

# Life in the Wilderness

Term 1 Issue #5 | Thursday 14 April, 2022

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

## Achievements to Celebrate

**Belinda Arnfield, Principal**

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We have once again reached the end of a busy term, and there is no doubt it will be nice for each of us to spend time with family over the coming school break.

Each day we see more and more students applying their learning from inside the classroom to excel in a variety of disciplines throughout their local communities.

As we close out our first term of 2022, there are many achievements to celebrate.

**Inika Weber** (Year 12) has been awarded the Zonta Club of Adelaide's 2022 Young Woman in Public Affairs Award. The club is a member of Zonta International, a global service organisation of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. Inika's application will now be considered on a state-wide/national level, and if she wins, it will go on to be considered by Zonta International.

Two more of our students, **Harriet Craig** (Year 12) and **Isabel Roberts** (Year 12), have attained their Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards. It was amazing to see these girls utilise their leadership skills and witness their empathy and dedication whilst completing this prestigious award.

Year 10 student **Demi Moutos** has launched her own successful cooking and baking

business on Instagram. In less than twelve months, she has already been approached by several well-known brands (such as Smiths Chips and Ferrero Rocher) and secured distribution deals with local businesses. Her goal is to supply baked goods to ten businesses and reach 10,000 followers on her Instagram page, which she is well on the way to achieving.

**Devika Mukherjee** (Year 11) was recently named Captain of the SA Schools Debating Team, for which she has participated in for two years. To lead this team in her second to last year of school is a tremendous honour and quite an achievement. We wish Devika all the best as she travels to Canberra later this year.

In the sporting arena, our 2022 Sports Captain, **Sachi Syme** (Year 12), was named Vice-Captain of the U18 SA State Football Team for the 2022 AFL U18 Girls National Championships. Sachi has already kicked two goals in the first round of the championship, which started last week.

Finally, I wish to congratulate **Chloe Siebert** (Year 10), who competed in the National Wakeboard competition in Canberra last week. Chloe placed third in the Junior Women's event (15–19 years old).

As we look forward, we will be celebrating our long-standing participation in the Mother's Day Classic on **Sunday 8 May**—and, hopefully, our 11<sup>th</sup> -consecutive year as the largest participating school in South Australia. For a cause that is so dear to so many, it is wonderful that our Wilderness community continues to show up and get involved in the fight against breast cancer.

I am excited about the energy I know we will bring to this year's event after we return to school in Term 2.

Should you wish to join the Wilderness School Team, I encourage you to sign your family up for the event [here](#).

Until then, I wish you all a wonderful Easter weekend and holiday break.



EARLY LEARNING

## A Family Community

[Rebecca Williamson, Assistant Head of Junior School Early Years](#)

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On Friday 4 March, the easing of COVID restrictions enabled us to recommence Playgroup in our Mamie House Garden. This group is dear to our hearts because for many families it is their first step into the Wilderness. For our old scholars, of which there are many, it marks the beginning of their return to the School, this time proudly with their daughters.

Each week our Mamie House teacher, Mrs Wendy Menzies, works to create an inspiring and welcoming environment for our Playgroup children and their families. However, Friday 8 April was a special one as Wendy arranged for our ELC Yoga Teacher, Kaysee Liebeknecht, to lead a yoga class with our littlest children and their parents/caregivers. This delightful session was spent outdoors stretching, singing, dancing and practising poses. It was also a lovely way to end the term together.

If you are interested in joining our Playgroup, starting again on Friday 6 May, please [email](#) me. It is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to make friends, play in an inspiring, calm environment, develop language skills, and most of all, have fun.

### Kindness

Our word of the week is ... kindness. This particular message was posted by our Mamie House team to begin the week, and it has certainly been a word that has underpinned all that has occurred.



There have been so many examples of kindness in the Mamie House, but the most notable has been the beautiful way that the Mamie girls have cared for Pop and Pepper, our chickens. This week the girls moved them into their new home—complete with a chandelier! The Mamie girls eagerly prepared this new home for them by laying soft, comfortable straw, ensuring our precious chicks are both warm and comfortable. Thank you, girls, for the care you have shown to our little chicks. Your actions embody all that makes a truly kind and caring Wildy girl.

Unfortunately, in our Annie House, several girls have been away unwell this week. As families have navigated this challenging time, so much kindness has been expressed in the community. This has been incredibly heart-warming and has confirmed that we are more than a school for the girls, we are in fact, a family community.

This week has also proven the absolute dedication of our educational team as they have worked together, from home and in the Annie House, to ensure the girls at school continue to have an excellent learning experience, despite some of their much-loved friends and educators being absent. Those who have attended have found joy in their friendships, shown each other great kindness, and played and played—the true work of childhood.

Thank you, families, for a wonderful term. We wish you a safe and happy Easter and look forward to Term 2.







JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Year 4 Excursion to Wingfield Recycling Centre

[Liz McCarthy, Head of Junior School](#)

Our Year 4 girls enjoyed an eye-opening excursion at Wingfield Waste and Recycling Centre on Monday 28 March.

The girls were given a guided tour of the facility and learned important information about how waste is sorted, processed, reused or buried. The girls also rotated through stimulating hands-on small group learning activities, which were educational and fun. These activities ranged from using their bodies to turn a trommel to sort various materials found in yellow bins, to using a digital device to calculate and compare the amount of carbon various fuels would emit into the atmosphere to power a collection vehicle. Here are some reflections from the girls' learning:

'I learned that if a lettuce head is put in the compost bin, it takes 1-3 weeks to break down, but if a lettuce head is put in the landfill bin, it takes 20 years to break down!' **Alina Teng**

'The most interesting activity was [seeing] how much CO<sup>2</sup> a truck can produce ... in a black balloon you could see the difference between electric, diesel and gas.' **Alice Gao**

'I think the most interesting activity for me was when we had to put cans



and paper into this thing that you had to turn around and around, and the interesting thing was that only the cans and containers fell into the buckets below, but the paper made it to the other side.' **Chloe Knox**

'I learned that you can put bones into the green bin and compost bin.'  
Grace Lin

'The most interesting thing that I learned on the excursion was the saying, "If it grows it goes". This means if it grew over time, then it goes in the compost.' **Saanika Singhal**

'I learned that you can compost hair.' **Fatima Muazzam**

## Chinese Storybooks

This term in Chinese our Year 2s and Year 6s have learnt about measuring words and their role in counting objects. To assist in solidifying this learning, the Year 2s made mini books counting the Zodiac animals in Chinese. The girls worked hard to produce their books and have been sharing and reading their stories with each other.

Similarly, the Year 6s have produced a storybook counting and describing animals at the Zoo. The girls were eager to challenge themselves and extend their stories to include details about the animals' appearances.

Early in Term 2 we aim to bring together the Year 2 and Year 6 girls to share their learning with each other and read each other's stories. This will provide the girls with a chance to review and practise their Chinese reading and speaking in an authentic manner









MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Fabulous Female Scientist Meet and Greet

[Rhianon Giles, Acting Head of Middle School](#)

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During the first unit of Year 7 Science, the girls undertake a Science as a Human Endeavour research task.

Part of this task involves researching a 'fabulous famous female scientist' and how she changed the world.

The girls then dress up in character as their female scientist and attend a tea party. Using the concentric circles of conversation thinking routine, the girls are able to share the story of their scientist and learn about the stories of others.

Thank you to the Year 7 Science teachers for hosting the tea party.

## [#dovesforukraine](#)

The Middle School Art Committee have been busy distributing the ceramic doves they made as part of the initiative started by ceramicist Ilona Glastonbury. The remaining doves have been sold this week at lunch, with all money raised donated to Save the Children Australia to help those in need in Ukraine.

## [Round Square](#)

The Middle School Citizenship Committee presented an online assembly to the Middle

School students to explain what it meant to be a Round Square School. We learnt that Wilderness is now part of an international network of 230 schools in some 50 countries.

Round Square schools have a shared approach to education built around six themes or IDEALS, those being Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service.

The girls shared some of the initiatives they have planned for next term and we look forward to these and future collaborations with students across the world.

## Year 7 Enlighten Program

The transition from Primary or Junior School into Middle School is a really important time in a girl's life. Every year, we invite the team from Enlighten Education to come and run an all-day workshop for our Year 7 Students.

In the workshop, they discuss the changes and expectations of girls in secondary school and provide the girls with the tools and tips they need to navigate it successfully.

The girls enjoyed spending time together and reflecting on their first term in the Middle School.





SENIOR SCHOOL

## Representing Our School with Pride

**Ben Manifold, Head of Senior School**

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As we come to the final week of Term 1, the girls have been busy completing assessment tasks and representing the School with pride in the co-curricular arena.

I was proud of how our senior teams performed in the annual Summer Intercollegiate Competition against Seymour College.

While every team likes to win, it is how we respond in the face of defeat that is just as important. The sportsmanship, spirit, commitment, and grit shown by the Wilderness teams when they came up against stronger Seymour opponents spoke volumes.

Seymour is congratulated on winning the Overall Summer Intercol Trophy for 2022. Congratulations also go to the Wilderness Open A Touch and Open A Water Polo teams on their wins against Seymour.

I was fortunate to attend the 2022 Australian Rowing Championships in Nagambie, Victoria on 20–23 April.

Our girls performed wonderfully and came away with silver medals in the U19 Coxless Pair, the Schoolgirl's Coxed IV, and the U17 Schoolgirl's VIII. Wilderness won the Schoolgirl's Point Score Trophy at the Australian Rowing Championships as the best-performing girls school at the regatta. Congratulations to all girls, coaches, and parents who assisted with this tour—it was a great team effort!

I must also extend my congratulations to **Canyu (Alice) Jia** (Year 12), **Sachi Syme** (Year



12), **Devika Mukherjee** (Year 11), **Chloe Siebert** (Year 10) and **Demi Moutos** (Year 10). They have been acknowledged in the Principal's article today. Each of these girls has achieved remarkable things across such a vast array of areas.

## Parent-Teacher Interviews

You will receive your daughter's Term 1 Report next week, which will provide an interim progress report as to her academic progress so far.

Parent-Teacher Interviews for both the Middle and Senior School will occur at the beginning of Term 2. You will have the opportunity to book interviews on Monday 2 May from 2.00pm to 7.00pm and Tuesday 10 May from 3.45pm to 9.00pm to meet with your daughter's teachers. An email with information about how to log in and book interviews has been sent this week.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy term break after what has been a busy, and at times, challenging term. I thank the staff for their unwavering commitment to the girls' education and the girls for their understanding and support when changes had to be made.





BOARDING

## Thank You For Your Support

[Renee Coventry, Head of Boarding](#)

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A group of girls joined Zoe and Abbey for a Dolphin Kayaking adventure on Saturday 26 March, while Go Karting was a hit over the last weekend before the end of term. After being on the 'wish list' for a while, we were glad that the girls were able to enjoy this activity together.

We held our first Birthday Dinner of the year on Tuesday 12 April, to celebrate all girls who had a birthday since the beginning of the year, with an Easter theme. Girls had been earning raffle tickets for clean rooms, with the raffle drawn on the night for prizes including chocolates, Easter PJs and a pedicure voucher.

We also took the opportunity to farewell Ms Rowena Murphy from her Boarding Admin role. We are pleased to share that a new staff role, the Assistant Head of Boarding, will commence from Term 2 following the appointment of Mrs Bronwen Pluck.

Over the last week of term, we also enjoyed an Easter egg hunt with the ELC girls and our final cohort dinners for Years 7, 8 and 9.

As we draw near to the end of the first term of 2022, I would like to take a moment to thank and acknowledge each and every member of our community for your support, flexibility and positive approach to the unpredictable and unprecedented impact of COVID-19 on our boarding community.

The boarding house will reopen on Monday 2 May.







SPORT

## Great Success

[Jon Trovas, Director of Sport and Recreation](#)

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On Tuesday 12 April, Wilderness competed in the B Grade SSSSA (Secondary Schools Sport South Australia) Track and Field Championships at the SA Athletics Stadium.

A big congratulations to our Middle and Senior School girls who today placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Girls Division.

Despite significant changes to the teams, our girls showed fantastic support to each other and stepped out of their comfort zone to fill and contest as many events as possible. We look forward to seeing our Track and Field girls continue to improve and compete at IGSSA Track and Field in Term 3.

## Junior School Sports Day

It was so enjoyable to celebrate our Junior School Sports Day on Wednesday. Following the restrictions for spectators at so many of our events earlier this year, the Parklands were alive with the P&F, parents, and girls enjoying an outstanding day of sports and activities.

A big thank you to our Middle and Senior School girls and parents for their support to create a wonderful atmosphere for our girls.

Congratulations to our 2022 Junior School Sports Day prize winners:

#### Year 3 Individual Champion

- Winner Vasiliki Natsias CED 230 points
- Runner up Maya Dan AMA 184 points

#### Year 4 Individual Champion

- Winner Skyler Luong CED 236 points
- Runner up Emilia Varricchio SPA 190 points

#### Year 5 Individual Champion

- Winner Addison Munt ANT 216 points
- Runner up Mishka Sanghavi SPA 178 points

#### Year 6 Individual Champion

- Winner Linah Kafagy AMA 240 points
- Runner up Maya Ianella SPA 224 points

#### Old Scholars Cup (for the highest individual aggregate points)

- Winner Linah Kafagy AMA 240 points
- Runner up Skyler Luong CED 236 points

#### Prep Cup for Team Games

1. Cedar 555 points
2. Sparaxis 510 points
3. Antholiza 475 points

4. Carob 455 points
5. Amaryllis 455 points

#### House Shield for Team Games and Events

1. Cedar 687 points
2. Sparaxis 637 points
3. Antholiza 581 points
4. Amaryllis 571 points
5. Carob 565 points

### Basketball National Championships

Congratulations to Year 12 Eliza Corbin for being selected to represent SA Country at the U18 Australian Basketball Championships. Eliza and her team have had some exciting results in their opening rounds and are looking promising to make the finals playoffs this weekend.

We look forward to sharing their results with you early next term.

### Australian Rowing Championships

During Week 9, Wilderness was represented by 16 girls at the Australian Rowing Championships. With 1926 athletes competing in the week-long event, the Wilderness Rowing team brought back three silver medals in the following crews:

- U19 Women's Pair – Georgina Birchall and Zara Hoadley
- Schoolgirls Four – Georgina Birchall, Zara Hoadley, Millie Jackson, Anelise Roos and Olympia Andre
- U17 Schoolgirl Eight – Aisha Alkhazrajy, Isabelle Jackson, Lulu Detmold Cox, Gracie Dowling, Gia Rinaldi, Marji Tucker, Molly Dwyer, Imogen Hawker and Sophia Tayeb

We were delighted to receive news that Wilderness School won the Schoolgirl's Point Score Trophy at the Australian Rowing Championships. Based on performances of the



Wilderness Rowing crews, we were the highest ranked girls school at the national regatta. This was an absolutely outstanding achievement for Wilderness, as the first South Australian school to ever win the Point Score Trophy.

Congratulations must go to our Director of Rowing Eleanor Trovas for her outstanding support and guidance of the Wilderness program and to the ARC coaching team Aimee Maling, Sophie Nery, Jon Trovas and Grace Lindsay who managed the teams in the clinical racing environment.

## Summer Intercollegiate Competition

Our Summer Intercol was battled out during Week 9 against Seymour with the Senior A and Premier League teams and crews representing the six Summer Sports—Basketball, Rowing, Tennis, Touch, Volleyball, and Water Polo.

A special congratulations goes to our Water Polo girls for their nail-biting victory over Seymour, with the final score 7-6, and to our Touch girls for another dominant performance, securing the Intercol Trophy for the sixth year straight with a 10-1 win.

The tally currently sits at 4-2 in Seymour's favour, with the delayed IGSSA (Independent Girls Schools Sports Association) Swimming Championships still to be contested during Week 5 next term.

The competition is still alive and well for 2022 and we are looking forward to Winter Intercol in Term 3!







CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

## SACE Don Maynard Music Prize

[Anna Lenartowicz, Head of Music](#)

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We were thrilled to learn a fortnight ago that Canyu (Alice) Jia (Year 12) was awarded the Don Maynard Music Prize. An award that is presented annually to the student who achieved the highest number of marks in the SACE Music subjects containing the greatest component of practical work.

Don Arthur Scott Maynard (1919–1979), a lay musician, church organist, and professional educator, was passionate about music. In 1969, Don pushed for Music to be introduced into South Australian Secondary Schools, other than as an elective, and for performance to become a vital part of its teaching. He believed that Music should be recognised as an equal subject in secondary school and that students should be able to take it to the highest level and proceed further. Following his death, Don's family wished to commemorate his work by extending the amount of Music taught in South Australian schools and encouraging students to continue with music.

Last year, Alice studied Solo Performance and Ensemble Performance, earning a Merit for both subjects. This award is an additional accomplishment; in essence, it is the most outstanding achievement by a student in SACE Stage 2 Music across South Australia and the Northern Territory. Alice is an exceptional musician and is every bit deserving of this award. Congratulations on your tremendous success Alice!

2021 was an exceptional year for our Music students, with two other Year 11 students, Jacinta Chronowski-Wong and Isabelle Yu, also achieving Merits.

We are so very proud of the girls' achievements and the wonderful musicians they have become. We hope that music continues to be a presence in their lives. Well done.

## Term 2

Instrumental and Vocal lessons, as well as all ensembles, will commence on the first day back of Term 2—Tuesday 3 May.

We have several events planned for Term 2, and we hope they can go ahead. Please keep an eye out for more information in the first week of term.







COMMUNITY

## Quiz Night Casual Day

[Rebecca Foster, Head of Advancement](#)

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On behalf of the Wilderness Old Scholars' Association (WOSA), we wish to thank our community for generously supporting the upcoming Wildy Quiz Night through last week's student Casual Day.

It was great to see hundreds of girls filling the donation boxes with items to contribute to prize baskets and raffles in exchange for a day of wearing civvies, and what a wonderful expression of support for this annual fundraiser.

The Wildy Quiz Night, including a silent and live auction, will be held on the evening of **Friday 20 May** in the Gymnasium. Pop the date in your diary and start planning your table of 10.

All money raised is donated to Wilderness School in support of a variety of projects to support the girls and their learning.

Click [here](#) for more information or to purchase tickets.



