

Life in the Wilderness

Term 2 Issue #1 | Friday 12 May, 2023



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Wildy to Their Core

Belinda Arnfield, Principal

It is important to us that Wilderness is a place for every girl, and for every family. We are very proud to be able to offer a diversity of subjects, events and activities to enable our community to participate and thrive. Over the past few weeks, we have enjoyed seeing students, staff and old scholars alike immerse themselves in a range of opportunities.

Our Years 3-12 students have laced up their runners for Cross Country on a grey day in the Park Lands, before several of our outstanding musicians travelled to Mount Gambier to attend Generations in Jazz, which was held in person for the first time since 2019.

Once again, our girls shared their exceptional musical talents on the national stage—a special mention goes to our Big Band 2, who placed third in their division, and to Year 12 student **Eva Barrett** who was announced as the first ever French Horn player chosen in the Division 4 Superband. We also saw our Music staff members represented on stage across the weekend; Ms Cassie Pope played Bass Trombone for the Generations in Jazz Big Band, and Miss Grace Mensforth performed two public concerts as part of her live adjudication for the Generations in Jazz Vocal Scholarship.

I am excited to attend the Boarders' Fashion Parade tonight; this year's event has once again attracted the support of some big brands and talented artists, and I know our

boarders are looking forward to showcasing fashion from around South Australia and the country (including some of their own creations).

It is especially pleasing to see the number of old scholars returning to display their designs, proudly sharing their brands that have taken shape since their leaving the School. With live art displays as the X factor of this year's event, it is bound to be a wonderful celebration of creativity, raising funds for the Bahadure Boarding School in Nepal. I thank our Head of Boarding, Ms Renee Coventry, Boarding Captains **Milly Shepherd** and **Evie Basham** (Year 12) and the supportive parent committee who have poured a wealth of work into bringing this event to life.

It is wonderful to consider how our girls' weeks are filled with these activities, traversing sport, music, art, pastoral care and the list goes on. These are busy weeks – as much for the girls as for the parents driving them from place to place – but our girls reap the benefits in spades. I love the idea that in the past fortnight, a girl may have gone from representing her House at Cross Country last Thursday, to volunteering at Relay for Life as part of her Duke of Edinburgh service on the weekend, to walking the runway at tonight's Fashion Parade.

In addition, so many of these events beautifully combine community building and teamwork (the 'how') with a greater philanthropic goal (the 'why'). For example, Antholiza House Day and Boarders' Fashion Parade are fun activities that bring our girls together, but they share the united goal of fundraising for our efforts in Nepal.

The different pathways that our girls take after leaving school are so interesting, and their commitment to being true and courageous in their careers is inspiring. I had the pleasure of reuniting with some of our Victorian old scholars last weekend, which saw six generations of Wilderness women come together. Not only did they share humorous stories about their exploits at school, but they also have crystal clear memories of how experiences and teachers at Wilderness shaped them and the decisions they made after graduating.

It was a joy to hear about each graduate's remarkable and unique story; the varied career paths and journeys they have explored, and how they can all pinpoint which of their interests were sparked and nurtured during their time at Hawkers Road.

I truly believe that when you gather a bunch of Wilderness girls in one room – whether they are students or graduates – it is evident that they are Wildy to their core. The diverse opportunities that they explore bond them together and lay a foundation that can take them anywhere.

Important Dates

Key dates for Junior School, Middle School and Senior School for the year are now

available on SEQTA Engage, under the Important Dates portal.

[Term dates for 2024](#) are also available.



EARLY LEARNING

A Crash and a Bang!

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

Excitingly, Term 2 in the ELC has commenced with a crash and a bang! The girls have been intrigued and amazed at the building work taking place over the fence, building their new ELC.

The dialogue captured below shows the evolvement of the Mamie girls' ideas as they spoke with each other to make sense of the changing outdoor environment.

“It’s a digger!” - **Ava M**

“It is making lots of noise!” - **Lily**

“Is it building the new Mamie House?” - **Emma**

“I think it’s making a new Annie House.” - **Everly**

“You know a digger digs.” - **Emma**

“Yeah it digs... it digs dirt.” - **Clementine**

"It digs holes so we can build a new Mamie House." - **Ava M**

"We need a new Mamie House." - **Emma**

"We need to dig holes for the Mamie girls." - **Beatrice**

"The digger is making a new Annie House. It will take eight months... that's a long time." - **Everly**

"The digger was making a new building... I think the old one fell down." - **Amelia**

"The digger is making a big and bigger hole... then there will be a new house..." - **Amelia**

"We will all go in it, and me!" - **Phoebe**

"Well, I did not have a digger at my home." - **Aria**

"Yeah... the digger is making a big hole." - **Alia**

"I saw the digger... it was digging... it's making a new house... we can go in the new house." - **Florrie**

"You know, I saw a digger building a new playground... maybe the digger will build us a new playground." - **Grace**

"I saw the digger... I think it was digging a big hole for the Mamie House... I think it will be for me." - **Halo**

Following a request from our school's Communications and Marketing team, the Annie girls have engaged with the development by working together to draw 16 Hawkers Road. This has taken care, time, co-ordination and cooperation. Once this project has largely been completed, the Mamie girls will add their own special images and final touches to it.

Of course, we cannot wait to see the finished artwork, and as Halo rightly said above, this new ELC will be for her, and it will be for her friends.

Watching a development take shape as an adult is exciting, but you can only imagine how this looks through the eyes of our little people. We cannot wait to see what happens next!

Important Dates Coming Up

Tuesday 16 May – Mother's Day Breakfast

Thursday 18 May – Excursion to see Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge at the Dream Big Festival







JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Science of Space and Soil

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

Term 2 has had a very successful beginning in the Junior School, with the winter weather providing just the right conditions for the girls as they commence their winter sports and wear their winter uniforms. I have been delighted by the introduction of a number of new opportunities for co-curricular activities for our youngest girls, with a robotics club (Year 1 and Year 2 girls) running on Thursday afternoons and gymnastics (Reception and Year 1 girls) on Mondays and Wednesdays respectively.

I have been very pleased to introduce Speech and Drama individual lessons for girls from Years 2 to 6 with Speech and Drama coach and AMEB examiner, Louise Borgo. Louise is also supporting and coaching our Year 6 Debating team, as well as the girls who will be representing Wilderness in the upcoming IPSHA (Independent Primary School Heads of Australia) Poetry Competition. Engaging in activities and learning outside of the classroom provides enormous benefits for our girls, including the ability to build new and strengthen existing friendships, and to develop and refine their skills and resilience as they try different things and step out of their comfort zones. We look forward to extending these and other offerings for our girls as the year goes on.

Science in the Junior School

We have had some wonderful, Science-focused excursions in the Junior School over the past two weeks! Our Year 2 girls enjoyed an informative morning visiting the Planetarium

at Mawson Lakes, which supported their current cycle of learning about Earth and the solar system in Science. Our Year 3 girls travelled into the Adelaide Hills, visiting the Lenswood Apple Orchard to gain further insights and build upon their class learning on the impact of soil in agriculture and how we can more readily adopt sustainable practices. The girls impressed the orchard owners with their knowledge of the soil layers and both year levels received feedback on how well behaved, respectful and beautifully mannered they were while representing their school in the community. Well done, Years 2 and 3 girls!

Please enjoy this recount from **Year 2** about their visit to the Planetarium:

On Thursday last week, we went to the Adelaide Planetarium at Mawson Lakes. We sat on some red seats and when we looked up, we could see space. It was awesome. We got to see the Southern Cross. We watched a short movie about a dog who travelled to space in his kennel. The dog's name was Tyco. We learned that there is a line that the sun travels along, but it isn't the sun moving—it is Earth moving. We learned that the sun comes up in the east and goes down in the west. We saw the moon up really close and found out that it is always full, but we can only see part of it when the sun shines on it. One of our favourite constellations was Orion.

Year 4 Parents - Save the Date!

With the Year 4 Assembly scheduled for **Thursday 17 August** (Term 3, Week 4), we will have a Coffee Catch-up at the Wilderness Café, after school drop off and before the assembly begins. Please pop this in your diary, as it would be lovely to see as many Year 4 parents there as possible.

Tanya Vallat

Year 4 Class Representative

Important Dates

A list of key dates for the year is now available on SEQTA Engage, under the Important Dates portal.

[Term dates for 2024](#) are also available.





MIDDLE SCHOOL

Back to the Grampians

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

Year 8 Camp

After three years of needing to run our Year 8 camp locally, in Week 1 this term, we were finally able to return to the remarkable Gariwerd (Grampians) with Year 8 Core Group 1 and Core Group 2 for their Outdoor Education camp. Residing at Roses Gap, an amazing off the grid campsite in the middle of the Northern Grampians, the camp featured the girls getting out of their comfort zones on an overnight bushwalk in the stunning Barigar region of the Grampians Peaks Trail and participating in other exciting challenges such as high ropes and rock climbing. Relationships were strengthened and independence was fostered as they enjoyed initiative tasks, canoeing and contributed to the overall running of the camp with their duty group time.

Lauren Walker

Head of Outdoor Education

Year 8 camp was a very exciting experience full of many adventures. The experiences helped us build our skills and bond more with the people we might not usually hang out with at school. When we were facing a difficult time, we could work together as a team and build bonding skills that helped us grow through the experience. - **Eshal Rauf** (Year 8)

One word to describe camp would be challenging. On the bushwalk, hiking uphill was extremely challenging, however as a group we each persevered and showed strong qualities of selflessness, responsibility and, most importantly, kindness. While each activity challenged us mentally and physically, coming out of camp I have developed new skills that I will take with me along my life. As Roger Crawford once said, "Being challenged in life is inevitable, being defeated is optional". - **Manha Abaid** (Year 8)

Throughout this camp, I reconnected with nature and felt all the stress disappear. - **Jade Huntington** (Year 8)

I found Year 8 camp very fun as I was stretched outside my comfort zone, learned new skills and connected with my peers and friends. My favourite part of camp was the bushwalk, I found this very enjoyable as there were beautiful views, it was a lovely walk and I learned more about my friends. I loved the camping part of the bushwalk as it was fun to set up the tents, cook our food (which tasted better because we were hungry) and enjoy the quick astronomy lesson from our camp instructor, Sean. The things which challenged me most were the high ropes and rock climbing. I am afraid of heights, so this was a major challenge which pushed me outside my comfort zone. - **Chloe Herbert** (Year 8)

Homework Timetables

Middle school girls received their Term 2 Homework Timetables at the beginning of the term. There have been some minor changes to reflect Term 2 subject timetables. Girls should spend a maximum of 20 minutes on each subject allocated. Girls with commitments on particular evenings are encouraged to discuss these with their subject teachers and negotiate alternative times to complete homework.

- [Year 7](#)
- [Year 8](#)
- [Year 9](#)

Space Forum: Space Passport & Space Discovery Centre Visit

Please enjoy this reflection from Year 9 students **Iris Newman** and **Caitlin Hardin**.

On Tuesday 9 May, the Year 9 Space, Robotics and AI class went on an excursion to the Australian Space Forum and the Australian Space Agency. We all took a bus to the Adelaide Convention Centre first, where we were fortunate enough to visit the trade hall at the 15th Australian Space Forum. Using our space passports, we had lots of fun learning about the work different businesses do and the careers they offer. We also learned about the pathways to have a career in space. It was interesting to learn about the vastly different jobs available, as well as the innovative modern technology being developed across Australia. In particular, we all found it very interesting to learn about Fleet Space Technologies, including their new Exosphere that examines minerals on Earth in a much more efficient and eco-friendly way. We also received some cool items, including freeze-dried ice-cream, a keep cup and many stickers and business cards.

Next, we caught a tram to the Australian Space Agency. Here, we met two other schools and were given a presentation by a Wilderness old scholar named Melarn Murphy (2018). The presentation featured a fun game called 'Fact or Fiction'. This game involved her telling us a sentence about space, and we all had to decide if we thought it was true or not. We learned that when in space, people slowly lose bone and muscle mass. This is why astronauts must use specially designed equipment to exercise six hours a day! After this, we were free to explore the space centre. We played some fun interactive games and immersed ourselves in all things space! We then travelled back to school on a bus.

Overall, the space excursion was a lot of fun, and we all thoroughly enjoyed this incredible opportunity. We have learned so much about space and have been exposed to the many career opportunities in the space industry. This experience is something we will all remember for many years to come.

Encounter Youth Student and Parent Seminars

On **Monday 15 May**, the Middle School girls will attend alcohol and other drug education seminars during the day. An email was sent earlier in the week, inviting parents and caregivers to attend a [parent seminar](#) next Monday evening in Hender Hall from **6.00pm to 7.30pm**. Please reserve a seat at the parent seminar using the [Trybooking](#) link.

Vaping is an ongoing concern for young people and the wider community. We continue to educate our girls about the risks of these products and governments are now proposing stronger regulation and new controls. You may be interested to read [recent communication from Professor Nicola Spurrer](#) regarding the health risks of e-cigarettes/vapes.

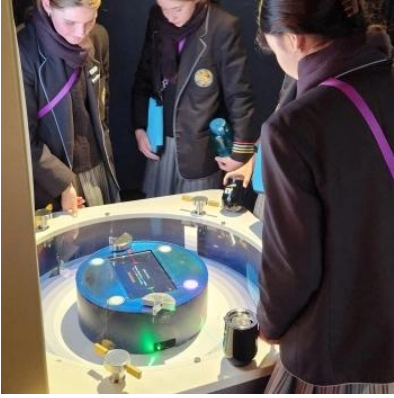
Key Dates

Middle School Key Dates for the remainder of the year can be found on SEQTA under the Important Dates portal.

[Term dates for 2024](#) are also available.









SENIOR SCHOOL

Responsible Citizenship In Action

[Ben Manifold, Head of Senior School](#)

Term 2 is busy and fast paced. Last week, the Music department travelled to the annual Generations in Jazz Festival at Mount Gambier. While the weather was very cold and wet (which produced a very muddy location), the quality of the performances by our Big Band 1, Big Band 2, Jazz Choir and Jazz Inc were outstanding. A big thank you to the staff and students who braved the conditions and represented Wilderness with pride.

I am also very proud of the Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh girls who committed their afternoon to volunteer at the Cancer Council's Relay for Life. A report is included in this newsletter about the event. This is true service and underpins at its core our value of 'Responsible Citizenship'.

At the Senior School Assembly on Monday this week, I mentioned that planning and time management will be important this term. All girls have been emailed the live link to the electronic assessment planner. They are encouraged to review this document to identify their heavy assessment periods over the coming weeks and plan accordingly. The Year 11s will have their mid-year exams in Week 9 (beginning **Monday 19 June**), which will come around very quickly.

The Year 10 girls will have their university pathways and work experience week during Week 8 (**Tuesday 13 to Friday 16 June**). For parents of Year 10 girls, can you please check in with your daughters to confirm that they have finalised their placement and completed the online form sent to Mrs Deb Cleggett? This must be completed by the end of Week 4

(Friday 19 May).

This week, the girls enjoyed Antholiza House Day, which had the theme of 'Anty Undercover'. The lunch of bánh mì rolls and fun activities at lunchtime were well received by all in attendance. Next week is looming as another action-packed week in the life of the Senior School with Boarders Week being celebrated, Paul Dillon presenting to all Years 10-12 girls with accurate and up-to-date alcohol and other drug information on Tuesday and our annual Founders' Day Service on Friday.

Congratulations to **Molly Dwyer** (Year 11) who has been selected in the Hockey SA State Under 18 Hockey Team. Molly will compete from **Saturday 1 to Sunday 9 July** at the Tasmanian Hockey Centre, Hobart. This is a wonderful achievement and rewards the hours of hard work put in by Molly. We look forward to following her progress through this tournament.

Finally, as we negotiate a busy Term 2, I encourage all girls to persist and understand that perseverance will be necessary when they are challenged and feel out of their depth or comfort zone. The difficulty or delay in success will lead to a much greater sense of achievement and satisfaction. Taking the easy option often leads to disappointment, and does not lead to personal growth.

Encounter Youth Parent Information Night

On **Monday 15 May**, there will be a [parent seminar](#) in Hender Hall from **6.00pm to 7.30pm**. This session will cover current uses of alcohol and other drugs among young people, hosting a party and legal considerations, talking to a young person about alcohol and other drugs and how we can positively influence young people's choices. Please reserve a seat at the parent seminar using the [Trybooking](#) link.

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Relay for Life – Duke of Edinburgh Award Service Opportunity

On Saturday 6 May, a small group of Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh girls dedicated their afternoon to volunteering at the Cancer Council's Relay for Life. The event is a chance for communities to recognise and celebrate those who have overcome cancer or are undergoing treatment, as well as the people who care for them, and celebrate the memory of loved ones lost to cancer. The girls volunteered in the event's opening ceremony by holding the ribbon to be cut by one of the long-standing volunteers, holding the sign leading the lap of honour to commence the relay and assisting in running the afternoon tea for survivors and carers. We are proud of the following Year 10 girls for their contribution to this meaningful act of service: **Leah Berhe, Abbey Cartwright, Lauren Fergusson, Shanza Ismail, Olivia Lai, Jade McAskill, Niya Singhal, Natalie Vu and Tehreem Zafar.**

At the event, we were also proud to recognise a group of Year 11 Wilderness girls who entered into the relay and contributed to fundraising efforts in the lead up: **Emily Johannsen, Charlotte Williams, Eleni Papagiannis, Sophie Zappia, Sarah Zyweck and Sophie Reu.** These girls raised over \$250 and walked/ran for 18 hours over the course of a very cold night.

Lauren Walker

Coordinator of Duke of Edinburgh Award

Variety Picnic

A small group of Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh girls had the opportunity to volunteer at the Variety Charity Picnic held at the Adelaide Zoo on Tuesday 9 May. At this rewarding event for more than 600 children who are sick, disadvantaged or living with disability, we dressed up as mascots, such as Minions and Sheridan the Variety bear. The children had such a great time interacting with the mascots and activities put many smiles on faces. It was such a rewarding experience for us girls to give back to young children less fortunate than us. - **Alessandra Cutajar and Alice Williams**

Congratulations to the girls who dedicated their time to this service activity: **Alessandra Cutajar, Alice Williams, Isla Goodson, Zara Hart, Ava-Sofia Georgiou, Gia Rinaldi, Lily Silvestri, Milly Entwistle, Grace Ellis, Olivia Cardone, Lucy Beaumont, Diya Anup Kumar and Angelica Alexander.**

Lauren Walker

Coordinator of Duke of Edinburgh Award

Glenelg River Silver Duke of Edinburgh and Stage 1 Outdoor Education Camp

Please enjoy this reflection written by the **Stage 1 Outdoor Education Class**:

In the final week of Term 1, the Year 10 Stage 1 Outdoor Education class and a group of Silver Duke of Edinburgh girls participated in a six-day canoeing expedition along the Glenelg River. Our preparation prior to the trip included planning our meals, the route we would travel and our packing list. We also learned how to be sustainable while packing and on the trip.

We arrived at school at 6.00am on Saturday 1 April before a five-hour drive to our starting point in Victoria. Our days paddling were occupied with beautiful scenery and making new connections with our peers. We paddled an average of 10km each day which took us three to four hours. When getting to camp for the night, we would set up and participate in team games, reading, journalling and swimming. We learned new skills such as how to load a canoe, steer a canoe, remove leaches and how to cook for two people on a Trangia for a week.

During our camp, we were conscious of our environmental footprint. For example, we took measures to ensure our campsites remained in the condition they were found through collecting our rubbish each morning before departure.

This trip inspired many of us to spend more time in the outdoors in the future.

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh camp that eight other girls and we embarked on this year was an experience like none other. Being able to canoe along the Glenelg River with two amazing instructors was an opportunity that we are extremely grateful to have been offered. There were multiple instances where our group came together and connected, such as a night paddle, where we were taken through a guided meditation that allowed us to gather our thoughts. Together, we faced problems head on and with independence, along with help from our two instructors. We paddled as a team while taking instructions from our leaders of the day. We had multiple opportunities for solo reflection time throughout our camp, which made this experience incredibly memorable. The Silver Duke of Edinburgh camp was an insightful, eye opening and, most of all, exciting opportunity, which all girls should grasp. - **Rhea Dinesh and**

Tehreem Zafar







BOARDING

Fashion Parade Preparation

[Renee Coventry, Head of Boarding](#)

Many thanks to our boarding families who have purchased tickets, donated prizes, offered to help set up or model for tonight's Fashion Parade. The support has been overwhelmingly positive.

Once again, all our boarders are involved in some way for the night. While we have most of the girls modelling, there are teams of girls preparing heat packs to sell on the night, and assisting with the raffle tickets, backstage, hair and makeup and sound and lighting.

We had the pleasure of welcoming Rachel Sanderson, former Member for Adelaide and modelling agent, for modelling sessions. By the end of the first session, I could see a sense of confidence and calm in the girls' faces as they had a better understanding of not only what to expect, but how to walk down the runway.

Rachel kindly agreed to attend the final rehearsal and this afternoon for tonight's show. With her professional mentorship, I am confident the girls will be well-prepared to walk the runway.

Activities & Events

Last weekend, several girls enjoyed making chocolates at the Adelaide Chocolate School on Melbourne Street.

National Boarders Week

National Boarders Week is scheduled for **Monday 15 May to Sunday 21 May**. Our boarders are planning to host an assembly for the Middle and Senior School on **Tuesday 16 May** from 8.30am. Thanks go to Boarding Captains, **Evie Basham** and **Milly Shepherd** (Year 12) who have been preparing for this assembly. Other activities will be prepared throughout the week.

Mid North Community Dinner - Tuesday 30 May

For our Mid North families, I would like to highlight the Community Dinner scheduled for **Tuesday 30 May**. I have included the details of the invitation here for your reference.

Please join Mrs Belinda Arnfield, Principal, Ms Renee Coventry, Head of Boarding and Mrs April Ridgway, Director of Communications and Marketing, for an evening of fantastic food and great company as we reconnect with past, current and future families of Wilderness.

Tuesday 30 May 2023

6.30pm

Ragu and Co.

308b Main North Road, Clare

Tickets are \$69 per person, including a shared menu and drinks.

Please RSVP [here](#) by **Monday 22 May**.







SPORT

Cross Country Challenges and Cheers

[Ashleigh Young, Director of Sport and Recreation](#)

Term 2 Winter Sport is underway for sports in IGSSA (Independent Girls School Sport Association), and the girls have settled into their teams well with some strong performances. A reminder that all training and match information is available via Clipboard.

Uniform Reminder

A friendly reminder that each sport has its own specific uniform requirements; these are detailed in the [Sports Handbook](#) located on the Parent Portal.

The Uniform Shop is where you can try on and order your sports uniforms. Opening hours are also available on the Parent Portal.

Interhouse Cross Country

The Interhouse Cross Country was run on Thursday 4 May. The day presented ideal conditions for the girls to enjoy the event at whatever pace they chose. Please see below the results table from the day.

Junior School (Years 3 – 6) Results

Overall Results

1. Cedar
2. Sparaxis
3. Amaryllis
4. Antholiza
5. Carob

Years 3 – 6 Overall Cross Country Champion

- Angelique Whittaker (Year 6)

Year 3 Results

1. Niamh Pudney (7:53.00)
2. Maya Shearn (7:53.50)
3. Aria Pasin (7:54.00)

Year 4 Results

1. Maya Dan (10:09.06)
2. Kyra Shah (10:14.00)
3. Charlotte MacLeod (11:02.41)

Year 5 Results

1. Ginger Tembel (10:29.22)
2. Adeline Wilson (10:34.78)

3. **Serafina Carrocci** (10:41.15)

Year 6 Results

1. **Angelique Whittaker** (9:54.97)
2. **Sage Heywood-Smith** (10:35.34)
3. **Aayla Walker** (10:44.91)

Middle and Senior School Results

Overall Results

1. **Amaryllis**
2. **Antholiza**
3. **Cedar**
4. **Carob**
5. **Sparaxis**

Year 7 Results

1. **Eziije Nwachuku** (9:57.12)
2. **Asha Dan** (9:58.68)
3. **Sacha Feeny** (10:45.97)

Year 8

1. **Margot Tembel** (8:55.34)
2. **Bella Pasin** (9:17.28)
3. **Madison Tait** (10:00.79)

Year 9

1. **Caitlin Hardin** (8:08.91)
2. **Ella Meyer** (9:47.59)
3. **Charlise Green** (9:56.15)

Year 10

1. **Isabel Jackson** (8:28.28)
2. **Imogen Hawker** (8:54.08)
3. **Madeleine Forde** (9:42.15)

Year 11

1. **Sasha Hardin** (8:08.34)
2. **Sophia Tayeb** (9:16.03)
3. **Edwina Marshman** (9:59.56)

Year 12

1. **Lilly Maerschel** (9:08.58)
2. **Matilda Ryan** (10:18.22)
3. **Anelise Roos** (10:22.15)

School Sport SA Year 9/10 Knockout Touch Football

On **Tuesday 9 May**, our Years 9 and 10 touch footballers headed to City Touch for Round 1 of the School Sport SA Statewide School Knockout Touch Competition. Guided by Head Coach, Ms Marnie Eddington, the girls had a successful day by finishing undefeated in all their fixtures. They now progress through to the finals day in Week 6. Well done, girls!

School Sport SA Open Knockout Touch Football – Finals Day

After being undefeated during the first round of the School Sport SA Statewide School Knockout Competition, the Open touch footballers were full of confidence heading into the finals day. The fixture was structured so that teams would play full 40-minute games, starting with a semi-final and followed by a grand final or a third versus fourth playoff. First up, we faced Sacred Heart College in what was a one-sided affair where we came away winners. Turning our attention to Marryatville, who won their way through to the grand final on the other side of the pool, we knew it would be a much tougher test.

The girls flew out the blocks, getting a touchdown in the first thirty seconds of the game and a solid defensive effort from that point onwards saw the girls able to play a counter attacking game. They came away with a 8 to 1 win to be crowned back-to-back state champions. Thank you to Mr Brad Snell and Ms Marnie Eddington for their coaching and support of the touch football program.

SAPSASA Cross Country

Congratulations to the following students who ran at the North Adelaide SAPSASA Cross Country Trials on Thursday 11 May. The girls ran well on the day and represented the School with pride.

10 Years

- Maya Dan (Year 4)
- Kyra Shah (Year 4)
- Adelaide Wilson (Year 5)

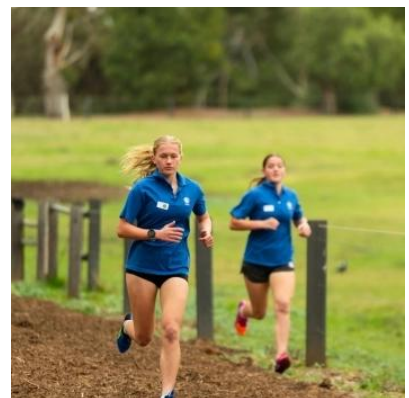
11 Years

- Ginger Tembel (Year 5)
- Serafina Carrocci (Year 5)
- Aayla Walker (Year 6)
- Lara Wu (Year 6)
- Ayda Oddy (Year 6)

12 Years

- Sage Heywood-Smith (Year 6)
- Carla Librandi (Year 6)
- Charlotte Smith (Year 6)
- Lana Huynh (Year 6)









MUSIC

Returning to Generations in Jazz

[Anna Lenartowicz, Head of Music](#)

Generations In Jazz Preview Night Concert

In preparation for the Generations In Jazz competition, our jazz ensembles presented their repertoire in a 'preview' concert to their family and friends on Wednesday 3 May. It was wonderful to once again hold this event—one we hadn't held for four years!

Our Jazz Incorporated, under the direction of Miss Grace Mensforth for the first time, displayed exceptional skill for Division 2, with their choice piece adapted and re-arranged by Grace; a take on Cole Porter's 'Love For Sale' and aptly re-titled 'Ladylike'. This tune showcased the talents of Year 8 students **Zara Armitage** and **Eva Baggio**, and the choral ensemble worked incredibly hard to bring this challenging piece to this year's selection.

Big Band 1 and 2 both presented their three charts at a fantastic standard, and their director's repertoire selection proved highly successful.

Jazz Choir – under the direction of Miss Kara Manansala for the first time – presented their two pieces, and once more, the choice work was arranged by their talented director. Standing in for Year 9 student **Amaia Thomas** (who was absent on REALISE), **Joanna Robinson** (Year 11) did an absolutely amazing job of the vocalese solo.

The night was a lovely celebration of the girls' hard work and it was very well received by all.

Generations In Jazz Final Results 2023

Finally back to 'normal', the 2023 divisions across both bands and choirs were full and fiercely competitive.

Our Big Band 2 were successful in gaining third place in Division 4—out of a total of 17 bands. Adding to their success was our Music SRC Rep, **Eva Barrett** (Year 12), who received a place in the Division 4 Superband on French Horn—a special place created just for her, and a very special achievement overall, with a French horn player having never been acknowledged with this honour!

Jazz Choir placed fifth out of eight, with only 1.5 marks separating them from third place. The top five choirs in this division were all so close that even the adjudicator commented on how hard this division was to call.

Jazz Incorporated placed an incredible seventh out of 28 choirs! They were only two points behind third place. This was a very tough division to be in with this amount of choirs; in 2022, there were only three choirs in our division, so this was a huge change.

Finally, our Big Band 1 played brilliantly, through some very hard rain interrupting their beautiful ballad, 'Jamie'. Nineteen of some of the toughest bands were in this division, and the marks were so close that there was less than half a point separating some schools! It is incredible that our girls are competing at such a high standard and holding their own amongst some of the toughest competition across the country.

I am more than proud of what our girls musically presented at a national level, but I am even more proud to be able to say that our girls represented our school with respect and kindness. I have never enjoyed a Generations In Jazz weekend more than I did in 2023. To my staff and the 41 girls, thank you so much for making this an incredible experience.

Please enjoy this reflection from Year 12 Music SRC Representative, **Eva Barrett**.

On Friday 5 May, 41 students travelled down to Mount Gambier for the Generations in Jazz festival for an adventurous weekend of music-making and collaboration with like-minded musicians. This was certainly apparent by the rowdy sing-along on the bus. We arrived at our accommodation (The Henty), rehearsed our pieces and then travelled into the festival. Here we were treated to the traditional lasagne dinner and a fabulous concert featuring Adam Lopez, Thndo, Jordan Murray and the Generations in Jazz Big Band (with Ms Cassie Pope on Bass Trombone!).

On the Saturday, we headed out early for Big Band 2 to compete first, followed by Jazz Incorporated and Big Band 1. After being soaked through

from the wintry weather, we went back to our accommodation to change into dry clothes and have a brief exploration of Mount Gambier, before travelling back to the festival for Jazz Choir to perform. All students performed amazingly, and their love of music was highly apparent in their performances. That night, we watched an incredible performance by Swedish band, Dirty Loops, where everyone was out of their seats dancing the night away. The night was concluded by the traditional pizza party, where we celebrated our wonderful performances.

By Sunday, everyone was exhausted by the busy weekend, but not before the workshops were held at the festival. This was where students were able to gain valuable insight into jazz music from incredibly talented professional musicians. The festival was concluded by an Awards Ceremony and Generations in Jazz Finale Concert.

This weekend was a highlight for everyone involved, and it could not have occurred without the behind the scenes work of Ms Anna Lenartowicz, Ms Vanessa Abela, Ms Carolyn Tasker and ensemble directors; Ms Cassie Pope, Mr Damien Hurn, Miss Kara Manansala and Miss Grace Mensforth.

AMEB Awards

Last term, we announced the wonderful news that **Sonali Jesudason** (Year 10) had been selected as the recipient of the AMEB Saxophone Grade 6 Prize for 2022. This prestigious prize was awarded at the AMEB SA & NT Awards Ceremony on Thursday 15 April in Elder Hall.

At the time the last newsletter was published, I was unaware that we had another student honoured at this prize ceremony. It gives me great pleasure to announce that **Yilin Ella Gu** (Year 7) was selected to receive the Thelma Dent AMEB Prize for 2022. This prize was awarded based on Yilin Ella's outstanding achievement in 2022, with the value of the prize being \$2,500.

The Prize is awarded on the results of the eighth-grade examinations in piano conducted in South Australia and the Northern Territory by the Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB).

In addition to Yilin Ella being presented with the Thelma Dent Prize, Australian Music Examinations Board SA and NT also extended an invitation for Yilin Ella to do

a performance at the awards ceremony. Yilin Ella played 'Sacro-Monte Op.55 No.5' by J. Turina, a piece that she had presented as part of her Eighth Grade repertoire.

Receiving this award is an outstanding achievement for any pianist, but as Yilin Ella is only in Year 7, this achievement is all the more outstanding. We look forward to hearing her play in an upcoming school assembly and acknowledging her award to our school community.

Well done, Ella.

Jazz at The Gov

For one night only, enjoy listening to Wilderness School's advanced music ensembles in concert with acclaimed well known Jazz musician, Ross Irwin. Please [view the poster](#) and go to [TryBooking](#) to book your tickets.









CAREERS CORNER

Careers Corner

Caroline Palmer, Careers Counsellor

Study in the UK or USA: Information Session at Wilderness

Tuesday 23 May

1.05pm - 1.50pm

M7

Andrew Kozyra, experienced Australian Careers Advisor and an expert on overseas applications (US and UK), will be at Wilderness on **Tuesday 23 May** to present on international university pathways and summer school opportunities (in particular Oxford Royale, which he consults to).

Oxford Royale is the most experienced summer school in the UK. They are the only summer school at Oxbridge, staying in the same accommodation as full-time university students. Their campuses in the UK are Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial; campuses in the USA are Yale and UC Berkeley (scholarships available). There are over a dozen courses to choose from. Courses are catered for the 13 – 15-year-old and the 16 – 18-year-old categories, and include: [Law and Politics](#), [Medicine](#), [Engineering and Technology](#) and [Mathematics](#).

Helpful Links:

- [Oxford Royale Summer School](#) video, which shows all locations and gives a great idea of the experience

- [Oxford Experience](#) video, including testimonials
- [Great Debate](#) video from 2016, which shows what this special event is about
- From this year, Oxford Royale will institute a special gala dinner midway through the session (therefore, this is not profiled on their website yet). The 13 – 15-year-olds will be in the [Natural History Museum](#), the 16 – 18 year olds will be in [The Ashmolean](#).

Upcoming Events at The University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus

Wednesday 21 June: Energy, Mining and Resources Outreach Program – Year 11 and 12 Information Night

Wednesday 27 September: Year 9 and 10 Campus Experience Day

Raymond McMillan Civil Engineering Scholarship

The Raymond McMillan Civil Engineering Scholarship has been established to support undergraduate students undertaking a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Civil) program, including associated double or combined degrees, at the University of Adelaide. Raymond McMillan received a scholarship to attend the University of Adelaide and graduated with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering in 1949. McMillan Constructions Pty Ltd, the company Raymond founded, would like to honour his memory, and provide a similar opportunity for South Australian students to attend university, supporting and retaining top talent in the state. [Click here for more information](#).

University of New England (UNE) Early Entry

Year 12 students can apply for a guaranteed UNE early entry offer. Early entry relies on your daughter's school's assessment of her attributes and abilities; her ability to work and learn independently, and her overall potential for academic success. Based on the School's recommendation, they may guarantee you an offer to start in 2024. The closing date is **Friday 15 September 2023**. You can search through UNE undergraduate courses [here](#) and your daughter can [apply now](#).

University of Sydney Webinar Wednesdays

[Find out more here](#).

RMIT Open Day 2023

[Register here](#) for the City and Brunswick Open Days on **Sunday 13 August**.

Gap Years

What is a gap year?

A gap year is a period of time that marks the transition from one major life stage to the next, such as the year after finishing school, but before knuckling down on the next commitment.

How long are they?

Just because they are called a 'gap year' doesn't mean they have to last that long, or that they cannot last longer. Your daughter might want to work and save for six months before starting a course at mid-year intake, or she might find her fit in another country and decide to stay forever!

What are the benefits?

The most exciting thing about a gap year is that you don't know all the wonderful surprises in store. That is not to say it is always going to be fun and easy—many experiences your daughter faces during her gap year will challenge her, but that's half the reason for taking them. A change of scene, fun and friends are key benefits of taking a gap year, but most of all, they produce personal growth that cannot be matched any other way.

What happens after?

Some students worry that taking a gap year will put them behind their peers or stop them from going onto further study. However, recent [Australian research](#) found that is not true. The results showed that students who took a gap year were just as likely to complete their degree compared to students who went straight to university.

Back-up Plan

It is recommended that students still apply for University/TAFE and defer during their gap year. Deferring means the university will hold a place in the course for her until the following year. However, universities have different rules about which courses can and cannot be deferred, and for how long (usually 6, 12 or 24 months), so research the rules governing deferral.

4 Reasons to Take a Gap Year

1. **Discover yourself:** Gap years are a great time for your daughter to reconnect to who she is and what she wants in life. Through her experiences, she will develop confidence, perspective and open-mindedness. By stepping out of her comfort zone, she will gain a deeper understanding of herself and her values, discover new areas

of interest and maybe even completely reinvent herself!

2. **Avoid Burnout:** After she has given it her all in Year 12, going straight into further study could lead to academic burnout. Taking a gap year can help your daughter maintain or rediscover her enjoyment of learning as it is a chance to do something different and reset, so that she returns to her studies refreshed and energised.
3. **Appreciate Education:** Life experiences gained during a gap year, such as travel and work, can lead you to a deeper appreciation for education, meaning your daughter can start the new academic year with a more mature and focused mindset. She could even spend her time delving deeper into her interests and hobbies to enrich her future academic pursuits.
4. **Gain Clarity:** During her gap year, she will gain clarity on her interests and goals. It is hard to know exactly what you want to do next when you have been at school all your life, so taking time to explore her options and gain real-world experiences can help your daughter make more informed choices about the direction she wants to take.

Gap Year Options

There are so many ways to spend a gap year! Popular options include travelling, volunteering, doing a short course or working, but most people combine these activities to create their own gap year adventure. The most important thing is to plan the time in advance so that your daughter does not accidentally waste three months just trying to get organised.

1. **Volunteer:** A volunteering gap year is a rewarding experience that fosters empathy and social responsibility. Not only will she be helping others by contributing to a worthwhile cause, she will also be helping herself to grow and learn. It is best to organise the experience through a reputable organisation to ensure the interests of the people she is helping and her own best interests are taken care of.
2. **Travel:** Travelling is an incredible way to learn about different cultures, and explore the world. She will step outside her comfort zone, challenge herself and make amazing memories. She could go backpacking, go on a working holiday or volunteer. She can organise any of these options herself or sign up for an organised gap year travel program. Either option requires careful research and planning for budget and safety.

3. **Work:** Working for a gap year will give her valuable experience, new skills and an opportunity to earn and save money. She will be able to fund her next move, become independent from her parents or just have a change of pace from studying. Working as a gap year can also give more insight into an industry or career she may like to pursue. She could do a traineeship and earn a qualification as well as a wage. If she wants to work overseas, she will need to organise a visa.
4. **Study:** Is she not ready to commit to a three-year uni course? Or, does she have a passion she would like to devote herself to? If so, a non-accredited short course or a 6-12 month TAFE course are excellent ways to learn during a gap year. She will be able to combine her course with part-time work and have new knowledge, skills and a clearer idea of what she wants to do next.

Planning A Gap Year

Planning a gap year well means she will make the most of resources and avoid wasting time and money, or missing opportunities.

1. **Set Intentions:** Check out the [Year 13 Definitive Gap Year Guide](#) for all the info she needs to start planning the gap year of a lifetime! She should have a clear idea of the purpose and goals for her gap year; reflect on, and note some answers to, these questions, then revisit them before booking or paying deposits in case her priorities have changed.
 - What do I want from my experience?
 - How do I want the year to pan out?
 - What will success look and feel like?
 - How much money will I need and how will I support myself?
 - Who has done something similar that I can learn from?
 - What will I do if it doesn't go to plan?
2. **Research Programs:** Gap year programs take a lot of the guesswork out of planning an experience. Make sure she chooses an accredited program that offers good support services and gives the chance to connect with others who have done the program before deciding. A great place to start is the School's careers website, or visit the [Year 13 Gap Years and Travel](#) page for listings by experiences or by providers.

3. **Save and Budget:** She should plan her finances carefully and consider all possible expenses such as vaccinations (if she is travelling), transport, accommodation, food, activities, insurance and an emergency fund. Create a realistic budget she can stick to so she avoids running out of money.
4. **Prepare the Practicalities:** If she is travelling overseas, there will be a lot of documentation to organise— a passport, visas, proof of vaccinations and an itinerary, just to start. She will also need to sort out a bank account, local currency and a sim card. These things take time, so start months in advance.
5. **Reflect and Document:** Decide how she will document the journey so she can remember and share her experiences.

A Gap Year in the ADF

The ADF Gap Year program gives you the chance to experience an exciting and rewarding 12-month role in the Navy, Army or Air Force. It is a unique opportunity to get a feel for a career in the ADF without committing for longer.

Benefits

- Pays a good salary plus generous superannuation
- Teaches practical and leadership skills
- Provides a healthy and varied lifestyle
- Offers opportunities to travel in Australia
- Encourages fitness and participation in sports
- Fosters teamwork and lifelong friendships.

Other financial benefits include free medical and dental care, subsidised food and accommodation and free access to sport and fitness facilities.

Roles

The jobs vary, but tend to be in:

- Combat roles

- Administration
- Airbase protection
- Logistics and transport
- General maritime duties.

Applications

- Your daughter must be an Australian citizen
- She can apply at 17, but must be 18 years old to begin
- She must have completed Year 12 (required passes vary by job).

Visit the [ADF Gap Year website](#) to view jobs, read FAQs and register her interest to spend an exciting 12 months in the Navy, Army or Air Force, where she will get paid for meaningful work while travelling Australia, gaining skills and making lifelong friends.



TILE TAKEOVER

A Focus on Design, Technology and Engineering

[Liam Sloan, Teacher of Technology and Enterprise](#)

Demand for STEM, Especially for Women

The demand for students leaving school with STEM skills has never been higher. South Australia is continuing to grow and attract global companies in the STEM fields – particularly space, robotics and engineering – and we are constantly hearing about the opportunities that exist for students who are interested in these fields. Women are also massively underrepresented in the fields of STEM, with approximate 16% making up the workforce. This imbalance identifies the need for girls to be educated with the knowledge and skills required to be leaders in the field of STEM.

Here, we take a quick look at how Wilderness is preparing students for success.

Increase in Technologies in Three Years

At the beginning of 2021, the Technology and Enterprise faculty underwent a restructuring, with the focus on creating a curriculum that inspired the next generation of engineers. Since then, we have seen an increase in the number of girls who are choosing Technology and Enterprise courses, as well as a desire to study at a higher level. This year has seen the introduction of our first Stage 2 Design, Technology and Engineering (DTE) course – Industry and Entrepreneurial Solutions. The course is

a combination of seven Year 11 students and 11 Year 12 students. Overall, we have seen an increase from 282 students studying Technology courses in 2020, to 385 students in 2023.

The pathways that are now offered to students can be [viewed here](#).

Immersive Technology

There have recently been several studies and reports generated about the use of immersive technologies and their ability to increase engagement and student focus. This technology has existed at Wilderness for a few years, with students using basic VR headsets to plan and view virtual and augmented reality projects. This year, the faculty has invested in a set of 20 Oculus Quest headsets. The benefit of these, over our previous models, is students can now create in a virtual world, not just on their laptop. These headsets are currently being used by the Stage 1 and Stage 2 DTE students; however, they will also be implemented specifically through the Year 9 Digital Futures program and Stage 1 Digital Communications. These headsets will also become available for other faculties looking to implement immersive technologies into their programs. The benefit of the Oculus Quest headsets is that we can have 20 students creating and engaging with immersive technologies all at one time. This will allow our students to be more productive when compared to smaller immersive setups currently being installed at other schools.

Having access to this technology is allowing our students to investigate more emerging technologies, such as the Metaverse. One of our Stage 2 students is currently investigating the role which architecture can play in the Metaverse. Her entrepreneurial solution is to create housed designs that can be sold as NFTs (non-fungible tokens) for people to deploy within their chosen Metaverse. We certainly look forward to seeing her completed project.

