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From the St John's Campus Principal

Welcome back to the beginning of our new school year

A very special welcome to all new students and families who have joined our St John's Campus at Concordia College this year. We hope that you transition into our community smoothly and we look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

We are excited to welcome a couple of new staff this year: Mr Graham Buxton (Year 2) and Mr Matt Bell (Year 6). We also welcome Bonnie Fry who is continuing in a permanent part time capacity as an ELC Educator and Mrs Rachel Harrip (Year 1) who is back from Maternity Leave. Likewise, we look forward to serving alongside these staff as part of our wider staff team in 2020.

I am pleased to say that our students and staff have enjoyed a very positive return to school and we are certainly looking forward to another year of learning and growing as a community. Pastor Andrew led our opening Chapel service on Tuesday morning and reminded us of God's amazing love for us and his presence with us throughout the year.

As a College, we are looking forward to this new year and all that it promises as we seek to realise our new Vision and operationalise our associated Strategic Plan.

In coming editions of Concordia CONNECT you will hear more about our exciting plans for the coming year.

Parent Information Night

Parents are reminded of our annual Parent Information Night that will be held at the College tonight for parents with students from Reception to Year 6. Details for the evening were sent out earlier today via the School Star app.

I look forward to seeing you there tonight.

Michael Paech

Principal - St John's Campus

New Beginnings

The ELC children starting their journey at Concordia have been busy investigating the environment and making new friends.

Kate Wood
ELC Director

A Happy and Successful Start

Concordia's new Reception students had a happy and successful start to their school journey last week. Fifty two eager five year olds burst through the Reception doors on Tuesday morning keen to grow, learn and play together.

So many new things have happened for the Receptions. They have lots of new names of friends and staff to learn. It has been exciting to help them learn new routines and see them making new friends. It has been a busy time for them as they become accustomed to being a Reception child at Concordia.

Their spectacular start to school was acknowledged by the Principal who awarded each child with a "first week certificate" on Friday. We wish all children and families God's richest blessings for a happy Concordia journey.

Sharon Cosh and Nicolette McClure
Reception Teachers

Summer Holidays at Vacation Care

The summer school holidays provided opportunity for another successful Vacation Care program at Out of School Hours Care (OSHC). The OSHC was open for a period of just over four weeks, caring for a total number of attendances in excess of 1400 children. Our most popular days included excursions to Base Camp, Tree Climb and our incursion OSHC Extravaganza Day.

Our OSHC attracts many students from other schools and it was pleasing to be able to cater for children from 18 schools other than Concordia during this holiday period. This allows our children to meet, interact and develop new relationships with children outside of their immediate group. It aligns strongly with one of the things we value as a College - our compassionate and connected community.

As a workplace that seeks continuous improvement we are really looking forward to the opportunities 2020 will present. We will continue to grow our construction and cooking clubs, look forward immensely to planning our mid-year Family Restaurant Night, and consider how we might develop our annual sleepover into an overnight camping trip... possibly during Term 2.

Adam Moller
OSHC Director

SEQTA Learn

To find out about SEQTA Learn, a School and Learning Management System steadily being implemented at Concordia, [read the SEQTA Update article](#) from the Director of Digital Resources in this week's newsletter.

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Concordia Campus

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From the Concordia Campus Principal

Welcome to the new school year! This new beginning is particularly exciting as we begin implementing our Strategic Plan for the College. During the beginning of year professional development activities, the Plan swung into action as the staff were engaged in sessions introducing our new learning framework, Unlocking Futures. This framework is the centrepiece of the 'Lead in Learning' strategic intention, "to implement approaches to teaching and learning that provide students with opportunities to collaborate, be creative and take ownership of their learning." The principles which underpin this framework are focused on preparing our students to thrive in the rapidly changing world of work which they will need to skillfully navigate.

We have an educational duty to prepare our young people to live and succeed in this emerging world, but perhaps more importantly an opportunity to help them shape and lead it as well.

The future is created through the honest and open reflections about our past, but if we want something better for the future, we must create it. This doesn't mean we have to ignore the past, but we take the best of our teaching practice and build on it, and in some instances reform it. We would be remiss to allow our misapprehensions to hold back a student's aspirations.

This sentiment is at the heart of our new vision and will be the driving force as we begin an exciting journey towards a new paradigm in student learning and wellbeing through a series of dynamic strategic initiatives which comprise our new Strategic Plan: entitled '[Towards 2025](#)'. Central to the plan is facilitating learning experiences that engage and empower the whole person, opportunities to serve and grow in faith, and the welcome and support of a vibrant, connected community, all of which nurture the skills and qualities students require for a changing world. Some of the initiatives listed in our strategy are already well underway. For example, the Unlocking Futures learning framework has been the source of intensive research and planning throughout 2019. Meanwhile, our Wellbeing Research Project is at a pivotal moment with extensive research into the mental health needs of our students now informing the development of a new College wellbeing framework and a reshaping of pastoral programs across the College, utilising the vast resources of Flinders University through our unique partnership. It should be noted that in both our Unlocking Futures framework and our Wellbeing Project, intensive consultation with students informed the directions of these initiatives, which will be so influential in future directions of the College.

Our College is a vibrant, dynamic and ambitious place shaped by the grace of Jesus Christ, hence we see a joyful and optimistic future for our students that is strengthened by the Gospel message - a message of hope that comes to the fore during Chapel services and which in turn radiates throughout our College community.

Paul Weinert

Principal - Concordia Campus

2020 Commencement Service

The 2020 Commencement Service on Wednesday, 29 January, saw the Concordia Campus community gather to formally commemorate the beginning of the new school year as we welcomed new staff, Student Leaders and House Leaders into their roles, thanked God for the ways he continues to bless the College, and brought the year ahead to Him in prayer. We also celebrated some of the achievements of the Class of 2019 who received their excellent academic results over the summer break.

The following students and staff were acknowledged and officially installed during the Commencement Service.

Student Leaders

School Captains

Hannah Prenzler
Joshua Z Martin

Deputy Captains

Sarah Harper
Will Everett

Student Leaders

Charlotte Warrick
Jessie Keech
James Peet
Stuart Campbell

House Leaders

Cheltenham Captains

Molly Corbett
Archie Muller

Cheltenham Deputies

Matilda Miller
James Hanson

Highgate Captains

Ella Byrne
Joshua Goodwin

Highgate Deputies

Emily Ward
Jack Sutton

Malvern Captains

Jacqui Borgas
Kyle Gillies

Malvern Deputies

Hannah Borgas
Thomas Glaister

Winchester Captains

Eva Falzon
Oliver Long

Winchester Deputies

Lucy Montgomerie
James Kemp

New Staff

Rory Amoy

Stuart Packer

Alva Barton

Emma Rieger

Lauren Bone

Jennifer Russell

James Divitkos

Darren Schultz

Steve Eden

Barnabas Smith

Gaynor Gray

Michelle Thomson

Jane Healey

Belinda Zanello

Josie Klovekorn

Tegan Morgan

We also had the opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate:

The top SACE student and overall Dux with an ATAR of 99.3:

- Rowan Sanun

The top IBDP student for 2019:

- Ella Brock-Fabel

In his Dux acceptance speech, Rowan thanked those who had helped him along the way - his teachers, friends and family. Rowan also offered some advice to all those entering Year 12 this year, .

It's easy to think at the beginning of the year that you'll cocoon yourself in the bubble that is Year 12. ... But you don't have to give up everything. In Mr Leydon's words, "find a happy medium." Look after yourself, get enough sleep, make time to catch up with friends, and enjoy your time together in Year 12.

... Regardless of your approach to Year 12, life has a habit of throwing a curveball at the worst possible time. ... It happens! And if it does, keep things in perspective ... you are not on this road alone, and if you find yourself in that position (as I did), talk to someone. It could be a friend, family member or your teachers.

... The most important advice I can give you [about Year 12] is make the most of it.

For an overview of our 2019 Year 12 results, visit our [Results and Achievements](#) page.

German Exchange 2019-20

In mid-November last year, a group of exchange students landed in Munich, Germany, to live in Bavaria for two months! During the first few days, we met our host families, started at school, and ate a variety of German favourites: schnitzel, sauerkraut, and pretzels, to name a few. With the average temperature sitting in the low minuses, many attempted some skiing or tobogganing in the amazing Bavarian (and Austrian) Alps. The cold December away from home was a different experience to say the least. Even though it wasn't a white Christmas, we still managed to experience some Bavarian traditions and visit the markets to enjoy some typical German dishes! The Berlin Trip gave the group a chance to catch up and see what the famous city had to offer. Though delving into parts of Germany's history proved, at times, to be confronting and intense, it was eye-opening and definitely worthwhile. Within a few days we were on our way home with a lifetime of memories from the amazing country of Germany.

Sarah 12TMCC

Celebrating Class of 2019 Merit Awards

At the start of this week, ceremonies were held to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of SACE and IBDP Merit recipients.

Concordia is very proud of the following students who were recognised at these events.

IBDP

- Ella Brock-Fabel - German B SL
- Georgia Chiswell - Psychology SL
- Winnie Lu - French ab initio SL
- Francesca Pearce - Maths Studies SL
- Perri Van Leuven - German B SL

SACE

- Mark Fulton - Material Products
- Angus Goddard - Material Products
- Sebastian Lucey - Food and Hospitality
- Lucy Montgomerie - Food and Hospitality
- Michael Murray - Physics
- Rowan Sanun - Chemistry
- Mikaela Sas - General Mathematics
- Jake Smallwood - Food and Hospitality

We also congratulate Mark Beecher (2018) who achieved the highest possible IBDP score of 45 after re-taking two subjects in 2019.

Well done to all of these students on these excellent achievements!

Music Notes

Music Ensembles

It has been a very busy start to Term 1 in the Music Centre and we are already hearing some fantastic music. Most ensembles have started rehearsals and this includes all Big Bands, Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Musical Pit Band, Year 7 & 8 Choir, Year 9 Choir, Chamber Strings and String Ensemble. The remaining small ensembles will all commence in the coming days and if students are interested, they should visit the Music Office. All ensemble members and families have received a welcome email. All Year 7, 8 and 9 students have received an invitation to join choirs, should they choose to do so.

Instrumental Lessons

Instrumental lessons have begun for 2020. New students are still welcome to join the program as a mid-term intake, and may do so by applying through the [online form](#).

Instrumental Hire

If students are having instrumental lessons at Concordia and need to hire an instrument, please [complete the instrumental hire form](#).

Instrumental Lessons and Ensemble Timetables

The timetables for ensemble rehearsals and instrumental lessons are displayed in the Music Centre. Students audition for many of these ensembles, with auditions taking place in Term 4 each year. If students have any questions about their lessons, where their lesson will be held, wish to confirm their teacher name or how to find the time of their lesson, they should visit Mrs Watkins in the Music Office.

Generations in Jazz 2020

Parents whose children are members of Big Band 1, 2 and 3, Mattson Jazz and McKenzie Jazz will all have been notified that their children will attend the Generations in Jazz Music Festival as part of their involvement in these ensembles and choirs. The tour will be leaving on the morning of Thursday, 30 April and returning late on Sunday, 3 May. New students to Jazz Choirs may audition in Term 2, 2020. Families will receive more information as the event gets closer, and are reminded that attendance at this festival incurs a cost of \$560. Students who have already attended and have a tour jacket will have a reduced fee. Students need to deliver their laundered hoodie to the Music Office no later than Friday, 28 February. New students will be able to try on sample size hoodies very soon.

Mat Noble

Director of Music

Year 8 and 10 Immunisations

Parents and caregivers of Year 8 and Year 10 students should have received a consent card, via their child/ren, for immunisations to be given this year.

The dates for both Year levels are **Monday 30 March and Friday 6 November**.

Year 8	2 dose course of Gardasil (Human Papilloma Virus) Vaccine
	1 dose Boostrix (Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus) Vaccine
Year 10	2 dose course of Bexsero (Meningococcal B) Vaccine
	1 dose Nimenrix (Meningococcal ACWY)

Spare consent cards are available from the SSO.

The consent card should be signed and returned, even if not giving consent. Last date to be returned: Monday 10 February.

Sue Bates

Medical Support Officer

Swimming Carnival

On Friday, 6 December students from Years 7 to 10 competed in the 2019 Swimming Carnival at the Unley Swimming Pool. We had a beautiful day full of colour and enthusiasm, and students were excited to participate in a variety of novelty and championship events. It was fantastic to see the newly elected House Captains work hard with their teams to get swimmers in the pool and build team spirit for the first event of the 2020 House competition.

Beginning with cross-pool swims, Winchester got the most swimmers in the pool and started with a 66-point lead over Malvern. With the novelty events being favoured by many, competitive spirit kicked in and some very close results occurred between Highgate and Malvern, but it was still Winchester that scored the most points.

Our competitive races saw some amazing performances. In particular, Winchester set a number of new record times on the day, including:

- Olivia Q (Year 7) Freestyle Division 2 - 36.63s
- Lachlan B (Year 8) Breaststroke, 37.2 seconds
- Samuel K (Year 8) Freestyle Division 2, 31.5 seconds
- Hana I (Year 10) Butterfly, 34.17 seconds
- Damon T (Year 10) Freestyle Division 2, 32.20 seconds.

One other record was achieved by Malvern competitor Kate S (Year 8) - Freestyle Division 2, 35.46 seconds. Congratulations to Winchester for winning the championship events.

The championship races attracted the attention of everyone in the stands. These are 50m Freestyle races between the fastest swimmers of each House, irrespective of year level. Congratulations to Louisa B (Year 8) from Malvern, who won the girls' race in 30.59 seconds, and Jaden T-M (Year 9) from Winchester, who won the boys race in 28.40 seconds.

The final standings for the day were:

- 1st – Winchester 771 points
- 2nd – Malvern 590 points
- 3rd – Highgate 475 points
- 4th – Cheltenham 440 points

The 2019 Swimming Carnival was a wonderful day. Congratulations to all students for representing the school with dignity, pride and fantastic sportsmanship.

Mrs Rachel Paterson

Coordinator

Photos by Ben 11JLEY.

Stamps for Missions

The Lutheran Church collects and sells used stamps – this program, Stamps for Missions, raises money for a variety of purposes in the Asia Pacific region. In a decade, over \$400,000 has been raised to support various projects... all from unwanted and used stamps.

2020 Projects include:

- Home of Grace – this home in Thailand provides refuge to women, otherwise unsupported, during their pregnancy and in the months following the birth of their child.
- Support for youth ministry in Sabah, Malaysia.
- Support for the Sprau family in the Eastern Highlands of PNG. They work in the medical clinic at Ukarumpa and participate in clinics and health patrols to villages that otherwise would not receive medical care.

If you'd like to contribute, please deliver stamps to Reception or to the Yangadlitya Resource Centre at the Concordia Campus.

Thank you.

Catherine Riedel
Teacher Librarian

SEQTA Update

Introducing SEQTA Learn

Concordia College is steadily adopting a School and Learning Management system based on combining Synergetic (database software) and SEQTA. SEQTA is a four-part system. Parents have already been invited to create accounts through SEQTA Engage. Teachers are taking attendance and managing their timetables through SEQTA Teach. Music tutors are organising tuition sessions through SEQTA Tutor. Our students in Middle and Senior School are able to view their timetables and classes in SEQTA Learn.

Because we are opening the new system in incremental steps over twelve months to enable our staff to learn the programs thoroughly, some of the more powerful aspects of SEQTA that include communication, virtual classrooms, curriculum planning, learning assessment and reporting are yet to be turned on. We will keep parents informed as we expand the use of SEQTA and our plan is that by the beginning of 2021 SEQTA will be the one-stop portal and information system for our students, parents and teachers.

For this year, your children's learning progress, assessment and reporting will continue to be available through ManageBac. New parents who have not yet received access to ManageBac will receive an invitation email in the next fortnight to help them get set up with ManageBac.

Reminder regarding SEQTA Engage

SEQTA Engage is the web and smartphone app-based interface for parents. All Concordia parents are invited to create accounts to access the SEQTA Engage portal and many have already completed this process. Current Concordia parents who are yet to create an account are asked to please do so at their earliest convenience.

Tony Shillitoe
Director of Digital Resources

Student Achievements

Well done to **Issy (8NMCG)**, **Ava (9TPRE)** and **Eliza (8NMCG)** who represented South Australia at the Softball Australia Junior National Championships in Perth in January. The girls were part of one of two South Australian U14 development teams. A fantastic achievement!

Congratulations to Year 12 student **Jessie (12LNEL)** who has been selected in the U18 Australian Softball Team, an absolutely outstanding achievement. Well done, Jessie, and all the very best from Concordia!

From the Archives: Autograph Books

This week we look back at a few excerpts from student autograph books, which were prized possessions treasured by students in the early 1900s.

[Read more...](#)

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Sport

[Click here to read about Concordia's performance at the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup in December.](#)

National Volleyball

In December 2019, Concordia sent both a Senior boys and girls team to the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup on the Gold Coast. It was a great opportunity to play against a range of teams from all over Australia and New Zealand. During the week-long competition, both teams, playing in a division higher than previously (girls Div 2, boys Div 1), were challenged and, for the most part, met those challenges. The girls were particularly successful in taking out the silver medal. Thank you the coaches and staff involved: James Serotzki, Sam White, Stef Weiler, Georgina Leske, Max Guehrer, and Sue and David Serotzki.

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Noticeboard

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Diary Dates

Fridge Notes

To download a Term 1 *Fridge Notes* calendar for each campus, click the links below. Fridge Notes can also be accessed via the 'More' tab within the School Star app.

- [St John's Campus Fridge Notes](#)
- [Concordia Campus Fridge Notes](#)

St John's Campus

February

Friday 7	Coffee in the Courtyard, 9.15am
Saturday 8	ACER Scholarship Test for Year 7 in 2021 at Concordia Campus
Sunday 9	Staff Blessing, 10am in the College Chapel
Wednesday 12	ELC Parent Information Night, 7-8.30pm
Saturday 15	Year 1 Parent Event
Wednesday 19	St John's Campus Principal's Tour, 9.15am
	Year Level Coordinators' Meeting, 9-10am
Thursday 20	Concordia Campus Principal's Tour, 9.15am

- Saturday 22 Reception Parent Event
- Thursday 27 Year 1 - 5 Parent/Teacher Interviews, 3.30-8pm
ELC Settling in Chats, 3.30-5.30pm
- Saturday 29 ELC Parent Event

March

- Tuesday 3 Year 1 - 5 Parent/Teacher Interviews, 3.30-8pm
ELC Settling in Chats, 3.30-5.30pm
- Wednesday 4 P&F Meeting, 7pm in the St John's Campus Staffroom
- Friday 6 St John's Campus Sports Day on the College Oval
- Monday 9 Adelaide Cup - Public Holiday
- Friday 13 Twilight Tea, 5-8.30pm in the Concordia Campus Quad
- Tuesday 17 Concordia Campus Principal's Tour, 9.15am
- Wednesday 18 Developing Perseverance parent education workshop with Mark Le Messurier, 7-9pm in the Hall

Concordia Campus

February

- Saturday 8 ACER Scholarship Test
- Mon 10 - Thurs 13 Year 8 Camp

Thursday 13	Friends of Music Meeting, 7.30pm
	Non-Uniform Valentine's Day
Friday 14	Year 8 Student Free Day
	Year 7 Family Gathering, 6pm in the Quad
Wednesday 19	St John's Campus Principal's Tour, 9.15am
Thursday 20	Concordia Campus Principal's Tour, 9.15am
Saturday 22	Senior School serving at the Magdalene Centre

March

Wednesday 4	P&F Meeting, 7pm in the St John's Campus Staffroom
Friday 6	Year 12 Formal
Monday 9	Adelaide Cup - Public Holiday
Thursday 12	Concordia Campus Sports Day, SA Athletics Stadium, Mile End
Friday 13	Year 7-12 Non-Uniform Day
	Twilight Tea in the Quad, 5pm - 8.30pm
Tuesday 17	Concordia Campus Principal's Tour, 9.15am
Thurs 19 - Fri 20	Year 12 Retreat

Upcoming Events

Year 7 Family Gathering

Friday 14 February 6-8pm in the Quad

Year 7 families are warmly invited to join us for the Year 7 Family Gathering on Friday, 14 February - a wonderful opportunity to meet other Year 7 families as well as Home Class teachers and key staff. Information has been emailed to Year 7 families. For more information, contact [Angela Warrick](#), Community Engagement and Events Officer. To book online, [click here](#).

Year 12 Formal

Friday 6 March, 7pm

Always a highlight of the Year for our Year 12 students, this year's Formal is sure to once again be a fabulous night of celebration. Information about the event will be distributed to Year 12 parents and students shortly.

Twilight Tea

Friday 13 March - 5-8.30pm in the Concordia Campus Quadrangle

Join us for the annual 'Twilight Tea', an evening of fun and entertainment for all the family.

The annual Twilight Tea is one of Concordia's best-loved community events. Join us in the Quad on Friday, 13 March from 5pm to 8.30pm for a full program of entertainment, children's activities, food stalls and much more.

Free entry. All welcome!

Business Networking Breakfast

Thursday 26 March, 7.30-9am in The Suaviter, Concordia Campus

Members of the Concordia community are warmly invited to join us for our next Business Networking Breakfast with special guest speaker Carole Gordon from BIN SHIFT. Carole teaches sustainable waste reduction, which in 2020 is critical knowledge for businesses seeking to be leaders in sustainable practice. She will outline ways you can move towards a more sustainable future in the home or workplace and we are looking forward to a wonderful morning. [Book online](#)

St John's Campus Family Event

Friday 27 March, 5-7pm

The St John's Campus Family Event is a wonderful opportunity for families to connect in a relaxed environment, with delicious food provided as well as entertainment and activities for the children. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

The School Shop

Opening Hours – Term Time

- Mondays, 8am – 4pm
- Wednesdays, 12.30pm – 4pm
- Thursdays, 12.30pm – 5.30pm

The School Shop staff can be contacted on the direct telephone line during opening hours – 8291 9302.

Second Hand Clothing

If you have uniforms you no longer need, they may be donated or sold in The School Shop.

All items must be washed, ironed and in good condition. Blazers and winter skirts must be dry cleaned and summer hats cleaned. Any uniform items in need of repair e.g. broken zips, seams unstitched, missing buttons, etc., must be repaired prior to acceptance for sale. Buttons are sold in The School Shop.

Old Logo – Uniforms with the old school logo are no longer saleable in The School Shop, but can be dropped off for donation.

Public Notices & Events

- The **ATOM Groundswell Schools Competition** is open to all primary and secondary school students, providing an opportunity to highlight environmental/sustainability initiatives in their community via film, website, essay or photo essay. There are four age level categories and entries are now open and will close at 12pm AEST on Friday, 11 September 2020. [Visit the ATOM Groundswell website](#) for more information.
- **Forestville Eagles Basketball Club** are holding a Come and Try Day on Sunday, 16 February for boys and girls born between 2011 and 2014. [Download a flyer](#) for more information.
- **Glen Osmond Scout Group** are holding an Open Day on Sunday, 16 February from 12 to 3pm at Ride Park. [Download a flyer](#) for more information.
- A number of **free parenting seminars by Mark Le Messurier and Madhavi Parker** are being held at Fullarton Park Community Centre in 2020. [Download a flyer](#) for dates and details of each seminar on offer. Bookings are essential as places are limited.
- A research study approved by the Women's and Children's Health Network Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC/18/WCHN/168) is currently underway, looking at whether meditation improves quality of life in adolescents with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS). They are currently seeking females aged 12-20 years who have been diagnosed with PCOS to be involved in the study. To find out more, [click to download an advertisement](#) for the study.
- **Tritons Water Polo and Adelaide City Council** are running Come 'n' Try free water polo coaching sessions (just pay pool entry) for strong swimmers aged 8 years and older on Sunday afternoons from 15 March to 26 April. [Download a flyer](#) for more information.

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