

Life in the Wilderness

Term 3 Issue #3 | Friday 20 September, 2024



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A Royal Recognition

Belinda Arnfield

This year has been a year of looking back, and celebrating our history, but also one of looking forward to the coming years and how we can guarantee an exceptional future of learning for our girls today and for the many Wildy girls to come.

Our values in particular have endured over time. At the core, the relationships that we share with each other, but also courage, capability, and independence for our girls so that they can confidently create their own paths and enrich their world and the people around them. We feel so lucky to be able to continue a legacy of enabling personal success and encouraging responsible leadership for our girls.

We are honoured to share the exciting news that Wilderness School will be globally recognised by His Majesty The King in his new role as Head of the Commonwealth. Our School has been included as a global leader in education in a commemorative album launching next month, celebrating individuals and organisations who have contributed to the success of the Commonwealth as it marks its 75th anniversary. 400,000 copies will be distributed worldwide.

In a 2-page article, Wilderness is celebrated for its heritage of innovation, and for living

out our mission to enable each girl to the best she can be throughout her life. The book will be officially launched in October 2024 at Westminster Abbey.

Another example of our strong culture is the 140th Gala that took place last weekend. This event was a great success, bringing together our community as current families joined old scholars and past parents for a night to remember. Thank you to all those who attended to celebrate such an incredible milestone for the School.

Term 4 is an incredibly exciting time as we make our way toward the end of the year. This means events and emotions to navigate, both at school and at home. I hope that you all enjoy a restful and reflective break in preparation for the final part of what has been a wonderful year of achievements.

Belinda Arnfield

Principal



EARLY LEARNING

Father's Day Breakfast & Collaborative Artwork

[Rebecca Williamson](#)

Father's Day Breakfast

On Tuesday, 3rd September, we were delighted to welcome our Wilderness ELC dads and special guests into the ELC for our annual Father's Day Breakfast. This event holds special meaning for two reasons. Firstly, we have such wonderful dads, and it is important to help the girls celebrate their love and gratitude for them. We know that the keepsakes the girls make are cherished and are often proudly displayed in homes and offices. Secondly, building a strong sense of community within our ELC is something we deeply value. Watching dads and daughters share in these moments with other families is both rewarding and heartwarming.

At Wilderness ELC, we aim to create a space that feels like home, where families are warmly welcomed and meaningful connections grow. This breakfast celebrates the special bonds between our girls and their dads; while also reflecting the close-knit community we nurture every day.

Finally, these events require an enormous amount of thought, preparation, and commitment from our educational team. For that, I would like to say a special 'thank you'.

Collaborative Artwork

We were absolutely thrilled that our collaborative ELC artwork, led by resident artist and co-educator Tommie Williams, was a resounding success at the recent Wilderness Gala

silent auction. We are delighted to know that it will now be treasured in the home of one of our Wildy Mamie families. This piece was a true collective effort, with every one of our girls involved in a thoughtful, multi-step process, resulting in an extraordinary outcome. Tommie has already begun working with the girls on another exciting project, which will be entered into the Walkerville Art Show.

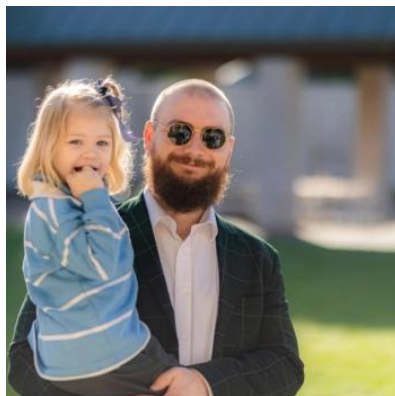
These creative projects highlight the importance of collaboration and expression, which are key elements of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF). The process encourages the girls to explore ideas, communicate through artistic mediums, and develop confidence in their abilities. While Tommie's leadership and vision inspire these projects, they are supported wholeheartedly by our dedicated ELC team, fostering an environment where creativity and teamwork flourish. Through these experiences, the girls not only produce beautiful works of art, but also develop critical skills such as problem-solving, cooperation, and independent thinking, all of which align with our commitment to nurturing holistic development.

School Holidays

Our last day of term is Friday 27 September, and we return on Monday 14 October. We hope you have a wonderful holiday, and we look forward to a busy Term 4 with you. Key dates for next term will be sent out via Seesaw.

Rebecca Williamson

Director of Early Years











JUNIOR SCHOOL

Celebrating Junior School Adventures: A Warm Welcome Back and Memorable Educational Trips

[Liz McCarthy](#)

What a delight it has been to return to Wilderness and our Junior School this week after my time away. An enormous thank you to Gina Kadis for her care and commitment as Head of Junior School throughout Terms 2 and 3. Ably supported by the Junior School leadership, teaching and professional support team, Gina ensured a smooth and connected transition for our girls and families and we wish her all the very best as she concludes her time with us.

Following on from our Year 6 Canberra Educational Tour (see below) a number of weeks ago, our Year 5 girls have spent this past week on their Ballarat Educational Tour. Complementing their unit of learning on the Gold Rush, the girls flew to Melbourne Monday morning before catching a bus to Ballarat. Here they stayed at Sovereign Hill, engaging in the Costume School, an immersive museum experience where they were able to experience first-hand the day to day lives of school children in this era, wearing the same types as clothing they would have worn and undertaking the same school lessons. The girls then caught a bus back to Melbourne on Thursday morning and visited ACMI (Australian Centre for the Moving Image), where they enjoyed the many exhibitions relating to animation, film and television in Australian history. I would like to thank the staff team attending the Educational Tour with the Year 5 cohort for not only their care for and of the girls during this week, but for their significant preparation and planning in

the months leading up to it. These out of the classroom learning opportunities are invaluable for so many reasons and without the commitment of staff, they would not be possible. We will be sure to include reflections from the Year 5 students about their time in Ballarat and Melbourne in our next edition of Life in the Wilderness.

Before the end of term, Mrs Ruth Shrimpton will be sharing information relating to colour requirements for the girls to wear for the Christmas Concert. While this seems very far away, we felt it may be helpful for families to have this before the break and with plenty of time. Please look out for this information next week.

As Term 3 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a wonderful upcoming break. With the warmer weather starting to make its presence felt, it is always a term break that feels both timely and optimistic. I look forward to welcoming you back at the commencement of what is always a very busy Term 4.

Year 6 Canberra Trip

The Year 6 group recently undertook an educational tour of the national capital, Canberra. We had the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs focusing on Australia's history, culture, heritage, and democracy.

Learning about our nation's capital was an experience we will all remember. It was fun and engaging to learn about our government system and more about Canberra. However, democracy wasn't the only focus—the fun and history of our capital played a big role in our enjoyment.

The Australian Institute of Sport was a great place to visit. We got to see the pool where Olympians train. We also saw gymnasts and volleyball players in action. But the best part was trying out sports for ourselves.

"I liked that we got to see all the different training spaces of the athletes at the Australian Institute of Sport." – Chloe Broster

One of the best parts of camp was Questacon. We learnt so many amazing things there and got to experience an earthquake of 5.8 magnitude. But the highlight of Questacon had to be the drop, which was a sensational experience.

"Coursing through all the rooms was really exciting, especially learning about science!" – Sharanya Reddy

Another significant place we visited in Canberra was the Australian War Memorial. Here, we learnt about the courage and sacrifices made by Australian soldiers and their families, who fought for their nation. While at the War Memorial, all Year 6 students contributed to a special wreath-laying ceremony. Our SRC girls laid the wreath and read a passage dedicated to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We all shared a minute of silence to commemorate and respect those who fought in the war.

"I loved the visual dioramas of the scenes of the war at the Australian War Memorial!" –

Sophia Lehman

A highlight of our trip was visiting Parliament House, where many famous politicians have held office. Seeing the portraits of our past leaders in Parliament was inspiring for all of us, not just in terms of leadership in Parliament but also as leaders in the Junior School.

“Learning about the House of Representatives in Parliament House was really fun because we got to do a role play!” – Alice Gao

Government House was also an important tour. We first met a soldier who answered all our questions about the different medallions that can be achieved. Unfortunately, we didn’t see the current Governor-General, but that didn’t stop us from reflecting on the role of the Governor-General and the significance of Government House.

“Talking to the soldier and him showing us the different types of awards was really fun and interesting!” – Addy Wilson

The Royal Australian Mint was another fascinating stop, where we saw Australia’s sole producer of coins. Watching the millions of coins being made in the factory fascinated the entire year level. And we can’t forget the best part—the gift shop! We were able to mint our own unique coins, which aren’t being released to the public!

“At the Royal Australian Mint, I learnt how coins that we use every day are made.” – Hannah Fang

Thank you to the staff for the amazing experience, one we will all never forget!

Skyler Luong, Angelina Georgiou and Honey Patel

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding to Wilderness in the amount of \$90.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Liz McCarthy

Head of Junior School





MIDDLE SCHOOL

Year 8 Camp, Tournament of Minds and More!

[Rhianon Giles](#)

Year 8 Camp

Safe travels to the Year 8 students heading to the Grampians on Sunday morning. They have spent time this week practicing pitching their tents and a number of other skills they will need when they arrive at Rose's Gap. We know they will have an amazing time and look forward to sharing pictures in the next edition of Life in the Wilderness.

Uniform Reminders

Students are able to wear either summer or winter uniform in the last two weeks of this term and in the first two weeks of next term. If students wear summer uniform, then they will also need to wear the summer hat to and from school.

Tournament of Minds

Two teams competed at the recent Tournament of Minds competition held at Adelaide High. The Social Sciences Team comprising of Ava Cabot, Bella Nguyen, Addison Raeside, Bonnie Cabot, Summer Ha, Jade Sammut and Pranavi Meruga were truly outstanding in their preparation and performance. Seraphina Sun, Hannah Elsbury Sun, Georgia Gibson, Ashlee Basnayake, Gabby Sun, Zoe Crowther and Ella Wu were members of the Language and Literature Team who won on the day. These girls are now planning to compete at the International Final held in Sydney at the end of October.

Congratulations to all girls and thank you to Miss Alison Short who has worked with the girls.

Subs in Schools

The interstate competition, a place of innovation and creativity, had finally arrived at the Royal Adelaide Show. Water Trials, Presentations and the Judging Ceremony were all events we were anticipating. The objective was to construct an underwater ROV to manoeuvre in the water, picking up, pushing and moving within different objects. While in Presentations, we were encouraged to write scripts as well as create a slideshow presentation for a panel of judges. The Awards Ceremony concluded on the last day of competition, announcing the top three finishers in each category.

Water Trials brought about a series of challenges for students, having to use critical thinking skills to quickly develop a solution when it came. Despite these complications, all the teams were able to persevere and scored outstanding results in the first trial, and placing strong for the second.

The next day was for the CAD, Trade Display and team presentations. Scripts were printed and all the teams delivered confident and well-prepared presentations. We were able to highlight our journey throughout the year, and develop our public speaking abilities. As well as the presentations, we had the opportunity to interact with the public and advertise our trade display booths and merchandise items. This was an invigorating experience, being able to talk to members of the public and discussing Subs in Schools.

The final note of the competition was the Awards Ceremony. As they announced the winners in the Development Class, there was excitement all around as first, second and third place were all represented by Wilderness teams. Third place was KoiDra-24, second place was Cetus, and first place was Nexus-X1. Awards won included, Best Trade Display, Best Engineering, Best Marketing, Best Graphic Design and several others.

The overall experience taught us several life skills to use more commonly in society and potentially the workplace. Doing this in teams only made it more fun and enjoyable as a whole. We are all so grateful for the help of our teachers who supported us throughout and the Subs in Schools volunteers and organisers for the event.

Nora Tariq

Liliana Tsonis gave this thank you to the organisers on the day winners were announced:

"On behalf of all the students participating in this year's SUBS in Schools competition, I'd like to extend a big thank you to the amazing staff, judges, and volunteers who have made this event possible. We know that organizing an event like this takes a lot of effort, and we truly appreciate the time and energy all the staff have put into ensuring everything ran smoothly. To our judges, thank you for your time and thoughtful feedback. Your insights have been so important in helping us learn and grow throughout this experience. A special thanks also goes out to all the volunteers who have worked behind the scenes to make this event a success. Your support has not gone unnoticed, and we are incredibly grateful. Once again, thank you to everyone involved in this year's SUBS in Schools

competition. It's been an unforgettable experience, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Mission to Mars

On the 29th of August, our Year 9 Robotics and Space class embarked on an exciting excursion to Hamilton Secondary College, home of the Mike Roach Space Education Centre. Students had the unique opportunity to participate in the Mission to Mars program, an immersive experience that simulates the challenges of exploring the Martian surface. Equipped with spacesuits, they worked in teams as astronauts and scientists, solving real-world problems and gathering data within the specially designed Martian crater landscape.

After the Mars simulation, the students enjoyed a session in Hamilton's state-of-the-art planetarium. This experience deepened their understanding of space exploration and the vastness of our universe, leaving them inspired to continue their journey in STEM learning.

A special thanks to Mr Tobia Trentin and Mr David Pyman for accompanying the girls and making this unforgettable experience possible.

It was a day full of discovery, innovation, and teamwork, providing our students with hands-on experiences that link classroom learning to real-world applications in the space industry.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to Fleur Croser who has been selected in the 2024 SA Heat Touch Football U16 Girls National Youth Championship travelling team to play in September and the School Sport SA 15 Years and Under Girls Touch Football team which will compete in Brisbane in October. We look forward to hearing the results of these competitions and wish Fleur all the very best.

Congratulations to the Mr Jackson's Middle A soccer team who came away with premiership win with the impressive 7-0 score line. An outstanding win girls!

Jessica Mah presented a passionate speech at the Legacy Junior Public Speaking State Final and the standard of speakers was outstanding. She spoke about the need for us to challenge the norms which perpetrate injustice; because social justice isn't just a women's issue, it's everyone's issue. Jessica also gave an impromptu speech about 'the impact of social media' and focused on the addictive nature of social media and it's harmful effects to both the physical and mental health of children and teens. Thank you to Louise Borgo for her support of Sarah at the event and for her work with the Public Speaking girls.

Rhiannon Giles

Head of Middle School







SENIOR SCHOOL

Celebrating a Vibrant Term 3: Highlights of Student Events, Achievements, and Wellbeing Initiatives

[Kate Hanson](#)

As Term 3 starts coming to a close, we have been reflecting on the range of events that the girls have participated in this term. Amongst the assignments, tests and academic events, there has been the Year 11 Retreat, Intercol, SRC elections, Athletics Carnival, Year 12 House lunches, Course Selections and many other events.

SRC Voting was recently held, with the announcements made on the running track during Week 7. Our congratulations to all the girls who were awarded positions, these students will be officially welcomed as the 2025 SRC Representatives at the SRC Changeover Assembly in Term 4. We welcomed old scholars Amolika Bhatia and Eliza Corbin (2022) to speak about their experience as school leaders at this week's SRC strategic planning day.

During September the girls have participated in a range of events about their health and wellbeing. In Week 8 the Year 10s heard from the Pelvic Pain Foundation on Periods, Pain and Endometriosis Education. Our SRC hosted a range of activities for RUOK? Day, including beading, yoga, games and a bake sale. In Week 10, The Year 11s will be attending Street Smart High, an initiative of the RAA. This event is about road safety and creating safer, smarter drivers.

Our Year 12s are busy finishing assignments in preparation for the end of term. The

majority of assignments are due before the school holidays, as the holidays are required for examination preparation. The SACE Practice exams have been this week, with girls able to access the SACE platforms to ensure they are familiar with the software required.

In our final week of Term 3, the Year 10s will be participating in a Pathways experience, organised through the Careers Office. The girls will be attending various industry sites, along with visiting the universities. This week is also a time for the girls to complete their work experience.

| ROLE | STUDENT NAME |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| President | Niya Singhal |
| Vice President | Miranda Wells |
| Secretary | Olivia Lai |
| Amaryllis House Captains | Lucy Beaumont Zara Hart |
| Antholiza House Captains | Isabella Browning Imogen Sutton |
| Carob House Captains | Lily Erbe Yijie Lu |
| Cedar House Captains | Milly Entwistle Indie Heywood-Smith |
| Sparaxis House Captains | Grace Ellis Yana Shah |
| Boarding House Captains | Annabel Sanders Ella Scholz |
| Careers Representative | Ava-Sofia Georgiou |
| Round Square Representative | Rhea Dinesh |
| Digital Technology Representative | Emily Nguyen |
| International Representative | Sindy Yang |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Library Representative | Ella Johnson |
| Media and Magazine Representative | Grace Kong |
| Music Representative | Sonali Jesudason |
| Sports Representative | Imogen Hawker |
| Student Foundation Representative | Madison Chau |
| Year 12 Representative | Alessandra Cutajar |

Reminder to Year 12 Parents/□Guardians: Valedictory Dinner 2024- TICKETS CLOSE TONIGHT

PLEASE NOTE: Ticket sales for Valedictory Dinner 2024 close tonight.

Date: Friday, 25 October

Time: 6:00 PM

Venue: Adelaide Oval, William Magarey Room

Three tickets have been allocated to each family, for each student and her two chosen adults. All tickets are at a cost of \$195 per person. Please note siblings are not invited to attend.

Please book your tickets [here](#).

We look forward to celebrating this special occasion with you and recognising your daughter's incredible achievements.

Kate Hanson

Head of Senior School







BOARDING

Embracing Change and Celebrating Community: A Term of Milestones for Our Boarders

[Carolyn Matthews](#)

Term 3 is reaching its conclusion, and it has gone by in a flash. From a personal perspective, it has been wonderful coming to South Australia and settling into life here and the very welcoming Wilderness community. Our Year 12's have also been commenting on just how quickly, not only the term has gone but the whole year. They are very aware that they are now well and truly completing all their 'last times'. The whole house is looking forward to celebrating with them on their return, next term, and our new House Captains, Annabel and Ella are hard at work planning these events.

The last two weeks have seen lots of winter sport wrap up for the boarders and many girls have enjoyed successful seasons, not only, in a premiership sense, but also on a personal best level. Boarders have competed in a range of activities from football and soccer to equestrian and dance and more! We now turn our attention to the summer season of sport, with our rowers already hard at work, with early mornings and after school training sessions. A large number of boarders and some of our boarding staff took part in the City to Bay run last weekend. This is great to see and we may formalise this next year, by entering a boarding team.

I am very pleased to report that we have almost finalised all costings for the Boarders Fashion Parade, held in week 3 and we will have raised around \$14,000 which is

a remarkable event for not only the boarding community but the whole school community. It is extraordinary to think that the night raises funds to support the Bhadure School, its students, some of whom are boarders, across the world in far flung Nepal! All boarders should be very proud of their individual efforts in supporting the night and it highlights the strong sense of community which exists in the boarding house at Wildy.

The last two weeks of term are very busy with our Boarders Birthday night on the Monday of week 10 which celebrates everyone who has had a birthday over the term. The theme for the night is Bingo, apparently, we should be dressing up as old people, shouldn't be too hard for some of us, like me!! Room changes for next term will take place this week and the final week is an exciting one for Year 10's as they undertake a week of work experience and further study related activities.

I trust everyone has a relaxing break and enjoy having your daughter's home for a well earned rest. We look forward to seeing lots of happy faces returning after the break ready to tackle a jam packed, eight week Term 4.

Carolyn Matthews

Head of Boarding



SPORT

Athletics Carnival and IGSSA Grand Finals

[Jonathon Koutsikas](#)

Middle/ Senior Athletics Carnival

On Friday 6 September we held our annual Middle/Senior School Athletics Carnival at the SA Athletics Stadium.

It is always fantastic to see our girls competing for their houses with pride and spirit. It's always a highlight to see the colours, chants and friendly competition.

Despite the weather difficulties, the girls didn't let it dampen their day and continued with a minimum of fuss and spirits remained high.

Due to the weather and safety concerns we had to reschedule the hurdles events. This was completed last Friday back at the SA Athletics Stadium.

With this reschedule we will be having our Carnival Presentation Assembly at the end of term Assembly Monday 23 at 8:30am in the Gym.

After this assembly I will be able to share all results with our school community.

The overall winner announced on the day was Antholiza House. The overall scores were:

| | | |
|---|-----|------|
| 1 | ANT | 8622 |
| 2 | AMA | 6834 |

| | | |
|---|-----|------|
| 3 | CED | 5935 |
| 4 | CAR | 5286 |
| 5 | SPA | 3643 |

Thank you must go to Deb Jarrett and Derek Woodcock for their work behind the scenes in making the day such a success. I would also like to thank all the staff who assisted with many tasks on the day. Lastly, I want to thank the girls for their amazing spirit during the day in tricky conditions.

We now turn our attention to the IGSSA Athletics Carnival in week 10. The results from our carnival will determine selection for this event.

Wilderness IGSSA Grand Finals

In the final round of IGSSA Grand Finals we saw our Division 1 and Middle A soccer teams compete in Grand Finals against Immanuel and Seymour respectively.

We also saw our Badminton A and B1 teams compete against Pembroke in the Badminton Grand Finals.

Unfortunately, our badminton teams put up a brave fight but were eventually defeated by a very strong Pembroke outfit. The girls and coaches performed extremely well all season and should be congratulated. Thank you to Erin Stone (Badminton Coordinator) and Chris Thirlwell (Head Coach) for their outstanding efforts during the season.

Our two soccer teams had a different ending coming away winners with Mr Trentin's Div 1 team winning 4-2 for the 5th consecutive season.

Mr Jackson's Middle A team came away with a 7-0 victory to take the Middle A premiership for the first time in 4 years.

Thank you to Shane Hill (Soccer Coordinator) and all the coaches for supporting these girls and their special achievement.

Congratulations

Fleur Croser has been selected in the School Sport SA 15 years and under State Touch Rugby Team. She will be competing in Brisbane in late October.

Fleur will also be competing at the Touch National in Week 10 along with other fellow Wilderness Senior A players, Jas Thirlwell and Bella Browning. We wish them the best of luck.

Year 4 student Aria was named Junior State Champion in Rhythmic Gymnastics on Friday 30 August 2024 at the Adelaide 36'ers Arena. Aria came first in all apparatus, first overall individual and was part of the first group. Aria has been training for 6 years (since she was 2) and is the youngest member of the South Australian High Performance team.

Jonathon Koutsikas
Director of Sport and Recreation







MUSIC

Annual Showcase of Music!

Paige York

On Wednesday the 4th of September, the Annual Showcase was held at the Adelaide Town Hall. This year's theme was, 140 Years in Harmony, honouring the rich history of Wilderness Music Department. The evening brought together an incredible program of music, as well as showcasing musicians from across generations, including the debut performance of the Old Scholars Big Band, which featured Year 12 students, past graduates, and staff.

The evening was divided into two halves. The first half showcased Wilderness' band and string ensembles, spanning from the junior school to year 12, and concluded with a triumphant finale of Stevie Wonder's Isn't She Lovely. The stage overflowed with students, teachers and old scholars, all performing together in a harmonious first half finale. The second half highlighted the sensational choirs, celebrating their remarkable achievements throughout the year. A compilation of photographs and video footage offered a glimpse into the lasting influence of the Wilderness School Music Department over the past 140 years. The culmination of the evening was the extraordinary choral finale, Blessed and Happy, capping off an incredible evening.

It was a truly memorable concert that left the audience inspired and proud of Wilderness' ongoing musical legacy.

Paige York

Acting Ensemble Coordinator





GLOBAL LEARNING

International Opportunities for 2025 and More!

[Stephanie Andrews](#)

International Opportunities for 2025 Membership of the Round Square network of schools gives us access to many opportunities for our students to develop their understanding of the Round Square IDEALS:

Intercultural Understanding

Democracy

Environmental Stewardship

Adventure

Leadership

Service

These experiences enable our students to develop into young women with a global outlook, who are empowered to lead into the future.

We are pleased to announce that we are looking into several opportunities for International Experiences for 2025 in addition to the 2025 China Tour and Year 10 International Exchanges. All these experiences will involve working with other students from Round Square schools around the world and include:

- Model United Nations in Seoul, 5-10 February 2025, open to students in Years 10-12,

2025

- The Big Baraza in Oxford, 11-18 April 2025, open to students in Years 10-12 (turning 15-18 years old in 2025).
- Round Square International Conference, Dubai, September 2025, open to students in Years 10-12 (must be turning 16-18 years old in 2025)

Further information will be sent via email in the near future.

Exchanges

Tam, Sophie and Lainie are now 2 weeks into their exchanges and are having amazing experiences.

Lily Erbe (Year 11) has been hosting Jemma Boulton from Bridge House School in Cape Town for the last couple of weeks. Last year Lily was fortunate to spend time with Jemma and her family as she attended Bridge House on exchange. It has been a wonderful opportunity for Lily and Jemma to reconnect and continue to develop these relationships.

Jemma Boulton Exchange Reflections so far

I had never imagined a sense of home 10,100 km away from my home.

I arrived in Australia for the first time on the 30th of September, after 26 hours of travel. I was welcomed by the Erbe family with big smiles and hugs. The wholesome reunion with my exchange partner Lily Erbe was long-awaited.

On my first day of school, I felt welcomed by the school's sisterhood. The excitement of meeting new people outweighed any slight nervousness. Being able to come to an all-girls school proposed diverse aspects of learning compared to back home where I attend Bridge House, a co-ed school. Withholding many differences yet similarities, equipping me with a different point of view when it comes to learning. Both schools embody similar values due to them being a part of the Round Square program, allowing students to go on exchange through the Round Square exchange program.

In my first two weeks I have already had some truly memorable Aussie experiences such as the Adelaide Royal Show, cuddling a koala, patting a kangaroo, watching a footy final, wildy sports day, having vegemite on toast, and being featured on 7 News. These experiences have led me to build meaningful friendships and bonds. Which makes me so excited for the 4 weeks to come.

Round Square Week

In week 8 we held our RS Week during which we participated in activities related to the IDEALS (Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership, Service).

Our Ambassadors showed their leadership through preparing a range of activities for students including a bake sale, a lunchtime quiz, games and dodgeball at lunch. We also heard from students who had been involved in RS activities at the MS Assembly and watched a vlog prepared by the Internationalism sub-committee showcasing the range of international experiences we have had during the year.

The Middle School Round Square committee planned lunchtime activities for the girls in the Middle School based on the IDEALS. The year 9's did school and geography trivia, based on the service and internationalism IDEALS. The year 8's did teamwork and blindfolded games, based on the democracy and leadership IDEALS. Lastly the year 7's played dodgeball, based on the adventure IDEAL. We planned these activities to teach people what the IDEALS are and how they can be used in everyday life. Addison Raeside

Another highlight of the week was our service activity - assembling birthing kits for the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia ([BKFA](#)).

BKFA is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving maternal and infant health outcomes during birth in developing countries. It provides birthing kits that contain basic supplies, such as sterile gloves, gauze, ties and soap, designed to facilitate clean and safe deliveries. These kits are important in areas with limited access to healthcare facilities, reducing the risk of infections and complications during childbirth. BKFA plays a vital role in lowering maternal and infant mortality rates, promoting health equity, and supporting safe birthing practices globally. This event was incredibly successful with over 200 kits being created. Lauren Fergusson

Thank you to Addison Raeside, Layla Woodall and Lauren Fergusson for their work in organising these activities.

AISSA Indigenous Immersion Program

It is not just our students that participate in developing global awareness and expand their intercultural knowledge. This term Sarah Wheeler participated in the **AISSA Indigenous Immersion Program**, spending a week in Eastern Arnhem Land. Below are her reflections and some photos reflective of her amazing experience.

I recently had the incredible opportunity to participate in the 2024 Aboriginal Cultural Immersion Program in East Arnhem Land, a partnership between Culture College and the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia and New South Wales. Over the course of a week, I, along with a group of fellow educators, was immersed in Yolŋu culture and traditions, and this experience left me with lasting reflections.

From the moment we arrived, it was clear that this wasn't just an educational

experience—it was an invitation to slow down and connect. The Yolŋu’s relationship with the land is unlike anything I’ve encountered before. The idea of “listening to Country” resonated deeply with me. Walking through the vibrant landscapes of Gulkula and Nyinyikay, I began to see how deeply the Yolŋu are intertwined with their surroundings. The land is not just a backdrop but an active participant in their culture, law, and way of life.

Learning side-by-side on Country was important to me. Across both Gulkula and the Nyinyikay Homeland I had the opportunity to learn about the history of the Yolŋu people as well as the current and future issues they face. I had the opportunity to experience bush medicine first hand, to learn the traditional art of harvesting plants and using them to weave, to practice speaking in language and also to participate in traditional dancing under the stars.

What also struck me was the strength of community. Yolŋu society is built on balance and inclusion, with a genuine sense of equality and reciprocity. I was deeply moved by the way we were welcomed and included, as if we were family. This sense of belonging and interconnectedness reinforced for me the importance of community and the responsibility we all share in fostering reconciliation.

The week was both eye-opening and transformative, leaving me with a deeper understanding of what it means to belong, to respect, and to learn from one another. I feel incredibly fortunate to have had this experience and am eager to bring these insights back to my own community and classroom. Sarah Wheeler

Stephanie Andrews

Head of Global Learning







LEARNING, PATHWAY AND INDUSTRY

Learning, Pathway and Industry

[Caroline Palmer](#)

MedEntry

- Medicine school [preferencing](#)
- 12 factors to consider when choosing a Medicine school [link](#)
- Medicine doubles [link](#)

The University of Adelaide

Use the link below to book a meeting with a member of the Future Students Team

[Link](#)

7 jobs for people who love travel [link](#)

7 jobs that do not exist yet – Future-proofing your degree [link](#)

Where can studying Humanities take you?

Careers in Humanities [link](#)

Law and Policy:

Policy Analyst; Legislative Assistant; Public Affairs Specialist; Human Rights Advocate;
Media and communications; Journalist; Editor; Public Relations Specialist; Content
Writer; Social Media Manager; Education; International Relations and Diplomacy; Graphic
Designer; Art Director; Creative Director; Human Resource Manager; Project Manager;
Marketing Coordinator

UNSW Co-op Scholarship

Applications for 2025 are OPEN

A Co-op Program scholarship provides industry training, professional development, networking and financial support for selected undergraduate students in the disciplines of Business, Engineering, and Science.

This is one of the largest and most prestigious scholarship programs of its type in Australia and a leader in career development learning. There are over 300 current Co-op scholars who join more than 3,500 UNSW Co-op Alumni. The experience and networks the scholars develop enrich their time at university and give them an invaluable head start upon entering the work force.

[Register here](#)

The University of Sydney

Bachelor of International Studies

Ever dreamt of making a global impact? In Sydney's Bachelor of International Studies you will dive into the world's most challenging issues and gear up for a career that knows no borders – be it in business, diplomacy, policy-making, or advocating in a global civil society. Join the webinar and discover how a degree at USyd can help you navigate the global arena.

[Webinar registration link](#)

New Ventures Worldwide

Global volunteering opportunities

Outdoor Camps in the UK or Canada

Ideal for adventurous Ozzys who enjoy working outdoors. Volunteers develop leadership skills while running exciting activities like archery, swimming, hiking, climbing, canoeing, high ropes, group games, and sailing, all while supporting and motivating young participants.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Europe Program

Exclusively for Australian students, volunteer at a school in Spain or Poland, followed by and outdoor camp in the UK. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to gain international experience, immerse in new cultures, and make a real impact.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Considering a Career in Medicine?

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 Students

Medical Interview Workshop

When: **7 - 8 September 2024** (Live online interactive / More dates available)

[View details](#)

Academic Insights Summer School Residential Program at the University of Sydney: Choose from: Medicine, Engineering, Business Management, Creative Writing, Psychology, and Veterinary Studies.

When: 11 September 2024 (Live Online Information Session)

[View details](#)

JCU Dentistry Application Advice, and Indigenous, Rural, and Tropical Health Issues in Medicine Webinar

When: 15 and 20 September 2024

[View details](#)

Intensive UCAT Preparation Workshop (Live online interactive / More dates available)

When: 21 December 2024

Includes an online "Part 2" follow-up session with parents.

[View details](#)

The NIE UCAT intensive training workshop is also beneficial for Year 9, 10 and 11 students who are considering sitting UCAT.

The ideal approach to preparing for the UCAT is to start low-frequency and high-consistency preparation in the early stages of senior high school years. While you can and will have to still spend some time preparing during Year 12, it would be much better if the bulk of your preparation had been completed prior to the start of the busy Year 12 schedule. This way, you would only need to spend 1-2 hours per week practising to maintain your UCAT pace, rather than spending more time on the UCAT preparation and stressing about the Year 12 work. Therefore, we recommend that you officially start your UCAT training by participating in our full-day intensive UCAT preparation workshop, or you can also view a range of complete [UCAT Preparation Courses](#) offered through NIE.

Medical school interview preparation

Details of the full range of NIE's medical interview support and preparation services can be found here: [Medical Interview Training with NIE](#).

Top jobs for people who love Fashion:

1. Fashion Designer

1. Fashion Stylist

1. Fashion Buyer

1. Fashion Public Relations Manager

1. Fashion Photographer

1. Fashion Illustrator

1. Fashion Event Coordinator

[Link](#)

The pros and cons of a gap year

[Link](#)

Volunteering opportunities in the digital world

[Link](#)

5 Music Scholarships

[Link](#)

International House Scholarships

[Link](#)

Showcasing micro credentials on your resume

[Link](#)

Westpac Young Technologists Scholarships

Value \$20,000

[Link](#)

Performance (Acting, Directing, Theatre Making) Taster Day When: Tuesday October 1,
10am – 1.30pm

Where: Humanities Courtyard, Flinders University, Bedford Park

Why:

- Meet the teachers and students

- Get advice on how to prepare for your audition
- Tour the Drama Centre and Theatre
- Experience university life on campus

[Register here:](#)

Law Taster Day

When: Thursday October 10 & Thursday November 28

Where: Bedford Park Campus (10th) and City Campus (28th)

Why:

- Participate in a highly interactive workshop about the next frontier of law and technology that can read our minds
- Tour the Flinders Campus
- Speak with current students
- Get your questions answered

[Register here:](#)

Musical Theatre – Elder Conservatorium of Music Theatre (Adelaide University)

Do you love music theatre? Can you see yourself pursuing theatre after graduating high school? Come experience a day with the students & staff of the Elder Conservatorium of Music Theatre on Sunday the 29 September. The day will include a dance class, vocal performance workshop, Q & Q, backstage tour, and an option to stay to attend ECMT's sold out final show of Jesus Christ Superstar.

Students from years 9 – 12 are welcome to attend.

Register using this [link](#)

Caroline Palmer

Careers Counsellor



OSHC

October Vacation Care Program

[Bec Vandermoer & Xin Wang](#)

Our Vacation Care Program for the October School Holidays is now available, and we have numerous offerings available for your daughter.

Please [see here](#) for the October School Holiday Program.

Bec Vandermoer & Xin Wang

OSHC Directors

