

Life in the Wilderness

Term 3 Issue #5 | Friday 24 September, 2021



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Great Power in Kindness

Jane Danvers, Principal

In her address to the 2012 graduating class at their Valedictory Dinner, Mrs Judy Dyson said:

“I firmly believe that with humility and compassion, you have a great power – the power to take others with you in the quest for a better world.”

Wilderness has always been guided by this principle and an unwavering belief that our core values will guide each girl to be the best she can be.

This began with the Misses Brown, and to this day, we strive for Wilderness girls to show unlimited kindness in relationships, be adventurous learners and always remain their true and courageous self.

Mrs Dyson exemplified our values, leading with grace, kindness and wisdom.

Serving Wilderness as Vice-Principal and Head of Senior School for 18 years between 1995 and 2012, she shaped our culture and made a lasting impact on thousands of girls, staff and families.

Last Friday, we paid tribute to Mrs Dyson by naming our new First VIII Rowing Boat in her honour.

It was a special opportunity to reflect on her legacy and celebrate the beginning of a new rowing season with our community, staff, students, and Mrs Dyson's family.

As we head into the holiday break, I encourage our girls to think of Mrs Dyson and her words.

Each and every one of them has great power. A power to be kind, to show compassion and to be grateful. A power to positively impact those around her.

I urge them to take some time during the holidays to practice kindness and gratitude for their teachers, parents, and friends.

I am grateful for our dedicated staff and the enormous amount of work they put in during Term 3. I am also so thankful that we have been able to learn together on campus and in person this term and for your ongoing support as we continue to navigate the pandemic.

The break is an essential time for us all to pause, look after our wellbeing, and spend quality time as a family. I hope you and your daughter have a restful break and return refreshed and ready for Term 4.

As we approach the end of the year, we have a busy term ahead with several important traditions and events scheduled. These include:

- **Year 12 Leavers Day and Valedictory Dinner** – Friday 22 October
- **Junior School Prize Giving Assembly and Year 6 Graduation** – Monday 29 November
- **Parents and Friends Farewell to Jane Danvers Drinks** – Friday 26 November
- **Advent Service** – Monday 29 November
- **Middle School Prize Giving Assembly** – Tuesday 30 November
- **Speech Night** – Tuesday 30 November
- **Junior School Christmas Concert** – Friday 3 December

I look forward to welcoming you back through the Hawkers Road gates on Monday 11 October, for our final term and celebrating the achievements of each of the girls this year.





EARLY LEARNING

Adventurous Learning Inspired by the Wilderness

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

Last Tuesday 14 September, our Annie girls adventured out of the Wilderness to Wittunga House. They immersed themselves in the beautiful environment of the Wittunga Botanic Garden and engaged in experiences facilitated by a Nature Play SA educator. The girls created clay nests, painted compostable pots using natural dyes, experienced loose parts play and learnt about the value of close and critical noticing, all with nature as their teacher.

Following this excellent excursion, our Mamie girls adventured out to Linde Community Garden on Wednesday 22 September to learn about the fruit and vegetables grown at this time of year in Adelaide. This learning has been inspired by Graeme Base's story 'Uno's Garden'. This beautifully illustrated, thought-provoking book communicates a powerful message about our ability as humans to affect our environment in both positive and negative ways. Combining this learning within the real-life context of the Lynde Community Garden, our Mamie girls now have the knowledge to plant and nurture their own Uno's Garden, which they have started.

Not only did these excursions provide an excellent opportunity for our girls to extend their learning, but it was also an opportunity to embrace our Wilderness values of Adventurous Learning and Responsible Citizenship. We all enjoyed these incredibly worthwhile experiences, and we were very grateful for our parent volunteers who helped make it possible for all our girls to attend the excursion. Thank you to our exceptional class teachers and co-educators for meticulously planning these excursions and being

adventurous and courageous themselves. Stepping out of the School grounds with so many precious little people in tow is a big responsibility but the girls' learning was undoubtedly enhanced by their efforts.

We wish you all a wonderful term break and look forward to seeing you all again for our final term, beginning on Monday 11 October.







JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learning Together

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

As we conclude Term 3 and reflect upon all that our Junior School has been involved in during the last 10 weeks, it is difficult to believe that we began our term in lockdown and remote learning.

We feel exceptionally lucky to be finishing the term learning together face to face, unlike so many of our interstate counterparts. While we still live with certain restrictions, with mask-wearing, QR code check-ins and reduced capacities for events, the fact that we have had our girls in our classrooms, collaborating, participating in co-curricular activities and attending excursions is something we are very grateful for.

Year 6 Camp

One such event that was in doubt only a few months ago was the Year 6 camp. It was a delight to farewell the 59 Year 6 girls and six teachers on Tuesday morning as they left for a fun-filled three-night camp on beautiful Kangaroo Island.

In place of our usual educational tour to Canberra, our Year 6 girls engaged in a broad range of activities on Kangaroo Island, with a focus on Outdoor Education and sustainability. The girls took surfing lessons, sand boarded, attended tours to learn about honey production, and visited a number of national parks and natural environments. They also heard from locals who lived through the bushfires of 2020 and learnt about how they are renewing flora and fauna of the island. A wonderful finish to the camp was returning

to school on Friday afternoon, only to step off the bus and begin their term holidays.

Chess Finals

Our Junior Chess Club girls attended the 2021 Primary Schools C Grade Chess Finals at the Adelaide Chess Centre on Friday 17 September. Expertly coached by Mrs Lorraine Gormley, the girls, ranging from Years 3 to 6, competed ably and with great focus. The teams finished the competition in 8th and 9th places.

Congratulations to all of the girls for an enthusiastic Inter-School Chess Competition season.

Junior School Swimming Carnival

Our Junior School Swimming Carnival was held on Friday 17 September, with girls from Years 3 to 6 attending the event at the Adelaide Aquatics Centre.

As always, the Year 6 House Captains spent significant time preparing to lead each of their Houses in cheers, dressing up in their House colours and ensuring that their House was well represented in both the pool and supporting in the stands.

Thank you to the Sport and PE faculties for their organisation of the event, both in the lead-up and on the day. I am delighted to share with you the following results:

- Bowen Shield for Team Games – Sparaxis
- GA Black Shield for Overall Points – Sparaxis
- House Spirit Cup – Amaryllis
- Highest Aggregate Individual Points Runner Up – Evangeline Lee – Sparaxis
- Highest Aggregate Individual Points First Place – Poppy Ritchie – Antholiza

Year 4 Excursion to the Maritime Museum

On Wednesday, the Year 4 classes visited the Port Adelaide Maritime Museum to learn about the First Fleet. They were fascinated to see the displays of old ships with their complicated rigging and huge sails. They learned lots about the difficult journeys from the past and certainly gained an appreciation for modern-day travel. The girls were lucky enough and very grateful to see dolphins during their short 'cruise' on the Port River. Thank you to the parent volunteers who gave up their time to assist the group on the day.

Year 6 Ride a Bike Right

During Week 8, the Year 6 girls participated in the Ride a Bike Right Program. It was a practical and progressive program for all students and was delivered by qualified instructors supported by PE staff.

The program builds student knowledge and understanding of road laws and traffic environments, develops bike handling and maintenance skills and develops decision-making skills for off and on-road bike riding.

The three consecutive Ride a Bike Right lessons helped to prepare the girls for the upcoming Year 6 Outdoor Education 'Sea to Summit' biking experience, presenting personal challenges and exciting outdoor experiences in a safe and supportive environment.

Thank you to Ms Michele Ostermann, Mr Kieran Jackson, Ms Laura Sieradzki and Ms Jill Bradford for their support of the program.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a restful break which, hopefully, includes some opportunities to do things that you love with those you love most. I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 11 October, as we commence Term 4.

Code Camp

Due to a short and busy Term 4, we will not be offering Code Camp for students next term. We look forward to welcoming the Code Camp team back in 2022 and will communicate information about this next year.









MIDDLE SCHOOL

A Busy End to Term 3

Belinda Arnfield, Head of Middle School

As the term comes to an end, I have had time to reflect on the amazing achievements of our Middle School students in Term 3.

Our girls have had so many opportunities for adventurous learning, including our third group heading off on their Year 9 REALISE Camp, Year 8 Camp on the Fleurieu Peninsula, and a wide variety of excursions across a range of subjects.

The last two weeks have been no different, filled with fabulous learning experiences and accomplishments.

I wish all Middle School girls and their families a safe and restful holiday break and look forward to welcoming you all back for further exciting endeavours in Term 4.

Life as a Junior Boarder

Being a Year 7 boarder can be very overwhelming sometimes. It is a big change moving away from home and taking on a lot of responsibility from such a young age. However, we have made it successfully through three terms with the support of fellow boarders and staff, who have made our experience better and helped us adjust to life with these responsibilities.

The Boarding House is a fun environment, which allows students to engage with one another. One of the many activities we have enjoyed is the Birthday Dinners every term,

which involves a delicious slice of cake and a great chat.

The most recent Birthday Dinner included a beautiful pink set up by Annabelle Dolling and Isobel Drew. The new leadership positions within the Boarding House were also awarded. We were delighted to be joined by Ms Jane Danvers, Mrs Belinda Arnfield, the Heads of Houses, and other members of the Wildy staff, who all added to the fun atmosphere of the night.

Willa Maclachlan and Briega Williams

Australian of the Year Breakfast

The newly elected 2022 Senior School SRC Executive and current Middle School SRC Executive were recently privileged to attend an Australian of the Year breakfast at the National Wine Centre of Australia.

The event was held in honour of 2021 Australian of the Year, Grace Tame, the South Australian Australian of the Year, Tanya Hosch, the South Australian Senior Australian of the Year, Professor Richard Bruggemann and the South Australian Young Australian of the Year, Isobel Marshall.

Tanya Hosch, the first Indigenous person and only the second woman to be appointed to the AFL executive, spoke passionately about systemic racism and prejudice against Indigenous players. This connected the Middle School SRC Executive directly to the Year 9s learning in Artemis just last term. She has successfully implemented an extraordinary number of influential measures to transform the AFL, advancing women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, gender-diverse Australians and the entire community.

Professor Bruggemann, a 76-year-old disability advocate, has been instrumental in creating a community service system to see persons with intellectual disabilities and their families experience improved quality of life. An extremely humble man, it surprised us to learn how powerful he has been in his work advising governments on disability services, legislation, inclusion and rights. He inspired us with his deep passion for making a meaningful difference in the lives of those with an intellectual disability, a path he discovered much later in life.

Isobel Marshall, the 18-year-old co-founder of TABOO, created the social enterprise to help women around the world by breaking down the stigma of menstruation. TABOO's mission is for menstruation to be respected and understood as a human experience that does not suppress anyone's access to equal opportunity and rights. In fact, period poverty is a major reason for inequality around the world and can be a large barrier to education. Around the globe, almost 30 percent of girls drop out of school by the time they hit puberty.

TABOO sells accessible, affordable, ethical and sustainable pads and tampons. All net

profits and advocacy efforts are dedicated to eradicating period poverty through systematic and social change, including support of the charity, One Girl, which provides education programs to girls and women in Sierra Leone and Uganda. Isobel's impressive resourcefulness and desire to be of service on a large scale for someone so young was inspiring.

Australian of the Year, Grace Tame, is an outspoken advocate for survivors of sexual assault, particularly in institutional settings. Grace was the victim of sexual assault by her high school teacher and she was prevented from speaking out about her experience due to legislation. She struck us as extremely courageous and effective in bringing about legal reform and public awareness by sharing her own story.

The speakers seemed to share a vital common characteristic; they were all personally motivated to challenge social norms to bring about positive change to benefit others. Indeed, Australian of the Year, Grace Tame, implored us to do as she had, to never doubt your worth amongst the crowd. For change to occur, she urged us that it is necessary to push your fear to one side and voice your opinions strongly. Further, that it is important to never forget that it is the littlest of things, sometimes seemingly insignificant in the grand scheme, that can help bring about change – one step at a time.

Elena Tsamaidis, Livia Podreka and Sophie Grice

Middle School Debating Reflection

Middle School Debating provides girls with various transferrable skills that they can use in school, extracurricular activities and in their future lives beyond school.

We learn about time management, thinking quickly and responsively, and working in a team while having fun and celebrating achievements with friends. Prepared topics are generally more complex and encourage highly analytical thinking, whereas secret topics require the preparation of a debate within an hour and the ability to trust and rely on your teammates. Debating is enjoyable and extremely rewarding, strengthening public speaking skills and critical thinking as well as relationships with our peers.

As was famously quoted, "If you can't explain it to a six-year-old, you don't understand it yourself". Coaching a team of Year 7 debaters this year was also a great experience where we learnt just as much as they did about debating. We had to get back to basics and communicate with students who had no previous experience of interschool debating and were much younger. While the season came with its challenges, we have learnt so much about how to teach with clarity so the Year 7s could understand us, to give feedback and edit drafts with them. Much credit should go to the girls who persisted, were extremely brave and took all advice on board, continually seeking feedback. They made it to the quarter finals, which was an amazing achievement for all of them.

We would like to thank Ms Cathy Juniper, Malena Mavrakis and Devika Mukherjee (Year 10) for their help. We would not have gotten this far without their support.

Jeevan Gilhotra and Sonakshi Cooray

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

In Year 9, all girls are encouraged to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. To do so, we needed to acquire enough hours of physical recreation, service, our chosen skill and to take part in an Adventurous Journey.

Physical recreation was not a problem as many girls used their winter or summer sports. For the service component of the award, some of us have been running down to the Mamie House during lunch to read to the ELC girls. Others have been using their Form time to create stuffed bears or even terracotta pots for Anglicare.

There is a wide scope of skills, ranging from cooking to piano or even reading. Duke of Edinburgh has provided a great incentive to pursue hobbies, for example, girls have started Instagram accounts blogging their delicious cooking creations.

The Adventurous Journey component was entirely covered by REALISE, where we had an overnight practice journey to Onkaparinga and finally the three-day kayaking expedition on the beautiful Coorong. Many girls are close to finishing and some girls have completed the Bronze Award. Congratulations to all girls for their efforts and good luck to those who choose to continue with Silver Award.

Fengfan Zhang

The Kids Cancer Project

I would like to thank all staff and girls who contributed to The Kids Cancer Project Fundraiser by wearing crazy accessories to school on Friday 20 August and donating money.

I am very glad to announce that we have raised \$1145, which exceeded the set goal. All this money will go towards buying bears for children who are in hospital receiving cancer treatment.

Earlier this year, my cousin was diagnosed with cancer. It was difficult for our family, but through the fundraiser, I hope to let people in a similar situation know that they are not alone. Once again, a big thank you to all the people that participated in this very worthy cause.

If you would like to learn more about this fundraiser, you can find out more information [here](#).

Mia Pyman

Defence, Space and Cyber Expo

In Week 9, a group of Year 9 and 10 students studying Robotics and Space or Cyber and Artificial Intelligence had the opportunity to explore careers at Lot Fourteen.

We began the morning by listening to an insightful presentation explaining the layout and functions of Lot Fourteen. It was amazing to see how much technology research and development is operated in South Australia. We were excited to see that Lot Fourteen works with many South Australian companies such as Myroita and Fleet Space and international companies like Microsoft, Amazon, and Google.

The amazing facilities helped us visualise the extensive possibilities of a future in this industry. We learnt about new technology with interactive games in the Space Discovery Centre.

To finish our afternoon, we attended an Expo. We were exposed to real jobs and work experience opportunities from all over South Australia. From Engineering for the Navy to White-Hat Hacking, there were so many options for us to explore. It was a very exciting and eye-opening afternoon, and some of the girls were lucky enough to meet and chat with Premier Steven Marshall.

Anna McAuliffe

Van de Graaff Generator

During our Physics unit in Science, the Year 7.4 core group had the opportunity for Mr David Pyman, the Senior Physics Teacher, to explain how the Van de Graaff generator works.

Mr Pyman taught us that the Van de Graaff generator creates static electricity and in turn produces mini lightning bolts. This generator consists of a rubber belt in the middle and two metal domes of different sizes; a large one attached to the rubber belt and a smaller one that is movable.

The rubber belt carries electrons up to the large dome and they spread out across the surface like charges repel. Eventually, so much charge builds up that there is enough force for the charge to jump from the larger to the smaller dome, resulting in a mini lightning bolt.

Seeing the bolt in real time was fascinating and we even got the chance to become conductors! By touching the larger dome and the others physically in contact with the small dome, we could pass electricity from one to another.

Kaylie Yen





SENIOR SCHOOL

Heading Towards Term 4

Ben Manifold, Head of Senior School

Term 3 has flown and it is hard to believe that our Year 12 cohort only has 10 official school days left for 2021. We look forward to celebrating their year in the weeks ahead.

Australian of the Year Breakfast

Last Wednesday, the incoming 2022 SRC Executive Committee and I were fortunate to attend a breakfast at the National Wine Centre of Australia held in honour of the Australian of the Year award recipients.

This included 2021 Australian of the Year, Grace Tame, the South Australian of the Year, Tanya Hosch, the South Australian Senior Australian of the Year, Professor Richard Bruggemann, and the South Australian Young Australian of the Year, Isobel Marshall.

This exceptional group of change-makers shared their personal journeys and the importance of challenging social norms to bring about positive change. They stressed it is vital that you push your fear to one side and voice your opinions strongly.

Rowing Season Launch and Boat Christening

On Friday 17 September, the Wilderness rowing community came together to celebrate the launch of the 2021/22 season and christen the new First VIII boat.

Mr Hamish Gosse (Wilderness Old Boy, 1956) was thanked for his support of the Wilderness Rowing Club. His significant donation has allowed us to purchase the new Frist VIII boat. It was wonderful that his granddaughters Georgia (2015) and Mille (current Year 10 student), who both have been involved in Wilderness rowing, could be present at the christening.

The School paid tribute to Mrs Judy Dyson by naming the new First VIII Rowing Boat in her honour. Mrs Dyson served Wilderness School as Vice-Principal and Head of Senior School for 18 years between 1995 and 2012. She touched the lives of thousands of girls, families and staff with her grace, kindness, and wisdom.

Bonding Night

The Year 12 cohort came together for the annual Bonding Night last Friday. A range of quiz questions and games were played, which highlighted memorable moments during the girls' time at Wilderness.

Mr Tobia Trentin, Mrs Maria Criaris, Mr Brad Snell and Mr Matthew Hawkins are thanked for giving up their Friday evening to run this enjoyable event for the girls.

Pathways Week

This week all Year 10 girls have been involved in Pathways Week. The program, coordinated by Mrs Caroline Rocco and Mrs Deb Cleggett, involved three days of work experience and university visits and sessions with new old scholars. The old scholars shared their university experiences and discussed jobs of the future. It was wonderful to hear their personal journeys, learnings and lessons.

Sony Camp

As we start the Term 3 break, we look forward to the Annual Sony Camp, which will run over the first four days of the holidays. A group of 16 Year 11 students will be responsible for the 24-hour care of a child with special needs to provide respite care for their family. This is an incredible experience for all students involved in the program and one that is so important for the campers' families.

Debating Finals

Congratulations to our senior teams who competed in the Schools Debating Competition grand final held at the Sir Samuel Way Building.

Our Senior A Team, Nikita Page, Devika Mukherjee, Olivia Tallent and Mary-Ellen

Coutsoumbes, were runners up and our Senior B Team, Chenuli Basnayake, Allegra Kleinig, Brianna Maddison and Molly Simpson, were also runners-up in their grand final.

Additionally, Devika Mukherjee was awarded the Most Valuable Team Member for 2021 as a member of the State Debating Team. Well done girls.

Term 3 Holidays

Finally, the importance of this holiday break for our Year 12s cannot be underestimated.

While it is vital for them to have a break and refresh, it is also time to continue their revision and preparation for their final exams.

I wish all Senior School girls and their families a safe and happy holiday break.





BOARDING

Fashion Showcase

[Rosie Broderick, Head of Boarding](#)

After the cancellation of our Boarders' Fashion Parade, we were very fortunate to have the support of Jo Dunne-Politis, inspirational designer of Raw Cloth who offered her range to our Year 12 girls for a formal photoshoot.

Jo's unique individual wearable art pieces combine her vintage-inspired designs with exquisite textiles from across the globe. Based in Darwin, textiles with prints by the Top End's Indigenous Art Centre feature heavily in Jo's collection. Jo is community-minded, and her business model is focused on supporting 'slow fashion' to ensure traditional textile techniques are valued and not lost.

Raw Cloth designs were featured in the September edition of Vogue Australia, making the opportunity for the girls to model the pieces extra special.

The girls enjoyed being pampered with dramatic makeup by the Media Makeup Company and striking a pose for professional photographers. The photos will feature in the next edition of the Wilderness Times.

Thanks again to Jo and all involved for providing this opportunity for the girls.

Silent auction

Thank you to all members of the Wilderness community. The online silent auction was a huge success raising \$7927. Many people have also generously donated their ticket

purchases from the parade. Your generosity will support the Wilderness Boarding School in Nepal and change the lives of young Nepalese girls.

In the future, I hope some of the current boarders will have the opportunity to trek to Nepal and meet these girls and witness their impact.

Birthday and Leadership Handover Dinner

The combined Birthday and Leadership Handover Dinner was last week with a more formal theme replacing the dress-ups normally on display at our celebrations.

As their final service to the boarders, the 2021 leaders waited on the tables, which added to the sense of formality and occasion of the event. Several invited guests from the School were able to join and share this special time with the girls.

A brief description of the role responsibility for each position was read as each retiring leader handed over their role to their equivalent incoming leader for 2022.

I am pleased to announce our Junior Co-Captains for 2022 are Millie MacLachlan and Stephanie Davidson. The poll was very close. The Senior Captains then announced their student leadership team:

- Wellbeing Leaders: Imogen Beadman and Ricca Moyse
- Celebrations Leaders: Evie Basham and Amelia Shepherd
- Connecting Leaders: Myarn Alden and Portia Martin
- Events Planner: Ruby Oswald

I will be working with the girls across Term 4 to develop their strategic directions for the remainder of this year and 2022. I have every confidence they will lead intentionally and with kindness.

Goodbye and Thank You

With much sadness, I inform you of Ms Julie Masters' resignation as Assistant to the Head of Boarding. On behalf of the girls and their families, I would like to express our sincere thanks to Julie for her ongoing dedication over the past seven and a half years. Julie has always responded to the girls' needs respectfully, with kindness, and genuine concern. Her administration skills have been integral in the day-to-day running of the Boarding House. Her generosity toward the girls and other staff will be greatly missed.

Julie is committing time to study and further pursue her interest in youth work. I am sure

you will join me in wishing her much success and happiness as she explores other opportunities.

We are fortunate that we have already commenced the recruitment process for an additional Senior Supervisor role, and we will be welcoming Ms Fern Lawson to the team at the commencement of Term 4. Fern has several years of experience as a Senior Supervisor at Pembroke and is passionate about supporting young adolescent girls during their developmental years. Fern is boarding focused and she will take on some of the responsibilities previously managed by Julie.

Mentor Groups

The girls had a wonderful time during their biscuit decorating activity. There is always lots of convivial conversation across the year levels during the mentor group activities.

Events in Term 4

The Year 12 academic year wraps up in Week 2 of Term 4 and some key events align with this. In the Boarding House, we have our Last Supper, which is the day the 2021 cohort will all sit at the dinner table together for the last time. The date for this dinner is **Thursday 21 October**. The following evening, the Year 12 girls and their parents will attend the Valedictory Dinner at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

After their final exams, the Year 12 girls are asked to return home to ensure the environment in the Year 12 corridors remains conducive to exam preparation. If particular girls don't have the capacity to return home within a day of their exams concluding, please advise the Boarding House staff at your earliest convenience.







SPORT

Junior School Swimming Carnival

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

Last Friday 17 September saw the annual Wilderness Junior School Swimming Carnival take place at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre. The carnival was delayed following the COVID-19 restrictions in place earlier this term, so we were very thankful for the additional work of the Junior School staff, including Ms Liz McCarthy, Mr Derek Woodcock and Ms Deb Jarrett, which made our 2021 carnival possible.

Our enthusiastic Year 3 to 6 swimmers showed tremendous courage and House spirit on the day with very high levels of participation across our novelty, individual championship, and team relay events. This was made possible with the support of our Middle and Senior School volunteers who assisted with various duties during the day, including supporting our less confident swimmers to complete their events. Without this support, we would not have been able to have such high levels of participation, so a sincere thank you to our girls for making this possible.

Congratulations to Poppy Ritchie (Year 6), who placed first in all her individual events to win the Leigh Wilson Trophy with the highest aggregate individual points of 250. Evangeline Lee (Year 5) was our runner-up with an individual aggregate score of 232 points.

Congratulations to Sparaxis House, who secured both the Bowen Shield for Team Games and the GA Black Shield for the Overall House Competition.

The final placings for the Bowen Shield were:

- **1st Place:** Sparaxis – 767 points
- **2nd Place:** Cedar – 702 points
- **3rd Place:** Antholiza – 670 points
- **4th Place:** Amaryllis – 655 points
- **5th Place:** Carob – 605 points

The final placings for the GA Black Shield were:

- **1st Place:** Sparaxis – 2617 points
- **2nd Place:** Cedar – 2059 points
- **3rd Place:** Carob – 1591 points
- **4th Place:** Antholiza – 1536 points
- **5th Place:** Amaryllis – 1327 points

Boat Christening

The 2021/22 Rowing Season was officially launched last Friday 17 September on Memorial Lawn. We were so fortunate to christen a new VIII boat to the fleet made possible by the generosity of the Gosse family.

Naming a new boat is always a special occasion, but this was particularly significant with the new boat christened as the Judy Dyson to commemorate her outstanding life and contributions to Wilderness School. Ms Jane Danvers recounted her fond memories of Mrs Judy Dyson's leadership, and it was an honour to welcome Judy's daughter Kate Smith and granddaughter Charlotte Smith (Year 4) to christen the new boat.

Congratulations to our 2021/22 Rowing Captain Emma Jolly and Vice-Captain Georgina Birchall who spoke beautifully and were announced on Friday in the formal proceedings. We are excited for the season ahead under the leadership of our captains and seniors.

IGSSA Athletics

On Wednesday 22 September, the annual IGSSA Athletics Carnival took place at the SA Athletics Stadium. Wilderness was represented by 40 girls competing in a full schedule

of both track and field events.

As always, it was an exceptionally high level of competition with several records broken on the day. The inclusion of non-IGSSA school, Trinity College, added another full school to the event and saw the highest ever number of participants with over 440 girls competing.

Despite not being able to field our full-strength team, Wilderness performed very well finishing 4th overall and 3rd of the IGSSA schools improving two places from 2020. Our Under 13 team narrowly missed winning their age group pennant by just eight points.

Overall Wilderness managed to place 1st in seven events, 2nd in 11 events and 3rd in 15 events. Congratulations to all our girls on their achievements and for their contributions on the day.

SAPSASA State Championships

On Tuesday 21 September, seven Wilderness girls competed in the State Championships Athletics Carnival for the North Adelaide District. The day saw the best girls and boys from across South Australia in Years 4 to 7 competing in their respective age groups.

Caitlin Hardin (Year 7) was a standout performer on the day winning the silver medal in both the 1500m and 800m Girls 12 Years events. Congratulations to Caitlin and all our Wilderness girls for their selection and participation in the 2021 State Championships.

SAPSASA AFL and Tennis

Recently, several Wilderness girls have trialled for the North Adelaide AFL and Tennis teams with the final positions decided this week. The selection trials have been highly competitive and they provide a valuable lesson for our girls when going through this process.

We are delighted to announce our six students who have earned selection on the District AFL team; Isabella Beaumont (Year 7), Jessica Davey (Year 7), Ruby Freemantle (Year 7), Caitlin Hardin (Year 7), Iris Newman (Year 7) and Lily Nicholls (Year 7).

With only four positions team positions available, a big congratulations to Isabelle Weng (Year 7) for her selection in the North Adelaide District Tennis team.





CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

ABODA Bands and Orchestra Festival

[Anna Lenartowicz, Head of Music](#)

The Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association (ABODA) Bands and Orchestra Festival has been held online for the second consecutive year due to COVID-19 restrictions. I would like to acknowledge and thank my staff for their flexibility in making this a possibility for our students.

We are thrilled to announce the following results:

- **Big Band 1** – Gold and Overall Section Winner (Intermediate Stage Band section)
- **Big Band 2** – Gold (Novice Stage Band section)
- **Senior String Ensemble** – Silver (Advanced String Ensemble section)
- **Symphonic Band** – Bronze (Advanced Concert Band section)

A massive congratulations to the girls in Big Band 1 and their director Ms Cassie Pope. There were 17 bands in the Intermediate Stage Band section, and to be acknowledged as the Overall Winner is a fabulous achievement.

AHOMINGS Music Awards

The Association of Heads of Music in Non-Government Schools (AHOMINGS) is an organisation that facilitates professional engagement, support and networking. As an organisation they wanted to highlight the significant contribution music tutors play within schools. To this end, two awards were put forward. Heads of Music are able to nominate one music tutor per year for each award; the Don Burrows Award for Recognition of Long Service for Music Tutors in Independent Schools and the Bob Hower Award for Exemplary Contribution of Music Tutors in Independent Schools.

It is with great pleasure to announce that three of Wilderness' long-serving tutors were selected for these awards in 2021. Ms Urszula Gruszewski is a recipient of the Don Burrows Award, and Mr Damien Hurn and Mrs Joanna Tropeano are recipients of the Bob Hower Award.

Urszula Gruszewski is a highly qualified musician who began teaching piano at Wilderness in 1995. Over the past 26 years, she has developed hundreds of budding pianists and helped guide their musical journey through their school years and beyond. Urszula develops her students steadily and with a meticulous approach, developing outstanding technique in each and every one of her pupils. She has received considerable acclaim for her work with her piano students, countless of whom have performed locally and overseas in concerts, competitions, corporate events, album launches and television documentaries. Many have been successful in winning scholarships, prizes, competitions and entry into universities. Unfortunately, Urszula was unable to attend the award ceremony and Wilderness accepted this award on her behalf.

Damien Hurn commenced at Wilderness School in 2000 as a saxophone teacher and director of the Saxophone Quartet and Big Band 2. Over the past 21 years, Damien has tutored hundreds of girls on the saxophone, guiding many of them to play at SACE Stage 1 and 2 levels, and always prepares his students to an exceptional standard. Damien's development of his students has also been evident in his ensembles, with the standard of the second Big Band and the Saxophone Quartet extremely high every year. Notably, his consistent success at both Generations in Jazz, and ABODA, must be mentioned, as his ensembles have placed 1st in their respective section/division several times, a clear indication of Damien's passion and dedication to his ensemble role at Wilderness.

Joanna Tropeano commenced at Wilderness in 2004 as a vocal tutor and choir director. Over the past 17 years, Joanna's contributions to the Wilderness music community have been immense. Tutoring what can only be described as an army of young women, Jo has coached students up to SACE Stage 1 and 2 level, with her students always achieving highly proficient grades. She has directed the Gospel and Jazz Choirs, and recently advocated for the implementation of an Old Scholars Jazz Choir, which sees around 30 young women who have at one stage been part of the School's Jazz Choir, come back to

develop their skills even further in a highly advanced young adult ensemble. Her advocacy is based on building and retaining the strong community bonds that she fosters in her ensembles and to see this take place in an old scholars setting is inspirational.

Like Don Burrows and Bob Hower, Urszula, Damien and Jo were recognised for their consistent, passionate and far-reaching influence on generations of musicians in independent, non-government schools in South Australia and we congratulate them on their achievement.

Gwen Robinson Piano Competition

This year, due to the lockdown at the start of Term 3 and subsequent restrictions, the prestigious Gwen Robinson Pianoforte Competition was held online where girls submitted videos for their entry.

We were thrilled to receive over 20 entries, with all performances highly musical and of an excellent standard.

The overall winner was awarded to Xiaoxi (Emma) Li (Year 8) for her outstanding performance displaying maturity and technical proficiency beyond her years. Emma will perform at an upcoming Whole School Assembly and will receive her medal at the Middle School Prize Giving Assembly at the end of Term 4.

Congratulations to Emma, and to all of the girls who submitted entries. The care taken in your presentation and your musical skills were exceptional. We are very proud of the legacy of this award. Please enjoy the winning performances from 2020 and 2021 below.

Well done!

Vanessa Abela

Ensemble and Instrumental Coordinator

Year 12 Art Exhibition

The Year 12 Visual Art students have been very busy completing their diverse creations in the Art Centre this term.

Using a wide range of media and ideas, an exciting range of technically strong work will be exhibited in the Year 12 Visual Art Exhibition 'Shifting Positions' in Week 2 next term.

Shifting Positions

Friday 15 October to Thursday 4 November

Wilderness School Art Centre

Weekdays 8:30am - 9:00am / 3:30pm - 4:00pm

Please enjoy a taste of the girls' artwork from Annalise Grice (Year 12) below, 'The Mirror and Me', acrylic paint on canvas.

Brooke Porter

Head of Art

Wildy Fringe

8 – 12 November

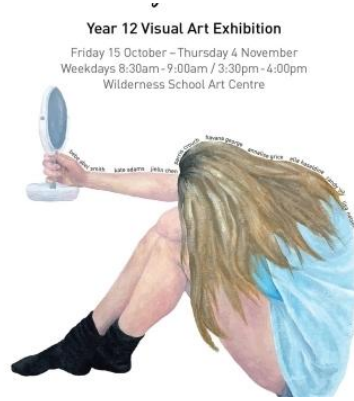
The Wildy Fringe will be taking place again in Week 5 of Term 4. Through live performance and exhibits, this event showcases the amazing work that the Year 7 to 10 girls have created as part of their studies across the Creative Industries. This will therefore include musical and dramatic performances, films, animation and art exhibitions and we encourage you to book tickets to come along. The full program with TryBooking links will be released early Term 4.

We are also pleased to announce the winner of the Wildy Fringe poster competition as Anna Evans (Year 7), who entered the amazing poster displayed below. It is truly beautiful!

Hal Bruce

Head of Creative Industries







PHILANTHROPY

Wilderness School Foundation Gala Dinner

Rebecca Foster, Head of Advancement

40% of tickets already sold!

From 6.00pm tonight, ticket sales to the upcoming Wilderness School Foundation's end-of-year gala dinner, hosted at the Art Gallery of South Australia, will be opened up beyond current school parents to the broader Wilderness community.

Due to venue capacity, the event is capped at 150 persons. To secure your place [click here](#) and ensure you don't miss out.

Saturday 30 October 2021

Art Gallery of South Australia

North Terrace, Adelaide

The evening will showcase a sophisticated collection of South Australian food offerings and the finest of wines, silent auction items, and first-rate entertainment.

Tickets

\$220pp earlybird until Friday 8 October 2021

\$250pp until Friday 24 October 2021

Includes three course dinner, beverages, entertainment and more.

Dress

Cocktail attire

Tickets may be upgraded to include an exclusive guided tour of the Tarnanthi exhibition with welcome glass of bubbles (available for first 50 persons only).





COMMUNITY

Dress Donations for Afghan Refugees

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

I write to say a heartfelt and sincere thank you for the overwhelming support shown by our community for the recently arrived Afghan refugees in Adelaide.

It is with delight that I share with you that, earlier this week, we were able to deliver 22 full bags of the most beautiful clothing donations, from little girls right through to women's sizes, to a representative of the Afghan Cultural Association of South Australia.

These items will be distributed among the girls and women within this group after their arrival several weeks ago with little to nothing.

Thank you for your enormous generosity and kindness, both of which sit at the core of what it is to be a Wilderness girl.

