Concordia Connect

2024 Term 2 Week 6

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From the Middle School Leader

As we navigate the ever-evolving landscape of technology, one pressing issue that demands our attention is our teenagers' access to smartphones and use of social media. This topic affects every family and requires thoughtful consideration and action.

In a recent article by Scott Pape, known as the Barefoot Investor, titled "This is the Hardest Thing I've Ever Written," Pape explores the profound impact of smartphones and social media on teenagers. His heartfelt account of the challenges faced by families today is a must-read for every parent. Pape highlights the addictive nature of these technologies and their potential to disrupt sleep, impact mental health and detract from academic performance and family time.

As the Middle School Leader, I see firsthand the influence of these devices in our students' lives. While technology can be a powerful tool for learning and connection, it is crucial that we guide our children in using it responsibly. Pape's article contains practical advice for parents, summarised as follows:

1. **Set Boundaries:** Establish clear rules about smartphone use, especially during homework time and at night.
2. **Open Communication:** Encourage your children to talk about their online experiences. Understanding their digital world helps us support them better.
3. **Lead by Example:** Model healthy technology habits. Children often emulate our behaviour.
4. **Educational Balance:** Encourage activities that don't involve screens, such as reading, sports or family outings.

By actively engaging in our children's digital lives, we do more than just manage screen time; we build trust and open channels for meaningful conversation. In an age where the virtual world can often seem more tangible to our youth than reality, our guidance can help them navigate these spaces with greater caution.

Let us embrace this responsibility with empathy and understanding, creating a nurturing environment where our children feel supported and valued. This collaboration between families and schools can help our children and teens develop a balanced relationship with technology, enhancing their growth, supporting their wellbeing and enriching their journey through adolescence.

Resources for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

Lifeline Australia

- Phone: 13 11 14
- Website: lifeline.org.au
- Available 24/7 for crisis support and suicide prevention.

Kids Helpline

- Phone: 1800 55 1800
- Website: kidshelpline.com.au
- A free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.

Beyond Blue

- Phone: 1300 22 4636
- Website: beyondblue.org.au

Clay Watkins
Middle School Leader

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Q&A with Matthew Webster, Year 5/6 Teacher - St Peters Campus

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

Over the past 25 years I've been really fortunate to have worked in schools internationally, from London to Dubai and then China. Most recently I've been at Wilderness School for the past few years. The opportunity to reconnect with the IB PYP in a setting with such a strong reputation like Concordia has, was a huge incentive.

2. Three words to describe you.

Caring, adaptable, fun.

3. What is your motivation or inspiration in your role?

The amazing educators I was fortunate to have worked with as a student have had a lasting impact on me, some of whom have become family friends over the years. To replicate this in fostering a love of learning in the young people with whom I work, to learn for learning's sake, is a big motivator.

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

Flight... or invisibility. That could be interesting.

5. 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?

I've always been a big fan of pro wrestling (don't judge) so I'd invite some of them. Funny story – my school's owners in China were the main sponsors of a WWE event in Hong Kong, and some of the wrestlers actually came to our school and did some cooking with our students! Bizarre, but true.

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National Reconciliation Week at Concordia

It was our privilege last week to stand with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia to say, "Now More Than Ever" we continue our commitment to achieving reconciliation across the land.

The ELC at St John's Campus celebrated Reconciliation Week with various activities within the Centre. The four-year-old rooms also took a walk to Fullarton Park to learn about the beautiful Aboriginal totem poles and explore nature. This provided a wonderful opportunity to introduce young children to the rich cultures and histories of Australia's First Nations peoples, fostering a sense of inclusivity and respect from an early age.

Our Primary School students explored this year's theme and discussed their class commitment in taking action towards reconciliation. At the St John's Campus, students acknowledged National Reconciliation Week at Assembly and Year 5MP led a beautiful Chapel service highlighting connections between reconciliation in Australia and Jesus' reconciling us to God through his death and resurrection.

A particular highlight was our new original artwork "The Meeting Place" designed and created by Concordia College students from three campuses with Kaurna artist Sam Gollan. At the centre, the meeting place depicts students and teachers seated in a circle, learning from each other. The lines leading into the meeting place symbolise the support from family, community and others.

Concordia College's commitment to reconciliation extends beyond our Acknowledgment of Country, history and cultures, to actively promoting understanding, respect and equity for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Nancy Wells
Reconciliation Action Plan Coordinator

Sarah Neill
Early Learning Centre Coordinator - St John's Campus

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Wear Warm Winter Woollies Week (Day) - Friday 14 June

On **Friday 14 June**, we will have a non-uniform day on all campuses to support Lutheran Care's Winter Appeal.

Students (and staff) are encouraged to wear some kind of Warm Winter Woolly as an accessory to their non-uniform clothes (e.g. beanie, scarf, oodie, gloves).

Please adhere to the non-uniform day clothing requirements below:

- Covered-in shoes for practical subjects, including Science, PE, Food Design and Design Technology
- Long hair must be able to be tied up for the subjects listed above
- No inappropriate slogans
- No bare midriffs
- Remember Concordia is a workplace - shorts and tops need to be appropriate i.e. not too short or brief
- Middle and Senior School students must change into full PE uniform for PE classes.

For the privilege of wearing non-uniform clothes, students are asked to bring a donation of winter woollies to donate to Lutheran Care's appeal. Donations can be brought in anytime across the week. There will be an allocated space in each Home Class room in which these

items can be placed. Lutheran Care would appreciate ***new*** items, such as those listed below, which they can give to those in need:

- Thick socks
- Scarves
- Beanies
- Gloves
- Blankets
- Jackets
- Any other warming items

Lutheran Care do significant work, through our state and the Northern Territory, in caring for families and individuals in crisis. At Concordia we are pleased to partner with them, as we have done for many years, to bring hope and comfort to a hurting world.

Concordia Campus (Year 7 to Year 12) Lunchtime Activities

At lunchtime on Friday 14 June, our Student Leaders will also be selling the following items to raise funds to support Lutheran Care (EFTPOS will be available):

- Krispy Kreme doughnuts - $2.50
- Hot chocolate - $2.00

Thank you all for your support.

Mark Rathjen
College Chaplain

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Join us at our 2024 String Soiree on Friday 7 June

Members of the Concordia community are warmly invited to join us in at our 2024 String Soiree, featuring our Chamber Strings, String Ensemble, Cello Ensemble, St John's Campus Strings and College String Quartets.

- **Date: Friday 7 June**
- **Time: 5.00pm**
- **Free entry, no bookings necessary**

We are looking forward to a beautiful evening of music and hope to see many of you there!

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Reminder: P&F Meeting on Tuesday 11 June

******New venue for Term 2******

Join us for our Term 2 P&F Meeting at Castello's Cucina. Enjoy the informal setting by the warm fire with light refreshments. Following the hugely successful Quiz Night, come along to share future events and opportunities.

Please see key details below and locate the notice in the Concordia app to view the previous minutes and the upcoming agenda.

- **Date | Tuesday 11 June**
- **Time | 6.00pm**
- **Venue | Castello's Cucina, Living Choice. 123 Fisher Street, Fullarton**

Be part of the open discussion.

Please RSVP to Angela Warrick by 9am on Tuesday 11 June if you plan to attend.

See you there!

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Reception Excursion to Glenthorne National Park

The Reception classes from St Peters Campus and St John's Campus recently enjoyed a wonderful outdoor day together. This formed part of our learning about special places and the ways in which we can care for them. It also formed part of our learning about storytelling and the special significance of the land to Aboriginal people.

Our excursion to Ityamaiitpinna Yarta - Glenthorne National Park Adventure Playground was filled with excitement and learning. Working with Nature Play SA for the day proved to be lots of fun and our students had opportunities to build cubbies, to investigate macro invertebrates, and to observe features of the local environment and record them in water paintings. The playground equipment provided a safe element of risk, and our students had a fabulous time trying new things, collaborating, climbing, swinging, crawling, jumping, laughing and storytelling. We had so much fun that we think that we should go back again!

Jen Schultz, Megan Fyffe, Laura Benger and Melissa Robson
Reception Teachers

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Join our Giving Day 2024

Wednesday 12 June is Concordia Giving Day 2024. For 14 hours we have the opportunity to convert every $1 into $2 as we aim to raise $200,000.

Every tax-deductible donation will be matched by generous benefactors. So, as a not-for-profit

school, your donation goes twice as far to meet our goal.

This is your chance to raise needed funds for Concordia College building initiatives and scholarships. Your donation will continue our vision of providing students with exceptional learning and confidence while equipping them for an extraordinary future.

Make your donation now and choose your preferred year level or Old Concordian group. The group who raises the most funds will receive a dedication on the new Fortiter (ELC to Year 12 Gymnasium) donor wall! #extraordinary

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Peace Pole comes to Concordia

Surrounded by students, staff and invited special guests, we gathered during Reconciliation Week to reaffirm our commitment to peace locally and globally. An initiative of Rotary Adelaide and Rotary in South Australia, our Peace Pole was donated to Concordia College by grandparent Oliver Clark AO. Peace Poles are messaged with ‘May Peace Prevail on Earth’.

The Peace Pole program had its beginnings in 1955. You can now find Peace Poles in close to 200 countries with over 250,000 placed around the world. They are one of the most recognised monuments dedicated to peace on earth. Peace Poles have the Universal Peace Message ‘May Peace Prevail on Earth’ written on each side in four languages, ours is written in Kaurna, German, Mandarin and English. They symbolise our common wish for a world at peace.

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Book your tickets to the St Peters Campus Production of Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS

Our St Peters Campus is excited to present three extraordinary performances of Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS musical later this term.

- Date/s and Time/s: Tuesday 18 June - 2.15pm and 6.30pm | Thursday 20 June - 6.30p
- Venue: St Peters Lutheran Church, 71 Cumming Street, Blackwood
- Cost: Adults $15 / Concession $10

We hope you will be able to join us and support our students as they take to the stage.

Book Tickets (opens an external website in a new window)
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Backflips Against Bullying

On Wednesday 29 May, the Year 7s and 8s viewed ‘Backflips Against Bullying’, performed by Action Education, a program exploring bullying behaviours taught through parkour and flips.

Both performances covered important topics such as:

Year 7

- Power Dynamics and Resilience
- Cyber-bullying
- Physical, Verbal and Social Harassment
- Real-world Consequences
- Targeted and Repeated Harassment

Year 8

- Practical Resilience Tool
- Aggression
- Playing the Social Game
- Rumours
- Interactive Group Reflection

"Backflips Against Bullying taught me about some of the major effects of bullying. This performance was a very good way of presenting some difficult topics to talk about. Luca and Christian made the performance fun by incorporating flips and activities into the mix of information.

We learnt that even when it feels like you have no choice you always do and no matter what, things can always get better. You should always talk to an adult like a teacher, your parents or even a friend’s parents. There are also four types of bullying: verbal, physical, cyber and social.

There were also multiple times when people were invited to go up onstage. One was to make sure Luca didn’t fall into the crowd, another was to play a game and at the end around 15 students went up so that Luca and Christian could flip over us. This was a really good way to lighten up the mood in between talks." **- India, 7LSCO**

Rachel Hogan
Year 7 Leader

Jane Healey
Year 8 Leader

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Experience the Voices of Concordia

Come and experience the Voices of Concordia at a special concert in the Chapel at 7pm, with pre-concert entertainment in the Narthex from 6.15pm.

Entry is free and no bookings are necessary.

Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase.

We hope to see you there!

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Ethics Olympiad

On Wednesday 29 May, eight Year 11 students participated in the 'Ethics Olympiad', a competitive yet collaborative tournament in which teams of Senior School students from schools around Australia and New Zealand compete with each other to develop and articulate standpoints on a range of ethical issues.

The event comprised a full-day incursion, with two teams from Concordia College competing. Students presented arguments, developed counter-arguments, answered questions from judges and engaged in critical discussions about ethics and how they shape the decisions we make and the world we create. Both teams from Concordia College scored in the top 50% of schools involved on the day and received honourable mentions from the judges.

The students involved were:

- **Kelsey 11DWHE**
- **Jade 11RAMO**
- **Lexi 11RAMO**
- **Angelina 11RGOG**
- **Fergus 11RSOM**
- **Jack 11RAMO**
- **Jake 11RSOM**
- **Joshua 11RGOG**

Rory Amoy
Acting Humanities Learning Area Coordinator

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Guest Speaker Sarah Levy visits Year 12 History

On Thursday 30 May, SACE Stage 2 Modern History students welcomed Ms Sarah Levy, the

Coordinator for Overseas Education and Learning at the Yad Vashem International School for Holocaust Studies in Jerusalem. Ms Levy delivered an engaging and interactive presentation about the Holocaust and how historians address the subject of 'perpetrators'. Ms Levy's visit coincided with her visit to Australia to continue to promote awareness and study of the Holocaust through the Gandel Holocaust Studies Program for Australian Educators.

Concordia students relished the opportunity to enhance their learning about the Holocaust by hearing from an internationally recognised expert in this field of study. Ms Levy spoke very positively of the attentiveness and diligence of Concordia students during the presentation and commented on their sensitive and considerate approach to discussing the topic.

Rory Amoy
Acting Humanities Learning Area Coordinator

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Capabilities in Action Exhibition - Thursday 20 June

Our Year 10 students are looking forward to showcasing their learning from their SACE Stage 1 Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) class, which incorporates the MYP Personal Project, at the Capabilities in Action exhibition for their parents, family and friends. Members of the College community are also welcome to attend.

- **Date: Thursday 20 June**
- **Time: 4.30-6.30pm**
- **Venue: Yangadlitya Library, Concordia Campus**

Attending the Exhibition

Parents and families wishing to view the Exhibition are invited to attend. When attending the exhibition:

- enter the campus via the main Reception foyer at 24 Winchester Street
- use hand sanitiser
- progress to the Resource Centre (through the glass door on the left near the stairs)

Students will be present to discuss their products and learning progress, so please engage with them and their projects!

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Inter-school Chess

Inter-School Chess has begun strongly this year, with Concordia College fielding three teams in the Senior School Division 2 competition. The teams comprise students from Years 7–11, with the students often playing against older and more experienced players. At the end of the

second night of competition, Concordia Gold is in equal fifth place, out of a total of 34 teams. All students are to be congratulated on their sportsmanship, with a special mention to all of the Year 9s who played on Friday of Week 5, despite having only arrived home from camp the day before!

Chess Club is also thriving. Held on Fridays at lunchtime in YBR, the Club sees many students gather to engage in social competition, learn new tactics and develop their skills in a supportive environment. We are particularly fortunate to have been joined by librarian Scott Jasper this year. Scott brings a passion and wealth of knowledge in relation to chess, and has already taught the students many new strategies.

Judy Harris and Mark Gaskin
Chess Coordinators

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Indigenous artefacts returned from Germany to Kaurna land

On Friday 3 May I was privileged, as a representative of the South Australian German Teachers' Association, to attend a smoking ceremony at Pirltawardli (Possum Park), north of the River Torrens, marking the return of four cultural heritage items from Germany after 180 years. The items – a kathawirri (sword), tantanuka (club or bark peeler), wirnta (spear) and wikatyi (net) had originally been gifted to German missionaries from Dresden in 1840. The ceremony was attended by many Aboriginal elders, as well as Foreign Affairs Minister Penny Wong, Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney, and Germany's Federal Minister for Foreign affairs, Annalena Baerbock. Since the existence of the artefacts was discovered in the Grassi Museum in Leipzig, representatives from the Kaurna people and the Grassi Museum engaged in talks to enable their return to Kaurna land. In her address, Annalena Baerbock spoke about the importance of being "open and reflective of our own past and willing to listen to those who suffered the loss of their cultural heritage during European colonisation". Linda Burney reflected that, "Repatriation helps us to tell the full story of this country's history. It is a small insight into 65,000 years of connection to country". As we reflect on the recent 'National Reconciliation Week', our commitment to the repatriation of Indigenous artefacts is an important step in acknowledging the deep cultural significance these items have for First Nations People.

Trish Prenzler
Acting Coordinator of Languages and German Teacher
SAGTA Vice-President

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City of Unley Living Young eNews

The latest edition of the City of Unley's Living Young eNewsletter is out now, with a plethora of information and opportunities for young people. This edition includes:

- Reconciliation Week 2024 'Now More Than Ever'
- Juvenilia exhibition and showcases of the early works of some of Australia's most loved and established children's authors and illustrators
- Voting for the City of Unley Business Awards
- Toasty Tunes events across the winter season
- Raising Healthy Minds
- Rotary International Teacher of the Year Awards

... and more.

Click the button below to read the latest edition.

Read more (opens an external website in a new window)
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Enrichment and Extended Learning News

Rostrum Voice of Youth

Congratulations to our two Year 9 speakers (Adele and Keziah) who competed in the semifinal round of Rostrum Voice of Youth on Saturday 25 May. This competition provides an incredible platform for our students to hone their communication skills while gaining confidence in expressing themselves. Both speakers delivered their speeches with passion and eloquence. They were entertaining, inspiring and tremendous ambassadors for our school.

Australian Brain Bee Challenge

A group of Year 10 students have been working studiously since the end of 2023 to prepare for a neuroscience competition – The Australia Brain Bee Challenge. They collectively answered nearly 10,000 questions about the brain in preparation for Round 1 of the competition in March. This is an extension activity that we offer which supports students in their preparation for SACE Biology and Psychology. It is also a perfect launchpad for students who are interested in pursuing medical careers. Nearly 3,000 students across Australia and New Zealand participated this year.

We have had six students qualify for the State Final to be held at Flinders University in August – an outstanding achievement. Congratulations!

- **Annabel 10JDIV**
- **Sam 10BWHA**
- **Lila 10VNAR**
- **Mariette 10JMCP**
- **Catherine 10JROB**
- **Claire 10SSCH**

Care@CC (Community of Advocates for Respect and Empathy)

Last week we welcomed Dr Patrick Sprau (pictured above) to talk to our CARE@CC students about his experiences working for two years in a mission hospital in Ukarumpa – the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Dr Sprau shared how he and his family relied on the significant Bible verse Psalm 23:1, *"The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing."*. He worked in challenging conditions with limited resources, while a worldwide pandemic took hold. He inspired us with his passion, good humour and tales of adventure. Dr Sprau now works with the Royal Flying Doctors as well as in remote communities in the area of Aboriginal Health. Please make contact if you would be able to share a lunchtime with our students who have interest in medical-related careers.

Emma Rieger
Enrichment and Extended Learning

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Year 7 School-based Immunisation Program

- **1st dose of the Human Papillomavirus Vaccine, Gardasil®9**
- **1 dose of the diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough vaccine, Boostrix®**

The Eastern Health Authority (EHA) will be visiting Concordia College on **Friday 14 June** to complete the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Gardasil®9, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough vaccine and Boostrix® immunisations for Year 7 students where consent has been provided.

Further information and videos for high school students are available online at health.gov.au.

If you did not receive an immunisation consent form from your child, please ask at the school office for one, if unavailable contact EHA on 8132 3600.

If any information you gave on the original consent form has changed, please inform the Authority's immunisation staff before the date of vaccination on 8132 3600.

Please notify us if:

- Your child has already completed the HPV, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, Gardasil®9 vaccine and/or Boostrix® immunisation program with another provider.
- You wish to withdraw your consent.
- Your child's medical condition has changed.

Tips for the day of immunisation:

- Encourage your child to have a good breakfast and recess on the morning of immunisations
- Remind your child to wear sports uniforms to aid easy access to the upper arm and avoid unnecessarily exposing themself if clothing needs to be removed/undone
  Encourage your child to keep their arms moving and drink plenty of water throughout the

day.
- Students may also link to view the Australian Government, Department of Health short videos on what to expect when receiving immunisations at school (click to view).

Remember: It is your responsibility to advise the vaccinator on the day of immunisation of any change in the information on the consent form, in particular, your child's medical condition. A signed and dated note presented to the vaccinator on the day of immunisation, from a parent or guardian in your child's diary is acceptable.

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CommuniTea - Save the Date

Our premiere whole-community social event in 2024 is *CommuniTea*, an outdoor celebration on the College Oval with live music, food trucks, amusements and more.

Please save the date and mark it in your diaries today:

- **Date: Friday 13 September**
- **Time: 3.30-7.00pm**
- **Location: Collage Oval, Highgate campuses**

More details will be shared in the lead up to the event.

We hope to see you there!

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Primary School Cross Country Report

Last Friday, 27 students from Years 4 to 6 participated in the Adelaide South East Cross Country event. Our runners had been preparing under the guidance of Mr Routley for the past four weeks in preparation for the day. All our students ran a fantastic race with a special mention to **Elsa 5LR** and **Elliot 5LR**, who came third in their category. They will compete in the State Cross Country Championships at Oakbank alongside **Henson 6JS** and **Zoey 6JS**, who also qualified.

Mick Phillips
Sports Coordinator

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Diary Dates

To view upcoming diary dates, please refer to the Events Calendar on our website.

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The School Shop

Term Time Opening Hours

General trading – no appointment required.

- Monday: 8am - 4pm
- Wednesday: 12.30pm - 4pm
- Thursday: 12.30pm - 6.15pm
- Friday: **Closed** (Terms 2 and 3)

  (Closed on Public Holidays)

Winter Uniform Requirements

All students are required to wear the College winter uniform from the start of Week 3, Term 2. Winter uniform requirements can be found on the 'Uniform Shop' page within the College website.

Please check that all items have been tried on to check that they fit. If you need to upsize, please make your purchases as soon as possible.

Uniform Orders

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 and year level
- size
- your contact details

The School Shop staff will contact you for payment and advise when your order is available to collect. Students in Years 7-12 are emailed to advise when their orders are ready to be collected. For students in ELC-Year 6, email advice is sent to parents/caregivers.

PE Polo Shirt

The old style gold and navy PE polo shirts are now discontinued and students are required to have the new navy PE polo shirt.

Umbrellas

The following items are now available in The School Shop:

- Golf umbrellas - $38 each
- Fold-up umbrellas - $28 each

Secondhand Clothing

Girls Winter uniforms and blue woolen jumpers are low in stock and in high demand.

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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CC Café Term 2 Menu

Our CC Café Term 1 menu is here! Download a copy of the menu to see what is on offer this term.

- Brief Menu with Price List
- Full Menu

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Public Notices & Events

- In addition to their upcoming school holiday programs, **Code Camp** is running free weekly one-hour Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) events, including 'Learn to code', 'Minecraft Engineering', 'Design Skills 101', 'Discovering AI tech' and more. Visit their website for more information about all of the programs on offer or to find out about their free events.
- **More Than Sport** is running a weekend soccer program for beginner players aged 5-12 years every Sunday from 10.00-10.45am at Thebarton, beginning on 16 June and ending on 22 December. Limited spots available. Download a flyer or visit their website and sign up by Sunday 9 June for a chance to win a $200 Yo-Chi gift card.

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