond this, Mr Belton's influence is evident in the stories of students whose lives he has impacted, the staff he has inspired, and the community he has strengthened.

We congratulate Paul on receiving this well-deserved recognition for his outstanding leadership and devoted career.

Mr Belton's successful nomination is available [HERE](#) and provides a summary of his extraordinary leadership.

Prefect Assembly



Rostrum Voice of Youth

Rostrum SA/NT Voice of Youth is an invaluable platform for students to hone their communication skills and gain confidence in expressing themselves. With the help from Miss Iuliano and Mr Olesen, Year 10 student, Alessandra P has worked diligently over the last term to prepare an 8- minute speech on the topic, 'Words have Power'. She was then required to deliver a 3-minute short notice speech on the topic, 'A Helping Hand'.

Alessandra presented her Rostrum speech on the 11th of May 2024 at Immanuel College, SA. In participating in the Rostrum program, Alessandra has demonstrated the ability to collaborate to sharpen her skills, whilst representing our College with pride on the public speaking stage. Although Alessandra was not successful in progressing to the semi-finals, we congratulate her on such an outstanding achievement and commend her for her dedication and hard work in representing our College with excellence.

Christabella Iuliano - Teacher - Gifted Education



23.05.24

Launching Indigenous Round Uniforms



St Paul's College is proud to launch our inaugural Indigenous round cocurricular uniforms. These unique guernseys, designed by our

First Nations students, will be proudly worn over the next two rounds in AFL, Soccer, Basketball, and Netball.

Our First Nations students have been dedicated to developing these designs throughout the past semester. Students from both Primary and Secondary schools gathered to explore examples of guernseys and Aboriginal Art symbols, which were sourced by Brandon Jackson-Martin, our First Nations Education Support Officer. They carefully selected symbols that resonated with their personal experiences and the spirit of the College, incorporating these elements into their designs.

The resulting artwork tells the story:

“Our community sits under the stars that shine over Kurna land. As a tight-knit community, we bond together at the meeting place. Each of us is unique, bringing our own shining light, having come a long way to be here. The river represents Dry Creek, with each student represented by their own unique symbol, showcasing their belonging and connection to the St Paul’s community.”

This incredible design, which truly reflects the voices of our students, would not have been possible without the contributions of Nick Gillard, Brandon Jackson-Martin, Claudia Lamberto, Alexandra Harrison, Stephanie Singh, the St Paul’s RAP committee, and, of course, our talented students.

“This initiative displays our commitment to promoting reconciliation at St Paul’s College, fostering a deeper understanding and respect for First Nations cultures among our entire school community,” said Campbell Burton, First Nations Key Teacher. “I look forward to seeing the guernseys being worn with pride during future co-curricular rounds.”

Mothers Day Breakfast & Liturgies



Year 9 Leadership

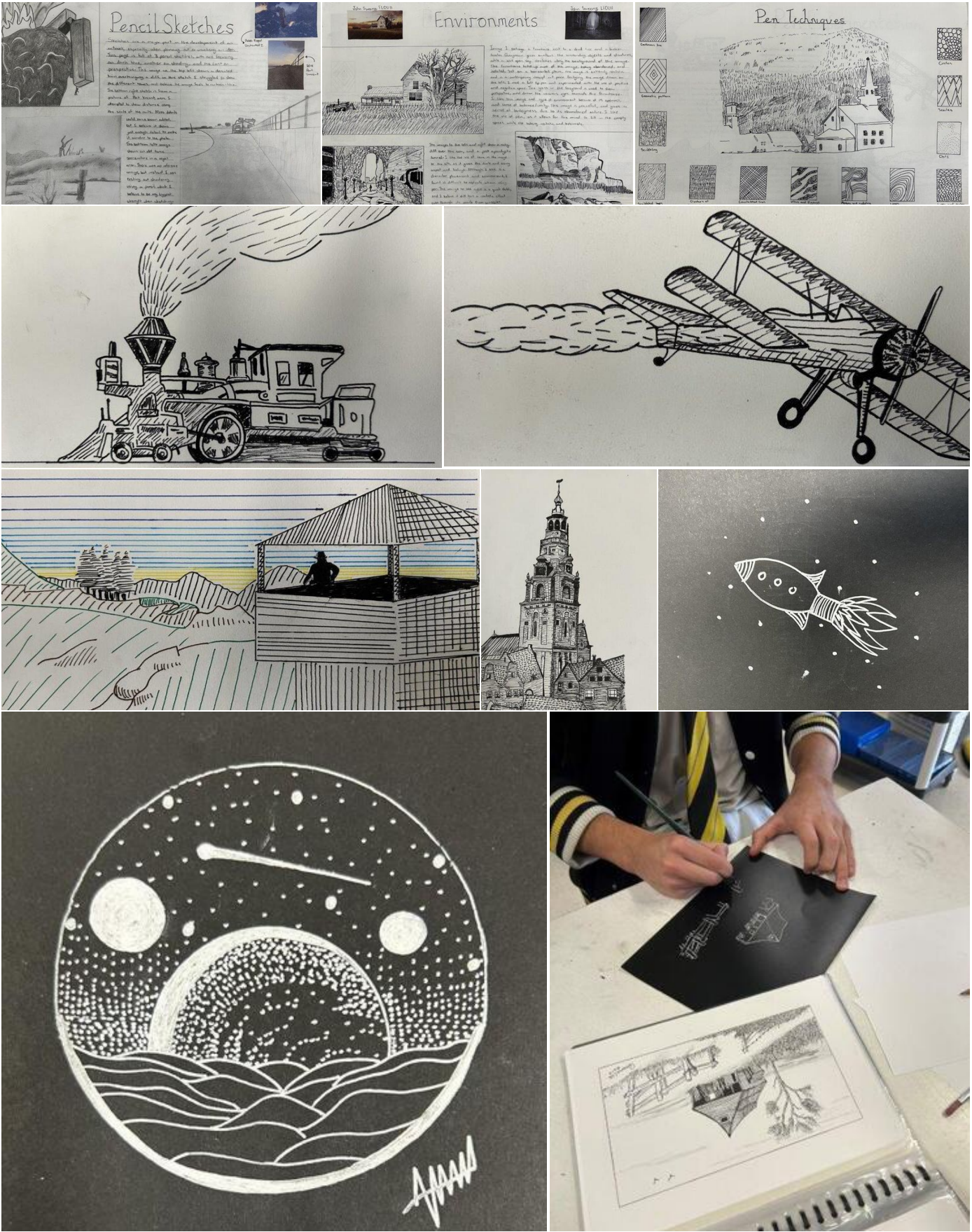


Our Year 9 leaders have recently attended a student leadership conference held by yLead. It was a great day helping students identify the leaders they want to be, network with other schools and it was fantastic to hear from various young South Australian leaders.

Stage 2 Visual Art Spotlight Student: Vincent Feo

Meet Vincent, a Year 12 artist with exceptional skills in using pen and ink. Vincent is interested in studying and exploring how artists use pen and ink techniques so he can master these skills and adapt it in his own personal style. Vincent has looked at natural landscapes and buildings as his subject matter and hopes to capture the true essence of beauty with the use of fine lines, dots and texture. Vincent is a young artist who is making remarkable progress and we look forward to the artworks he produces for the remainder of the year.

Sarah Fedele - Leader of Learning the Arts



Catholic Education Week

For Catholic Education Week Primary students were invited to make bracelets at recess with beads showing Catholic values such as love, hope, joy and faith. As a Catholic community we uphold these values in all that we do. Another fun activity was painting crosses.



Cocurricular Program

Cross Country

Last week we had 21 year 4-6 students participate in the North East SAPSASA district cross country. All students represented the college with pride and enthusiasm. Special mention to the below students who placed in the top 10 in their respective races. Well done everyone!

U10 boys:

Ollie B 1st

Bilal T 3rd

Jace M 5th

U10 girls:

Sassi F 6th

Lexi D 9th

U11 girls:

Simay A 4th

U12 boys:

Sammy F 3rd

David S 6th

U12 girls:

Emma A 8th

Netball

Well done to our Year 3-4 netball team on a great first game on the weekend. For many of these students, it was the first time they'd stepped foot on a netball court to play another team. They won, with a score of 11-4 against St George while showing perseverance and sportsmanship. They are very excited for the rest of the season, eager to develop their skills and have fun as a team.

Pedal Prix

The Bend 6 Hour Event Saturday 18th May, Tailem Bend

This was our first event for the year and with a trike entered in both the Middle Years and Senior Years categories, this is the first time St Paul's has had two teams competing. There was much excitement as the Senior Years team put their brand-new vehicle through its paces. And while the Middle Years Team were looking forward to a completely refurbished trike, due to circumstances beyond our control, they had to make do with a borrowed vehicle.

For new riders it was an opportunity to get a feel for being in the trike and experience racing. Experienced riders were able to establish a benchmark from which to build on in races to come. We were impressed by the commitment from all team members. When not riding they acted as pit crew, communicated via radio to encourage riders, and keep them informed. They were all supportive of each other and was great to see positive team spirit developing.

Our fastest lap around the 2.8km circuit by the Middle Years Team went to Harry H with a time of 5:03.8 minutes. While the fastest Senior lap went to Ethan R with a time of 3:55.753 minutes.

Thank you to all parents who came out and supported our two teams, and a particular thank you to those that helped as track marshals on the day. It was much appreciated.

Riders in The Bend 6 Hour

Middle Years Team: Sebastian C, Martin G, Harry H, Alexis L, Jacob O, Lucas T

Senior Years Team: Isaac B, Lachlan E, Adonis J, Harry L, Alex P, Jacob T, Ethan R, Bailey W

Jonathan Prenzler / Patrick Leadbeater - Team Managers

[Click for the Week 2 Results](#)

[Click for the Week 3 Results](#)

[Click for the Week 4 fixture](#)





State Representatives

More exciting sporting news from St Paul's students!

Year 7s Keira N and Jaxon F have been selected in the 12 years and under Australian football state teams. They will compete

in Geelong in August. Congratulations Keira and Jaxon, what an awesome achievement!



Lila D in Year 7 is currently in the women's artistic gymnastics squad. She was the Level 4 State Champ last year and has now upgraded to Level 5. We wish her all the best for the 2024 competition season beginning in June.



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 Week 6 will be:

Week 5

Monday - Robert Nak
Tuesday - Stewart Fraser
Wednesday - Walter Chatindiara
Thursday - Daniel Torode

Week 6

Monday - Rachel Lynds
Tuesday - Sam Martin
Wednesday - Jess Stace
Thursday - Stash Domiszewski

EREA Charter Renewal & Mission Strategy

OPEN FORUMS

EREA is re-imagining who we are and how we work as an authentic Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition.

We invite you to join us and shape the future:

6:00pm May 28
CBC Adelaide

and be a part of the co-creation of the renewed **EREA Charter and Mission Strategy.**

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)



ST PAUL'S
COLLEGE



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA

Tuesday 28 May, 6pm at CBC Adelaide

We are proudly committed and connected with Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA), our governing body who tirelessly support our community. Their work and likewise the work of our College, is driven by the EREA Charter. Most appropriately, EREA renew this Charter as part of ongoing improvement and ever-changing contexts.

Members of our St Paul's community are invited to join the Edmund Rice Education Australia national community to imagine how our school, and all Edmund Rice Education Australia schools, can be the best they can be for our young people and for our world. We need your help to shape the future for 41,000 plus young people.

These forums are happening across the country and each session provides an opportunity to discuss with others what you value about your school and what you hope it might strive to become. What comes out of these discussions will assist the EREA national community to renew its understanding and articulation of what it means to be a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition. Christian Brothers College (CBC) Adelaide is hosting the Charter renewal and Mission Strategy Open Forum at 6pm on Tuesday 28 May and all members of our community are invited to attend. Please register your attendance **here**.

Thank you for considering this important opportunity.

Josh Foulis - Acting Principal



Australian Early Development Census

Parent Information

Building a national picture of child health

From May 2024, our school, along with thousands of others across the country, will participate in the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC is a teacher-completed census (similar to a questionnaire) which provides a comprehensive picture of how children have developed by the time they start their first year of full-time school.

The AEDC is an Australian Government Initiative and is completed nationally every three years.

Children don't miss any class time while the AEDC is completed, and parents/carers don't need to supply schools with any new information.

The data collected through the AEDC is used by schools, communities and governments to better understand children and families' needs, and identify the services, resources and support they need.

AEDC data is reported at a school, community, state/territory and national level. AEDC results for individual children are not reported and the AEDC is not used as an individual diagnostic tool.

Some teachers have found that completing the AEDC made them more aware of the needs of individual children and their class, and that the data was useful for planning for transitions to Year 1 and developing programs.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary; however, the AEDC relies on all schools with children in their first year of full-time school participating in the collection.

Parents/carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census.

To find out more about the AEDC and how it is being used to help children and families visit: www.aedc.gov.au.

If you have any questions, you can contact Mrs Marianne Loftus.





Watch the latest kids film with your friends, jump, climb and bounce your way through the holidays.

Hone your detective skills and explore your musical talents with some thrilling and interactive incursions.



Compete with your friends and discover your artistic side with our fantastic activity days!

That's not all! Our holiday program is also host to a variety of extra activities, such as board games, sports, dress-ups, a reading library and countless opportunities for fantabulous fun these school holidays!

CCS is applied to the session fee, incursion and excursion fees, making it more affordable for families!

Book your super-fun winter school holidays with Extend at extend.com.au

You don't want to miss out!



BOUNCE-A-RAMA

Sunday June 2nd

11AM-3PM

BOUNCY
CASTLES

GAMES

OBSTACLE
COURSES

AND
MORE

John McVeity Centre
182 Peachy Road, Smithfield Plains

1 Hour - \$20 2 hours \$32 4 hours \$45 (+ booking fee)

Spaces limited – book online to avoid disappointment!

<https://events.humanitix.com/bounce-a-rama>

**Funds raised will be used to support SA Judo Academy
team members travel to Queensland to represent
South Australia at the Australian Judo Championships**

Tickets available here

