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From the Head of College - Welcome to 2022

I would like to begin by thanking the College community for their patience and support in what has been another unusual start to a school term. The excellent preparation by staff and the calmness of the students have demonstrated just how resilient the Concordia community can be when facing adversity. It has been interesting to lead and manage the College in times when a snap press conference can completely rearrange a beginning of year schedule. However, these are the times we find ourselves in. The implications of the pandemic for schools has been profound. Not only has the mode of learning needed to evolve, but whole of College decision making at a leadership level has also needed to be done differently.

It has been a blessing in so many ways that the College Board has seen fit to endorse a new leadership structure, which is designed to allow for whole of College strategic and operational decisions to be made in a timely manner and implemented promptly by campus-specific leadership teams which understand the nuances of their year level environments. This is the structure we now have in place at the College; strategic alignment from ELC to Year 12 with operational management at the local level. This structure already has served us well as we rapidly re-orientated our beginning of year program and launched the hybrid learning model. Whilst there will always be role clarity and process issues to work out along the way, we are confident the structure will deliver better educational outcomes for our students, which is ultimately the driver behind the change.

Thank you again for your support and encouragement in these early stages of the school year. With the news yesterday that the return of all students this Monday has been confirmed, we pray for all students' safety and wellbeing and that of their families. In these times, a loving College community is a place that can greatly assist students in developing resilience amidst these rapid changes - a community where students experience deep pastoral relationships, open hearts, high levels of trust and people that will love them no matter what. Just as God loves us!

Paul Weinert

Head of College

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Did you know? Q&A with Dennis Mulherin, Middle and Senior School Principal

1. Name and are you an Adelaide person and care to share anything about your family?

Dennis Mulherin. I was born and raised in Brisbane and have spent all but a year of my life there. I am married to Julie and have two adult children – my daughter, Rebecca, who is returning from two years in South Korea in coming weeks, and a son, Thomas, who is an engineer based in Brisbane.

2. Where were you before this and what persuaded you to join Concordia College?

For the last six years I have been the Executive Director of Lutheran Education Queensland, supporting a system of 26 schools and 47 ELCs across the state of Queensland and northern NSW. The job was highly satisfying, supporting the Principals and Governing Bodies of all the schools, but it was unrelenting. I have come to Concordia for a rest... only joking. I was ready for a new challenge and excited by the opportunity to work in a new state, at a highly regarded school, supporting staff to deliver quality learning and care to its students.

3. Three words to describe you.

Passionate. Authentic. Committed.

4. What is your motivation or inspiration as Principal of the Middle and Senior School?

I have already seen the quality of young educational leaders at the school. I am motivated to support their continued growth.

5. You have just had a few weeks in the role – what has impressed you thus far and what goals are in the pipeline?

I am impressed by the foundations that are already in place. The staff team are committed and passionate. The students are focused on their learning. The overarching goal is to ensure every individual, staff or student, achieves and sees growth throughout 2022.

6. If you had a superpower, what would it be?

What would I like it to be? I would love the ability to slow down time. This would give me more hours in a day to achieve what I want to achieve and would allow the time to ensure decisions that are made are done so with the thinking necessary. Decisions on the run in a busy schedule are rarely in the best interest of the school.

7. Who would you invite to a dinner party of six guests and why? Alternatively, tell us something you might like to share that we could not possibly know?

Pre-COVID, I had visited over 50 countries. I love travel for the opportunities it provides to step in the shoes of others. Having said that, if I only had five invites to a dinner party, I would invite my wife Julie because she is the extrovert and would connect with all the other guests. The other four invites would be offered to family and friends. I am not necessarily impressed by celebrity, and I never get enough time to share with those I love.

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ELC and Primary School

A Very Different Start!

A very warm welcome back to the commencement of our 2022 school year here at the ELC

and Primary School. I hope that you and your families enjoyed some 'down time' in the holiday break. Yes, it has been a very different way to start the year, and certainly not our preferred option. That being said, I am pleased to say that our students have, for the most part, coped very well with Government's 'hybrid' model for the start of school.

Whether they have been here at school face to face (ELC, Receptions and Year 1), at home with Connected Learning or here at school with Connected Learning, it certainly has been good to see our students once again and begin to make those important connections that are always part of the new year.

During these beginning days we have focused on ensuring a calm approach in all that we do while also establishing clear routines and expectations. We feel confident that this approach will best support the general wellbeing of our students and also help them engage positively with Connected Learning.

We extend a special welcome to the new students and families along with new staff who have started with us this year. We trust that you settle into the year positively and look forward to getting to know you better over the coming days and weeks.

I want to extend a big thank you to our students and parents for the positive manner in which you have navigated your way through these initial days under very different circumstances. We look forward to some relaxing of the imposed protocols in the not-to-distant future. Any changes in this regard will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

Likewise, a huge thank you to staff for their dedication, care and hard work in planning and preparing for the start of the year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I look forward to catching up with all members of our ELC and Primary School community soon in the coming days and weeks as we step into the 2022 school year together.

Blessings for the year ahead,

Michael Paech

Principal - ELC and Primary School

ELC and Primary School students on day one of Term 1

ELC and Primary School students on day one of Term 1

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Middle and Senior School

It has certainly been a busy and unusual start to the year. The staff week followed by the return of students, in person or virtually, has come with challenges to solve, compromises to make, and surprises around every corner. With that being the case, I want to thank all members of the community for your understanding and support for one another as we have navigated the last two weeks.

Staff members, teaching and support, have worked tirelessly to ensure the year for students

would start productively and with plenty of attention to care. The students have been engaged in their learning and supportive of each other. As a parent body, I wish to pass on my thanks to you as well. I have seen the support you have for the school through the collection of textbooks for Years 9-11 at short notice, and during work hours. I am sorry we needed to impose that on you to ensure we could engage all students in Connected Learning from day two. I also thank you for your support in ensuring we can keep all members of the school community safe through the wearing of masks by students as well as staff.

The aim of staff throughout 2022 is to continue to provide the quality of education and care for which the College is known, and to provide as normal an experience as is possible irrespective of the presence of COVID-19.

As a newcomer to this school, I have already witnessed and felt the sense of community that pervades all that happens. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in coming weeks and months.

Every blessing,

Dennis Mulherin

Principal - Middle and Senior School

Middle School students on day one of Term 1

Middle School students on day one of Term 1

Senior School students on day one of Term 1

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Off to a Great Start in the ELC

It has been so lovely to meet the new ELC children for this year and to start to get to know them all. They have been showing resilience in separating from parents, confidence in getting to know new friends and educators, and enthusiasm as they explore the ELC environment for the first time. The smiles on their faces are truly contagious. Welcome ELC students of 2022!

Sarah Neill

ELC Coordinator

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SACE Art Show

We were recently delighted by the news that artworks by four of our Class of 2021 graduates have been selected by the SACE Board for inclusion in the SACE Art Show 2022. This is a fantastic achievement and means that these students will have their work displayed at the Light Square Gallery alongside work from 114 other students from across the state from Tuesday 22 March to Friday 22 April.

Congratulations to the following Concordia students, listed below alongside the names of their chosen pieces:

- **Jack Manning** - *Spazio e Forma*
- **Lauren Munn** - *The Heart of Nature*
- **Isla Scruby** - *Self-Concept*
- **Lucy Thompson** - *Dancing Amoeba*

The selection of these students is a credit to their talent and also to the quality of the nurturing of that talent by our Art teachers and support staff. Well done to all involved!

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Design-athon pitch to Unley Council Meeting

On Monday 13 December 2021, a group of four students from Concordia College's winning Design-athon team gave a short presentation to the Mayor and elected members of Unley Council at their Council meeting.

The students shared their ideas for how Unley Council can assist young people to practise resilience and foster overall health and wellbeing. Our students articulately and confidently presented their "pitch" to Council. They are hopeful that many of their recommendations may be implemented through the Unley Council Living Young Reference Group in 2022.

Mayor Michael Hewitson and the elected members were very supportive and encouraging of the students and their ideas. The Mayor came and spoke with the students personally, commending them on their presentation. The team was recently profiled in the Summer edition of Unley Life magazine. This was a wonderful experience for our team members, who were able to see how their voice can make a difference in their local area and beyond.

Emma Rieger

Enrichment and Extended Learning

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Volunteering Opportunity

We are currently seeking volunteers to assist with the sale of ice blocks at the ELC and Primary School. If you are interested in volunteering in this way, please contact the School Office on 8271 4299 or [contact us via email](#).

We look forward to hearing from you!

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2022 School Immunisation Program

Immunisation Information for Parents/Legal Guardians of Year 8 and 10 Students

The SA School Immunisation Program will be offered at your school by Eastern Health Authority.

All Year 8 students will be offered:

- 2 doses of the human papillomavirus vaccine, Gardasil9 at 2 separate visits.
- 1 dose of the diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough vaccine.

All Year 10 students will be offered:

- 2 doses of the meningococcal B vaccine, Bexsero at 2 separate visits.
- 1 dose of the meningococcal ACWY vaccine, Nimenrix.

Immunisation consent packs have been sent home with all Year 8 students. Year 10 students will receive theirs on their return to the College. It is important that you read the information contained in the packs before you give consent for your child to be vaccinated at school. If you have any questions about this program, please contact Eastern Health Authority - phone 8132 3600 or www.eha.sa.gov.au

All parents / legal guardians are to complete, sign and return the Consent Cards, even if you do not consent for the student to be vaccinated at school. Students aged 16 years and above can consent for themselves.

If you do not receive an Immunisation Consent pack from your child, please ask at the SSO.

If you do not want your child to be vaccinated at school, please contact Eastern Health Authority to arrange for your child to receive the free vaccines. If you go to your local doctor for the vaccination, they will need to order the vaccine and may charge a consultation fee.

Remember to keep your child's School Immunisation Program records in a safe place as they may be required for future employment or travel.

Sue Bates

Medical Support Officer

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Highgate Lodge Items Donated to Charity

With Highgate Lodge - the Concordia-owned international university student accommodation block on Cheltenham Street - soon to be demolished to make way for a new ELC - Year 12 College Gymnasium, we were delighted to recently donate items to the following charities:

- many beds were donated to Container of Hope, for sending overseas
- fridges were donated to Teen Challenge here in South Australia

It is wonderful to give back and make a difference in such a practical way. We trust that these much-needed items will be of benefit to those who receive them.

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Student Achievements

Congratulations to **Paddy (10JPID)** and **Tom (11MSMI)** on being selected in the SA Metro Under 18 basketball team - a wonderful achievement! We wish the boys all the best as they prepare to (hopefully) head to Ballarat later this term to represent South Australia in a national tournament.

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Diary Dates

ELC and Primary School

February

Monday 14 Face-to-face classes resume for all year levels

March

Wed 16 - Fri 18 Year 5 Camp TBC

Mon 21 - Wed 23 Year 4 Camp TBC

Friday 25 Reception to Year 6 Sports Day, Concordia College Oval

April

Thursday 14 Term 1 concludes, Primary School students dismissed at 1pm

Middle and Senior School

February

Monday 14 Face-to-face classes resume for all year levels

March

Tuesday 15 Year 8 Vaccinations

Thursday 17 Middle and Senior School Sports Day, SA Athletics Stadium

April

Thursday 14 Term 1 concludes, Middle and Senior School students dismissed at 1pm

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CC Cafe Term 1 Menu

There is always a delicious and nutritious range of food available at CC Cafe, located at the Middle and Senior School.

[View the CC Cafe menu for Term 1 2022](#)

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A Message from the LLL about Savings Accounts for Students

The LLL invites families to open an LLL Savings Account for your school-aged child before 31 March 2022 - and they will deposit an opening savings contribution of \$25* to kickstart your child's savings journey.

Simply use the promotional code **HS25** when opening the new account.

Visit lll.org.au/personal to get started, or visit the Finance Office for more information.

**The \$25 savings contribution consists of the normal \$5 contribution paid into the first account opened in the child's name, PLUS an additional \$20 when quoting the promotional code.*

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The School Shop

General trading – no appointment required. Physical distancing rules still apply. We thank you for your patience during this time.

- Mondays: 8am - 4pm
- Wednesdays: 12.30pm - 4pm
- Thursdays: 12.30pm - 6pm

Email orders are also welcome and purchases may be collected from The School Shop during opening hours. Please email: schoolshop@concordia.sa.edu.au and include:

- your child's name
- size
- contact details

The School Shop staff will contact you for payment and advise when your order is available to collect.

Please note The School Shop is closed on public holidays.

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

Secondhand Clothing

If you have uniforms you no longer need, they may be donated or sold on consignment in The School Shop ([click to download a secondhand uniforms consignment form](#)).

Please note:

- Blazers and winter skirts/pinafores must be dry cleaned with a receipt attached.
- Jumpers must be washed using a wool wash detergent.
- All other items must be in good condition, stains removed, washed and ironed ready for sale.
- Summer hats must be hand washed.
- 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.
- Garments presented on hangers are preferred.
- Old logo and discontinued styles – uniforms with the old school logo and discontinued styles are no longer saleable in The School Shop but can be dropped off for overseas charity donation.

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Public Notices & Events

- **DanceSA** is offering after school lessons which provide fun, fitness and creativity for students of all ages, with a mixture of dance styles offered in the one class. For more information, [visit their website](#).
- **Woodside Warriors Soccer Club** are offering a chance to 'Have a Shot', with the ability to join non-competitive teams in U8, U9, U10 and U11 and competitive teams in U12, U13, U15, and U17 girls. Training is on Wednesdays (U8-U13) and Thursdays (U15-U17). Games are on Saturdays. [Download a flyer](#) for more information.
- Registrations are now open to join the **Adelaide Junior Bulldogs Football Club** in 2022. Location: Corner of Goodwood Road and South Terrace. Ages: Auskick Minis U7 - U14 Girls and Boys. [Download a flyer](#) for more information.

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