Concordia Connect

2025 Term 3 Week 10

In this issue...

- From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations
- Concordia in Concert 2025: Past, Present and Future
- Receptions Build Bird Boxes in Design, Technology and Engineering
- Pedal Prix 24-Hour Race
- Stage 1 Year 11 Drama Students Present Emotive Performances of 'The Mermaid'
- ELC Bush Day at Belair National Park
- Noticeboard

Early Learning Centre

- From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations
- Got a project in mind? Submit a P&F Funding Request for 2026
- SchoolTV Special Report: Parenting Styles
- ELC Bush Day at Belair National Park
- Come and celebrate Light this Halloween with St John's Lutheran Church Unley
- Planning a move? Please let us know!
- Calling All Past Students of St Peters Blackwood
- Staffing Announcement from the Head of College
- Year 10 Child Studies Students Connect with the ELC
- Reminder: Save the Date for Launchpad 2025
- Noticeboard

Primary School

- From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations
- Receptions Build Bird Boxes in Design, Technology and Engineering
- Concordia in Concert 2025: Past, Present and Future
- Celebrating Student-Led Conferences at St John’s Campus
- Enrolment Opportunity: Year 3 and 4 in 2026
- Got a project in mind? Submit a P&F Funding Request for 2026
- St John's Campus Science Week
- SchoolTV Special Report: Parenting Styles
- Young Engineers Australia LEGO Club at St John's Campus
- Come and celebrate Light this Halloween with St John's Lutheran Church Unley
- Chinese Lion Dancing in Year 3 at St John's Campus
- Planning a move? Please let us know!
- Calling All Past Students of St Peters Blackwood
- Staffing Announcement from the Head of College
- Save the Date: Primary School MADD Festival - Friday 7 November
- Reminder: Save the Date for Launchpad 2025
- Changes to Adelaide Hills Morning Bus Timetable in Term 4, 2025
- St John's Campus Primary School Disco
- Student Achievements

- Noticeboard

Middle School

- From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations
- Concordia in Concert 2025: Past, Present and Future
- Pedal Prix 24-Hour Race
- Got a project in mind? Submit a P&F Funding Request for 2026
- SchoolTV Special Report: Parenting Styles
- Debating Results
- Come and celebrate Light this Halloween with St John's Lutheran Church Unley
- Planning a move? Please let us know!
- Calling All Past Students of St Peters Blackwood
- Staffing Announcement from the Head of College
- Apply Now for Year 9 or 10 Entry in 2026
- After School Dance Program Level 2 'Acro' Workshop
- Reminder: Save the Date for Launchpad 2025
- Changes to Adelaide Hills Morning Bus Timetable in Term 4, 2025
- Noticeboard

Senior School

- From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations
- Concordia in Concert 2025: Past, Present and Future
- Pedal Prix 24-Hour Race
- Stage 1 Year 11 Drama Students Present Emotive Performances of 'The Mermaid'
- Got a project in mind? Submit a P&F Funding Request for 2026
- SchoolTV Special Report: Parenting Styles
- Debating Results
- Come and celebrate Light this Halloween with St John's Lutheran Church Unley
- Planning a move? Please let us know!
- Year 11 Legal Studies Court and Gaol Excursion
- Calling All Past Students of St Peters Blackwood
- Legal Studies Update
- Staffing Announcement from the Head of College
- Apply Now for Year 9 or 10 Entry in 2026
- After School Dance Program Level 2 'Acro' Workshop
- Year 10 Child Studies Students Connect with the ELC
- Reminder: Save the Date for Launchpad 2025
- Year 11 Mount Lofty Challenge Day
- Changes to Adelaide Hills Morning Bus Timetable in Term 4, 2025
- RAA Street Smart High
- Year 12 Visual and Creative Art Update
- Noticeboard

From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations

In today’s increasingly connected world, the power of marketing goes far beyond

advertising—it relies on its ability to build genuine and meaningful connections. When paired with strong community relations, marketing becomes a force for trust, engagement and long-term loyalty. It's no longer just about promoting a brand or message; it's about listening, understanding, and responding to the needs and aspirations of a community. Schools need to prioritise authentic connections over transactional communications in the endeavour to truly stand out. When people feel seen, heard and valued, they don't just support a brand—they become part of its story and organically become advocates of its purpose. This is where and how marketing and community relations intersect to create lasting impact.

As a newcomer to the role of Director of Marketing and Community Relations, I'm already deeply convinced of the powerful role our work plays—not only in the day-to-day operations of the College but in shaping the future of our community. I continue to be inspired by the breadth of projects, initiatives and creativity that drive our work every single day. I'm excited to contribute to the growth of our community, to strengthen alignment with our newly reviewed school values, and to deepen our connections with you, the members of our school community, as we continue to share our purpose and the positive social impact of Concordia College.

Maria Mesa
Director of Marketing and Community Relations

Q&A with Maria Mesa

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

Prior to Concordia, I spent 18 years at the University of Adelaide, including the past four years as Head of Acquisition Marketing, where I led the development of marketing strategies to attract both domestic and international students.

Driven by a passion for education, I saw the opportunity to join Concordia as the perfect chance to apply what I've learned and developed in higher education to a smaller, but highly engaged community. The potential of building close connections with parents, students, old scholars, donors and other members of the Concordia family genuinely excited me. It felt like a place where I could truly belong and make a meaningful impact.

2. Three words to describe you.

Fearless, approachable and compassionate.

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

After just two weeks at the College, I've already seen and confirmed what a wonderful place and community Concordia is. I'm motivated by the opportunity to share our story, highlight the impact we can have on children's education and their futures, and invite others to join the Concordia College family—whether as future families, partners, donors or old scholars.

I've been truly inspired by the talented and passionate people who work here, and I look forward to continuing to build something great alongside each and every one of them.

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

I often wish I had the power to see beyond distance. I think about how many family moments I miss and wish for a magical telescope that would let me catch glimpses of my children in their own worlds—at school or with friends. I'd love to peek in on my parents who live overseas and watch them from afar, as if they were right in front of me. I'd also like to see my husband doing what he loves most—riding his bike!

Throughout my day, I often find myself thinking of them and would treasure the chance to take a quick, loving look at their day (not to spy!) before returning to my own.

5. Tell us something you might like to share that we could not possibly know?

I love music. It lifts me up, calms me down and energises my day... but I don't just love listening to music—I love to sing. Am I a good singer? Not at all! In fact, I was rejected from the school choir, but that's never stopped me from finding my own personal stage: the car. Yes, I'm that driver you'll spot at the traffic lights, singing out to the tunes with zero shame and a full heart.

Back to top

Receptions Build Bird Boxes in Design, Technology and Engineering

As part of our Unit of Inquiry into 'How the World Works', Reception students from St Peters Campus recently visited the Concordia Campus for a hands-on learning experience that combined science, design, construction and environmental care. Their exploration of local animals and how we care for them inspired a collaborative project with Mr Beitz and the Design, Technology and Engineering team—building bird boxes for native birds.

The students began by selecting a local bird species and, as a class, researched the dimensions and features needed to create a suitable bird box. This inquiry-based approach helped deepen their understanding of animal habitats and the importance of thoughtful design in supporting wildlife.

During their visit, the children were introduced to the Design, Technology and Engineering workshop—a new and exciting environment filled with tools and possibilities. Under the expert guidance of Mr Beitz, they learned how to:

- Sand timber to prepare it for construction
- Use the drill press and saw to shape and assemble their boxes
- Personalise their creations using the laser cutter

What stood out most was the way the children embraced the responsibility of working in this new space. They showed great care and maturity in following safety instructions, respecting the tools and supporting one another throughout the building process. Their enthusiasm was matched by a strong sense of focus and pride in their work.

This experience not only supported their inquiry into the natural world but also introduced them

to basic design and engineering principles in a fun and engaging way. The completed bird boxes were a testament to their creativity, teamwork and growing understanding of how we can care for the animals in our local environment.

To conclude the day, the students read the book *How I Changed the World*, which inspired thoughtful reflection on the impact of small acts of kindness. They made a powerful connection between their bird box project and the idea that even small contributions—like creating safe spaces for local birds—can make a meaningful difference in our world.

We are incredibly proud of our Reception students for their curiosity, responsibility and compassion. A huge thank you to Mr Beitz and the Design, Technology and Engineering team for making this memorable learning opportunity possible!

Laura Benger
Reception Teacher – St Peters Campus

Back to top

Concordia in Concert 2025: Past, Present and Future

On Friday 19 September, Concordia College hosted its annual Concordia In Concert music showcase. This year we proudly celebrated our rich history of musicals—honouring the past, showcasing the present and looking to the future. More than 250 students from across our three campuses took to the stage in Fortiter, delivering a night of vibrant and memorable performances.

A highlight of the evening was welcoming back several Old Concordians, who joined current students in selected items, adding a special sense of tradition and community to the celebration.

The concert was a true showcase of the exceptional talent within our Concordia community, filled with energy, artistry and joy—an experience that was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

Kellie Rich
Head of Music Performance ELC–12

Thank you to Year 12 student Sienna (12SSCH) for photographing Concordia in Concert 2025.

Back to top

Pedal Prix 24-Hour Race

Our five school Pedal Prix teams competed in the 24-hour race at Murray Bridge at the end of

Week 9, camping out with their families and competing across three days of qualifying and racing. It was an outstanding weekend with so many highlights to share and celebrate.

On Friday during qualifying, **Lucas (12SSCH)** in team Costa achieved the 17th fastest lap time in qualifying across the whole field of 170 teams and the third fastest time in category S3. This provided the opportunity for Lucas to be invited to qualify stage two on Friday evening, which was very exciting. In addition, **Brodie (9SWHI)** recorded one of the top three fastest times during qualifying for category S2. Both Lucas and Brodie competed in the top 12 schools shootout on Saturday morning. In an amazing effort, Brodie recorded the fastest S2 time, receiving an award and a cash prize for the school!

At 12 noon on Saturday, all teams began their 24 hours of racing. Our teams did an outstanding effort to keep their trikes upright, with all teams having a clean race with limited off-track time. Our outstanding results included team Concorde finishing in fourth position, achieving one our best results ever at this event for our Middle School teams. Team Costa also rode a strong race, contesting for a podium finish. In the end they finished in fifth position in category S3 and sealed third overall for the 2025 season series.

Thank you to Mr Divitkos for your amazing dedication and effort this season in maintaining our trikes and assisting with the overall organisation of our program. A big thank you also to Mr Shrowder, Mr Brown and Mr van Wachem for your support over the weekend. Finally, a huge thank you to our parent volunteers and families for your support, 2025 was our best 24-hour event ever.

Final Results

Team	**Result**	**Laps**
Costa (S3)	5th	526
Raptor (S3)	30th	443
Concorde (S2)	4th	474
Veloci (S2)	25th	379
Shockwave (S2)	29th	353

Matthew Smart
Pedal Prix Coordinator

A Note from Ric van Wachem

Concordia congratulates Matthew Smart, Pedal Prix Coordinator, who was recognised by the Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) community on Sunday, with 8,000 people in attendance at the 24-hour race event in Murray Bridge. Matthew was awarded the Andrew McLachlan Award (formally the Chairman's Award). The award citation reads: *Selected by the Chairman, this award is presented for the demonstration of outstanding commitment, dedication, teamwork and consistent display of the values, vision and mission of the Australian HPV Super Series and the Australian International Pedal Prix Incorporated.*

We congratulate Matthew on this outstanding achievement and thank him for his 13 years of service to Pedal Prix at Concordia, which has enabled many students to enjoy this wonderful sport.

Ric van Wachem
Director of Extra- and Co-Curricular Sport

Back to top

Celebrating Student-Led Conferences at St John's Campus

This term, St John's Campus was delighted to host Student-Led Conferences across a range of year levels.

These conferences are such a special part of the learning journey, giving children the opportunity to proudly take the lead in reporting their progress. With parents as their captive audience, the excitement is unmistakable—students relish the chance to share their learning stories, highlight their achievements and explain the steps they are taking to grow.

In preparing for and presenting their conferences, students develop skills that reach far beyond the classroom. These skills are not only transdisciplinary—crossing subject areas and disciplines—but also essential for life.

Throughout the process, students are:

- engaging in meaningful self-evaluation
- demonstrating the attributes of the IB Learner Profile
- strengthening their organisational skills
- building confidence in themselves and their abilities
- thoughtfully selecting work to share, celebrating strengths and identifying areas for growth

What a joyful celebration of learning this has been, and what a wonderful set of lifelong skills our students are refining as they reflect, take ownership and share their journey with pride!

Megan Fyffe
Junior Primary Leader – St John's Campus

Rachel Saunders
Upper Primary Leader – St John's Campus

Back to top

Enrolment Opportunity: Year 3 and 4 in 2026

With excitement, we announce that there are currently a limited number of places available in Year 3 and Year 4 at St John's Campus in 2026 due to enrolment growth.

If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining our College community in Year 3 or 4 next year, please share this news with them and inviting them to contact Chelsea Skene, Director of Enrolments, or to make an online enquiry.

We look forward to welcoming more families into our community next year.

Back to top

Stage 1 Year 11 Drama Students Present Emotive Performances of 'The Mermaid'

Over two nights, the Stage 1 Drama and Dance classes presented Cassandra Fumi's abstract and expressionistic text, The Mermaid, to 100 audience members. The audience was transported under the ocean with handheld lighting, transformative staging and flowing costumes. Audiences remarked on the striking aesthetics of the performance and enjoyed the production's non-linear, emotive narrative, complemented with highly physical performances. A special thanks goes to all collaborators on this production: the student Tech Crew, students sewing costumes, student volunteer videographers and all who attended to support their peers.

This class will go on to present an excerpt of this production at the State Theatre Company's Young Theatremakers Awards in October, held at Flinders University's Drama Centre with schools from across South Australia.

Congratulations to the performers and designers, who created this transformative event in only seven short weeks!

Daniel Lynch
Drama Teacher

Back to top

Got a project in mind? Submit a P&F Funding Request for 2026

Applications for 2026 P&F Funding — Now Open

A reminder that each year, the Concordia P&F supports projects and activities that aim to further the wellbeing of the student and/or parent body at Concordia College. Examples of projects supported previously include a contribution to our library refurbishment, funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visitors in the classroom, painted play areas for St John's Campus and more.

Applications for funding are considered as part of an annual submission process. Staff, students, parents and friends at all three campuses may apply. All applications will be assessed against the attached criteria.

Applications for funding should be made online and close no later than **12pm on Monday, 20 October**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Angela Warrick, Engagement and Events Manager, via email or phone 8272 0444.

Submit a Funding Application (opens an external website in a new window)
Back to top

St John's Campus Science Week

Last week, the St John's Campus came alive with energy, creativity and curiosity as we celebrated a belated National Science Week under the theme 'Decode the Universe'. Across three exciting days, spaces transformed into alien landscapes, puzzle labs and galactic obstacle zones, all designed to spark wonder and exploration.

The week kicked off with the wildly popular Space Invader Obstacle Course for the junior primary, where students flew, zigzagged and dodged their way through a series of space-themed physical challenges. It was a test of agility, balance and imagination as students pretended to dodge asteroids and escape black holes on their journey through space.

In the space-themed Escape Room, teams of budding astronauts put their problem-solving skills to the test. Locked in a simulated space station, students had to crack codes, find clues in puzzles and work together to solve a series of science-based challenges. The teamwork and determination on display were out of this world!

Meanwhile, students tapped into their inner linguists and logic experts in the 'Decode the Alien Message' activity. Using a special alien alphabet, they deciphered strange symbols to reveal secret intergalactic messages.

Finally, in a hands-on creative challenge, students crafted binary bracelets, learning how computers use ones and zeros to communicate. Each bracelet represented their initials or favourite words, cleverly encoded in binary and turned into wearable art.

The week was a stellar success! Science Week at St John's Campus was not only fun and interactive but also a powerful reminder that learning can be exciting, mysterious and deeply rewarding.

Adriana Weling
STEM Teacher

Back to top

SchoolTV Special Report: Parenting Styles

There's no such thing as perfect parenting, but by understanding different parenting styles, we can better support our children in healthier and more effective ways.

Most of us parent as a blend of our own upbringing, lived experiences and external influences such as books, podcasts or parenting websites. While parenting is always a challenge, it can become even more complex through divorce, separation, blended families, trauma or bereavement. Not to mention life's many other hurdles.

The concept of "parenting styles" was first introduced in the 1960s by Diana Baumrind, a clinical and developmental psychologist. She identified four main categories of parenting. Each style shapes a child's development in different ways and comes with both strengths and challenges.

Although well-intentioned, each parenting approach can have drawbacks in a child's development. Every child is unique and their needs change as they grow. An authoritative style may suit younger children, but teenagers often require a greater balance of guidance and independence. The goal is to create a secure environment where children feel respected, heard and supported.

By learning more about the different styles and how they influence children, you can make informed choices about the approach that best suits your family. Remember also that styles are not fixed. They can evolve over time as your child grows and their needs change.

We invite you to watch this Special Report and complete the quiz to discover your own parenting style. You might also like to compare your results with your partner's and reflect together on the different approaches you each bring to parenting.

View the Special Report (opens an external website in a new window)
Back to top

ELC Bush Day at Belair National Park

This term the four-year-old children from St Peters Campus and St John's Campus Early Learning Centres came together for a very special excursion to Belair National Park. Children, staff and parents all came together to share in a day of play, discovery and connection in the beauty of nature.

The park provided a perfect backdrop for exploration. The children enjoyed climbing over trees and rocks, running through wide open spaces, and searching for treasures such as leaves, sticks and feathers. Some children worked together to build imaginative cubbies from branches, while others tested their balance on fallen logs or discovered insects hiding beneath

stones. Parents and educators were right alongside them, encouraging curiosity, celebrating discoveries and sharing in the joy of learning outdoors.

It was wonderful to see friendships forming not only between the children, but also between families and staff from both centres. Shared picnics gave everyone the chance to slow down and connect, while the natural environment inspired conversations and laughter.

This excursion reminded us of the rich learning that happens when children are given time and space in nature. They practised teamwork, problem solving and creativity, all while developing a deeper appreciation for the world around them.

We are so grateful to the families who joined us and helped make the day a success. Together, we created lasting memories and strengthened the sense of community that lies at the heart of our Early Learning Centres.

Sarah Midson
ELC Director – St Peters Campus

Back to top

Young Engineers Australia LEGO Club at St John's Campus

Young Engineers Australia LEGO Clubs will be running again in Term 4 at our St John's Campus, with sessions for students in Years 1–2 and Years 3–6.

At these sessions, students learn physics, mathematics, mechanical and software engineering skills and principles by watching demonstrations and building LEGO prototypes of real machines. These activities also foster problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration skills.

We are delighted to once again have this program running at our St John's Campus, but places are limited, so please find key details below, download a flyer for more information and register today.

Years 1 and 2

- Dates: Tuesdays from 14 October to 2 December (eight sessions)
- Time: 3.30–4.45pm
- Cost: $250

Register for Years 1 and 2 (opens an external website in a new window)

Years 3 to 6

- Dates: Wednesdays from 15 October to 3 December (eight sessions)
- Time: 3.30–4.45pm
- Cost: $250

Register for Years 3 to 6 (opens an external website in a new window)
Back to top

Debating Results

This year's Debating competition was challenging, with 306 teams from 69 schools taking part. A total of 28 students from Year 7 to Year 10 were involved in Concordia's five teams, and all teams have come a long way this season. The students have developed lifelong skills, including cooperation, teamwork, research, effective communication and logical thinking skills.

We are pleased to share the following results:

- Year 10 Debating Team: grand-finalist
- Year 9 Blue Debating Team: semi-finalist (finished first in the Year 9 competition)
- Year 9 Yellow Debating Team: finished 10th in the Year 9 competition
- Year 8 Blue Debating Team: finished ninth in the Year 8 competition
- Year 8 Yellow Debating Team: finished 38th in the Year 8 competition

The Year 10 Grand Final Debate will be held at 2:15pm this Saturday 27 September 2025, at Parliament House. We wish the students involved all the very best!

Juliana Lanzilli
Debating Coach

Back to top

Come and celebrate Light this Halloween with St John's Lutheran Church Unley

St John's Lutheran Church, Unley, is hosting a free event for the whole family and the whole community on **Friday 31 October**!

You are warmly invited to pop in and enjoy a sausage sizzle, coffee, face painting, hot popcorn, chocolate, a photo booth, games, activities and more!

Pop in anytime between 5–7pm. We would love to see you!

View the Facebook event for more details.

For more information, please contact St John’s Lutheran Church, Unley on 08 8271 9556, office@stjohnsunley.lca.org.au or www.stjohnsunley.lca.org.au

Back to top

Chinese Lion Dancing in Year 3 at St John's Campus

In Dance and Drama this term, Year 3 students at St John's Campus have been exploring dances from around the world, while learning about their differences and similarities. Students have learnt to respect dance as a part of someone's identity and as an art form that brings people together. We had the opportunity to engage with Chinese Lions, which was an exciting and memorable highlight.

This rich educational experience in Dance and Drama helps students stay connected through culture, tradition and community. By sharing and appreciating different styles of dance, students are developing not only their performance skills, but also empathy, cultural understanding and global awareness.

Carla Bigiolli
Dance and Drama Teacher – St John's Campus
Dance Teacher – Concordia Campus

Back to top

Planning a move? Please let us know!

Considering a move to another school is a significant decision. We value your family being part of our community. As a College, we will always seek to work with you for positive connection. If you are uncertain about continuing at Concordia next year, in the first instance, we invite you to reach out and arrange a time to discuss your situation with the Principal of your child's campus—Paul Bannister (St John's Campus, Highgate), Bronwyn Wilson (St Peters Campus, Blackwood) and Penny McKenzie (Concordia Campus, Highgate)—or our Director of Enrolments, Chelsea Skene. We hope that through this conversation, we gain a clearer appreciation of your family's specific needs and considerations.

If you do make a decision to leave Concordia, please be aware that in line with the Enrolment Policy — if your child is leaving the College at the end of 2025, we require one full term's notice to avoid penalties. We understand that this may not always be possible, but sincerely appreciate your assistance with future planning. Withdrawal notification for 2025 should be received no later than close of business Friday 26 September 2025 and should be sent to the Principal of the relevant campus and our Enrolments office:

- Paul Bannister, Principal ELC to Year 6 (St John's Campus, Highgate)
- Bronwyn Wilson, Principal ELC to Year 6 (St Peters Campus, Blackwood)
- Penny McKenzie, Principal Year 7 to Year 12 (Concordia Campus, Highgate)

Please also email all information to enrolments@concordia.sa.edu.au

If notification is not received by close of business **Friday 26 September 2025**, a full term's tuition will be payable.

Back to top

Year 11 Legal Studies Court and Gaol Excursion

In Week 8, the Year 11 Legal Studies students visited the Supreme Court of South Australia and the Adelaide Gaol. These visits complemented class learning under the theme of 'justice and society'.

At the Court, we were addressed by the Honourable Justice McIntyre of the Supreme Court and three Judges Associates. We were given an insider's perspective of the Court system and working within the system. We were able appreciate the role that the Court takes in society. Practical life experiences of working within the field of law were also shared. It was a valuable learning experience for students considering studying law beyond school.

At the Adelaide Gaol, a highly engaging tour guide named Laurie guided us through Adelaide's oldest prison and with its stories sparked our thinking about concepts of justice, punishment and rehabilitation. It was an excellent day, extending our in-class learning into the real world.

Brendan Whatley
Legal Studies Teacher

Back to top

Calling All Past Students of St Peters Blackwood

Are you a past student of St Peters at Blackwood? If so, we'd love to welcome you to a reunion for alumni from our St Peters Campus, formerly St Peters Lutheran School. If you know any other alumni, please forward the flyer to them and invite them to attend!

- **Date: Friday 26 September 2025**
- **Time: 6.00–8.00pm**
- **Location: St Peters Lutheran Church Hall, 71 Cumming St, Blackwood**
- **Cost: $25 per person, includes drinks and finger food (subsidised by the Old Concordians' Association)**

For more information, contact our Alumni Manager, Sue Kleinig, on 08 8291 9339 or email alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au

Partners welcome.

Book Now (opens an external website in a new window)
Back to top

Legal Studies Update

Week 9 was an exciting week for Senior School Legal Studies students. On Tuesday evening, Year 11 Legal Studies students, along with Mr Sommariva, Mr Whatley and Frau Harris, attended 'Just Lawful', a presentation at the University of South Australia. Co-hosted by Daniel Panozzo and The Advertiser's chief court reporter, Sean Fewster, the presentation took the audience through the evidence provided during a real murder trial. Students were encouraged to use their critical-thinking skills to consider the significance to attribute to the different items of evidence, and to question inherent bias and assumptions. The evening provided the students with valuable insight into the complexities of murder trials as well as helping the students to consider whether we have a justice system or merely a legal system.

On Friday of Week 9, the Stage 2 Legal Studies students had the opportunity to meet Supreme Court Justice Laura Stein. Justice Stein described her career pathway, which saw her rise to the position of Crown Solicitor and then a Supreme Court Judge. She also described some of the typical aspects of a 'day in the life' of a judge, and gave firsthand insight into how the South Australian court system attempts to balance the "competing tensions" of fairness vs efficiency, empowered vs disempowered, rights vs responsibilities and certainty vs flexibility. Justice Stein also provided the students with information and suggestions about careers in the legal field, which was particularly valuable for students planning to study Law at a tertiary level.

Judy Harris
Legal Studies Teacher

Back to top

Staffing Announcement from the Head of College

Dear Concordia College Community

I am writing to inform you of an important leadership transition at the College. Mick Hoopmann, our Director of Business Operations, has resigned from his role after more than 11 years of service. During his time at Concordia, Mick oversaw the successful completion of our most recent Master Plan, which was transformative for the College's learning environments and facilities. He played an integral role in bringing together St John's and St Peters campuses as part of our continued amalgamation process, shaping the three-campus structure we enjoy today. We thank God for Mick's faithful and dedicated service to Concordia College and the significant impact he has had on our community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mick for his significant contribution to Concordia's mission and community and wish him every blessing as he enters this next chapter.

Olivia Hocking will take over all finance-related matters, and I will oversee other Business Operations areas including property, risk and compliance.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Kind regards

Paul Weinert

Head of College

Back to top

Apply Now for Year 9 or 10 Entry in 2026

If someone you know is keen to join our Middle and Senior School in 2026, we'd love to hear from them—it’s never too late to start your Concordia journey in Year 9 or 10 and forge ahead to an extraordinary future.

Limited places are available. Interested families are asked to contact our Director of Enrolments, Chelsea Skene. Alternatively, applications can be made online directly.

Back to top

After School Dance Program Level 2 'Acro' Workshop

Circus performer, dancer and freelance artist Abbie Madden recently delivered an inspiring 'Acro' workshop to our Level 2 After School Dance Program students. A proud Kaurna-based performer, Abbie brought a wealth of industry experience to the Acro session.

Students thoroughly enjoyed their time with Abbie as they experimented with new partner skills such as shoulder stands, thigh stands and counterbalances. They developed greater independence and confidence while learning the importance of communication and safe dance practices, an essential foundation for anyone aspiring to work in the performing arts industry.

Well done, Level 2 Dancers!

Carla Bigiolli
Dance & Drama Teacher – St John’s Campus
Dance Teacher – Concordia Campus

Back to top

Save the Date: Primary School MADD Festival - Friday 7 November

Members of the Concordia community are warmly invited to save the date for an extraordinary celebration of the arts at our 2025 Primary School MADD Festival—Music, Art, Dance and Drama.

- Date: Friday 7 November
- Time: 4:30pm to 7pm
- Location: St John's Campus, 20 Highgate Street, Highgate
- What to Bring: A Picnic basket to enjoy (alcohol is prohibited)

The event will feature:

- Year 3 to Year 6 performances in Wirrkuta Trruku at St John's Campus
- Roving performances outdoors
- Art Exhibition

We look forward to welcoming many of you to the College as we celebrate the amazing creativity of our students.

Back to top

Year 10 Child Studies Students Connect with the ELC

Our Year 10 Child Studies students recently enjoyed a wonderful learning experience with the ELC students. As part of their studies, the Year 10s researched the importance of sensory play in early childhood development and then put their knowledge into practice by designing and creating a sensory toy.

Each toy was carefully planned to encourage social, cognitive and physical development in children. A key requirement of the task was for students to include at least one handmade element in their designs, allowing them to showcase creativity and practical skills.

The highlight of the task was visiting our St John's Campus ELC to share these toys with the younger children. It was a fantastic opportunity for our Year 10 students to connect with our ELC learners, observe how the children engaged with their creations, and see firsthand the value of sensory play in supporting development.

This collaborative activity was both educational and enjoyable, strengthening the bond between the ELC and secondary school students while deepening the Year 10 students' understanding of child development in a meaningful, hands-on way.

Mersina Harpas
Food Design and Child Studies Teacher

Back to top

Reminder: Save the Date for Launchpad 2025

Our whole-of-College learning showcase, Launchpad, is coming up on **Tuesday 18 November**. Work from a wide range of year levels and subject areas will be on display, showcasing the extraordinary learning and growth of our students in 2025.

This year, Launchpad will lead into the St John's Campus PYP Exhibition—the culmination of the Primary School learning journey for our Year 6 students. Year 6 parents and caregivers are asked to join us in Wirrkuta Trruku for the official Exhibition opening performance at 5.45pm.

Launchpad guests are also welcome to view the displays and speak to our Year 6s about their Exhibition projects.

Please mark this event in your diary today as we prepare to celebrate student learning across the College.

Launchpad

- Date: Tuesday 18 November
- Time: 3.30–5.30pm
- Location: Fortiter Gymnasium, Concordia Campus
- Free entry

St John's Campus Year 6 PYP Exhibition

- Date: Tuesday 18 November
- Time: 5.45–7.15pm
- Location: Wirrkuta Trruku (Activity Hall), St John's Campus (just a short walk across the Oval from Fortiter)
- Free entry

We hope to see you there!

Back to top

Year 11 Mount Lofty Challenge Day

On Friday of Week 8, the Year 11 students took part in the annual Mount Lofty Challenge Day. Emulating the journey that the students will take in Year 12 next year, the students hiked through the Piccadilly Valley, taking a lunch break ('mid-year holidays') in the Mount Lofty Botanic Gardens. They then faced a steep climb up to the top of the Gardens ('Term 3 summative tasks'), walked along an old Bullock Track and joined the Waterfall Gully to Mount Lofty track for a final climb to Mount Lofty Summit ('Final exams'). Whilst the climb was challenging at times, there was a great sense of achievement and satisfaction upon completion. The students also took part in group reflections and challenges along the way, with each group ably led by a pair of 2026 Student Leader candidates.

One of the aims of the day is to help students to realise that with perseverance and encouragement from peers and teachers, they can overcome challenges to enjoy a great sense of satisfaction. Many of the students (and teachers) also commented on the value of the day as a chance to 'reset' away from the classroom and computers at a busy time of the term.

Well done to all of the Student Leader candidates for their leadership on the day, and congratulations to Team Light Green, the winner of the team challenges.

Judy Harris
Year 11 Leader

Back to top

Changes to Adelaide Hills Morning Bus Timetable in Term 4, 2025

A reminder that SouthLink, the operator of the 882 and 888 Adelaide Hills buses that run to Concordia, has advised of changes to their morning bus timetable in Term 4, commencing Monday 13 October. Please see updated information below.

882 Bus

- Dutton Road: 7.32am
- 64 Hutchinson St: 7.34am
- 61 Mt Barker Rd: 7.38am
- 55 Mt Barker Rd: 7.45am
- 49 Mt Barker Rd: 7.51am
- 46 Mt Barker Rd: 7.56am
- 24 Crafters Ramp: 8.04am
- 165 Cross Rd: 8.19am
- 9 Duthy St: 8.23am

888 Bus

- 44 Mt Barker Rd: 7.53am
- 36 Mt Barker Rd: 7.58am
- 24 Crafers Ramp: 8.01am
- 9 Duthy St: 8.24am

The Concordia College Team

Back to top

St John's Campus Primary School Disco

What a night! On Wednesday 4 September, our Primary School students filled Wirrkuta Trruku with laughter, dance moves and plenty of Black and White sparkle for this year's school disco.

The Reception to Year 3 students kicked things off, showing endless energy and some very impressive moves. Then the Year 4 to 6 crew hit the dance floor, bringing big smiles and even bigger grooves.

From the music and dancing to the face painting and photo booth, the night was packed with fun. It was wonderful to see students encouraging each other, dressing up in theme and making memories with their friends.

A huge thank you to our staff for keeping the disco running smoothly and to families for supporting this special event. We also thank the Senior School students who assisted with

face painting. Judging by the smiles and laughter, the disco was a glowing success and already has everyone excited for the next one!

Yoon-Ah Lee
Primary School Leader

Back to top

RAA Street Smart High

On Tuesday 23 September, the Concordia College Year 11 students joined thousands of other secondary school students from around the state at Street Smart High, a road safety program run by the RAA at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre. Students heard from victims of road trauma, emergency services personnel and families of road trauma victims. They also watched a road crash re-enactment, which provided insight into the causes and aftermath of a fatal road crash, from the perspectives of the driver, bystanders, passengers, motorcycle rider and first responders. With many Year 11s currently on their 'L' and 'P' plates, the day provided a vivid reminder of the need to take the utmost care on the roads.

Judy Harris
Year 11 Leader

Back to top

Year 12 Visual and Creative Art Update

Our Year 12 Visual Art and Creative Art students are in the final phase of completing their major practical works. Hence, the Visual Art Department has been turned into a busy hub with students undertaking extra studio time, making concerted efforts and remaining dedicated to their best skills and efforts. Their works highlight a diverse use of artistic media: painting, mixed media, photography, sculpture, textiles and digital art. Their work shows clear concepts with particular themes, including personal and gender issues.

The final stages of their year's efforts incorporate a significant focus on documenting their creative processes, with detailed process pages as well as students' personal reflections to complement their creative products and artworks.

These talented and creative Year 12 artists and designers will be exhibiting their final outcomes at Concordia’s Launchpad learning showcase on Tuesday 18 November, with an official opening at 4.30pm.

Terri Moore
Visual and Creative Art Teacher

Back to top

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the following St John's Campus students, who achieved excellent results in the Australian Mathematics Competition:

- **Xavier (5EH)** – Credit
- **Jayden (3TS)** – Credit
- **Ethan (3D)** – Distinction
- **Raphael (4MR)** – High Distinction

In addition, a number of our Middle and Senior School students took part this year, with some excellent results, including 20 Credits, 16 Distinctions and three High Distinctions. All students who participated are commended for their efforts. Finally, a special note of congratulations goes to **Jacob (9NSHR)**, who achieved a High Distinction in the Year 9/10 competition with a score that placed him in the top 2% nationwide. Well done, Jacob!

Xavier with his Australian Mathematics Competition certificate

Jayden with his Australian Mathematics Competition certificate

Ethan with his Australian Mathematics Competition certificate

Raphael with his Australian Mathematics Competition certificate

Jacob with his Australian Mathematics Competition certificate

Back to top

Noticeboard

Contents

- Diary Dates
- The School Shop
- Term 3 CC Café Menu
- Public Notices and Events

Diary Dates

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

^ Back to Top

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: 2.30–4.30pm

(Closed on Public Holidays)

School Holiday Opening Hours

The School Shop will be open on **Friday 26 September from 12.30pm–4.30pm** and will reopen during the holiday period on **Thursday 9 October** (see holiday opening hours below).

- Friday 26 September: 12.30pm–4.30pm (Last day of Term 3)
- Thursday 9 October: 12.30pm–6.15pm
- Friday 10 October: 12.30pm–4.30pm

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.

Umbrellas

The following items are now available in The School Shop:

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

^ Back to top

CC Café Term 3 Menu

Download a copy of the CC Café menu for Term 3 to see what is on offer.

^ Back to top

Public Notices & Events

- **St John's Lutheran Church, Unley**, is hosting a Light Up Halloween event on Friday 31 October from 5–7pm, with a sausage sizzle, coffee, face painting, popcorn, games, activities and more. Download a flyer for more information.
- **Life. Be in It Sport for All** is running school holiday sports programs in the Term 3 break. Places are limited and registrations are essential. Download a flyer or visit their website for more information.
- Concordia's Dance and Drama teacher, **Ms Carla Bigiolli**, is running a two-day October School Holiday Dance Program for students in Years 2, 3 and 4 on Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 October. The program will help students to build confidence, learn new skills and connect with others through creativity and movement. Download a poster for more information.
- **VACSWIM** are running summer water safety sessions and enrolments are now open and filling fast. Places are limited, so visit their website today for more information.
- **Carclew** is running school holiday activities, including Holiday Bands, Ruth Tuck Art School Watercolour Classes and Theatre Mash. Visit their website for more information.
- **Little Athletics SA** is running Beyond Barriers Para Pathway Program, an inclusive athletics initiative for children with disabilities and neurodiverse children aged 6–17 years. They are hosting a free Come and Try Day on Friday 10 October from 1–3pm at SA Athletics Stadium. Students can try new activities, including throwing frames and running frames for children with physical impairments. Download a flyer for more information or click to register online.
- **Code Camp** is running school holiday camps in the upcoming September/October holidays. Download a flyer for more information and use the discount code to save $25.
- **Sturt Lions Soccer Club** is holding Junior Trials for girls in Under 12 to Under 18 on Sunday 19 and Friday 24 October. Registrations open on Monday 1 September. Download a flyer for more information. They are also holding YCC Junior Trials for U12–U16. Registrations open on Monday 1 September. Download a flyer for more information.

^ Back to top

Back to top
