Concordia Connect

2026 Term 2 Week 3

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From the St Peters Campus Principal

When we think about leadership in schools, it is easy to picture student leaders wearing badges, speaking at assemblies or leading special events. While these moments are important and worth celebrating, I believe leadership begins long before a student is ever given a title.

At Concordia College, some of the best examples of leadership are often found in the quieter moments of the school day. It might be the student who notices someone sitting alone and invites them into a game, the child who encourages a friend who is finding learning difficult, or the student who has the courage to keep trying even when something feels challenging. Leadership can look like kindness, resilience, honesty, empathy and the ability to positively influence those around us.

As adults, we sometimes underestimate just how much children notice and absorb from the world around them. They are constantly learning what it means to treat others with respect, how to navigate disappointment, how to work as part of a team and how to respond when things do not go to plan. These are the moments that shape character, and character is at the heart of leadership.

One of the things I love most about working in a school setting is seeing students grow into themselves over time. A child who once lacked confidence suddenly volunteers to share an idea in class. A student who found friendships difficult begins encouraging others on the playground. These moments may seem small, but they are incredibly significant. Growth in leadership often happens gradually and quietly before we see it publicly.

In education, particularly in the primary years, our role is not just to teach students academically. It is also to help them develop the confidence, compassion and courage they need to navigate life beyond the classroom. Through learning experiences, relationships, co-curricular opportunities and everyday conversations, we are helping students understand that leadership is not about being the loudest voice or always standing at the front. Real leadership is about service, integrity and the way we make others feel.

At Concordia College, we want every student to know they have the ability to lead in their own way. For some students, that leadership may be visible on a stage, sporting field or at an assembly. For others, it may be shown through quiet encouragement, persistence or simply doing the right thing each day. All forms of leadership matter, and all deserve to be recognised.

The world our young people are growing up in will continue to change rapidly, but qualities such as kindness, empathy, resilience and integrity will always matter. If we can help our students develop these qualities now, then we are not just preparing future leaders—we are helping shape good people.

Alison Ronoastro
Principal – St Peters Campus

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Q&A with Kate Morkunas, Year 3 Teacher – St John's Campus

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

I was introduced to Concordia when I attended a professional development evening held by The Association of Independent Schools of South Australia and Mat Disher represented the school beautifully. It was Mat’s generosity to impart his experience and knowledge that led me to make contact with the school, and I first joined the Concordia community as a relief teacher.

Being a teacher has come as a career change after previously working in both the arts and dental technology fields, both creating and making.

2. Three words to describe you.

Empathetic, curious, dedicated.

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

I am motivated by the following words of Loris Malaguzzi, the founder of the Reggio Emilio Approach, The Hundred Languages, which sees the child as having endless potential:

"...a hundred worlds
to discover
a hundred worlds
to invent
a hundred worlds
to dream.”

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

If I could have a superpower, it would be to extend/slow down time; I have always felt I need a second life to get done everything I want to get done.

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’d invite my nearest and dearest family and friends; there’s never enough time to spend with them!

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First Place Nationally and other Outstanding Success at Generations in Jazz

Recently, 71 Concordia Music students and seven staff travelled to Mount Gambier for the annual Generations in Jazz festival—joining more than 5,000 students from across Australia for an unforgettable three days of music, performance and competition.

Despite facing every kind of weather imaginable—hot, dusty, wet, windy and cold—our students showed incredible resilience, dedication and team spirit throughout the entire event. With packed schedules, very little downtime, and accommodation on air beds at the Mount Gambier Racecourse, the weekend was demanding from start to finish. Competition day alone involved more than 14 hours of walking between venues, yet our students remained motivated, focused and endlessly supportive of one another.

Their outstanding results are a testament to the hard work, commitment, and passion.

Choir/Band/Ensemble Results

- **1st Place** – Mattson Jazz Choir (**Division 1** Large Vocal Ensemble)
  - Awarded Best Soprano Section
  - Invited to perform at the Gala Awards Concert before an audience of more than 5,000 people
- **1st Place** – Prelude Jazz Choir (**Division 4** Vocal Ensemble)
- **3rd Place** – Big Band 1 (**Division 1** Stage Band)

Individual Achievements

- **Lani (11RAMO)** and **Marco (12SBAC)** were selected for the Division 1 Superband and performed at the Gala Concert
- **Lewis (7RBRO)** was selected as Trombone 1 in the Division 3.1 Superband
- **Marco (12SBAC)** won both the Composition Competition and the Future Finalists Competition and was selected as one of only six Division 1 students to perform an improvised solo at the Final Awards Ceremony

Additional Ensemble Results

• Jazz Combo – 6th Place (Division 1)

• McKenzie Jazz Choir – 7th Place (Division 3 Large Vocal Ensemble)

• Big Band 2 – 16th Place (Division 3 Stage Band)

A special mention must also go to Jackson Mack, Director of Big Band 1, who performed with the Australian Jazz Orchestra on Friday evening as the only drummer in the ensemble—an exceptional professional achievement.

We are incredibly proud of every student and staff member involved. Their musicianship, perseverance and support for one another made this year's Generations in Jazz an outstanding success.

Kellie Rich
Head of Music ELC–12

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Reminder to Book Today for our P&F 'All That Glitters' Quiz Night

A reminder that our 2026 Concordia P&F Quiz Night 'All That Glitters' is coming up on Saturday 30 May, and it will be a night of glitz, glamour, sequins, sparkles and sensational brain-teasing fun! Gather your team, dress to impress in something that glitters, and put your knowledge to the test with our expert Old Concordian quiz masters, The Weekly Fifty.

- **Date: Saturday, 30 May 2026**
- **Time: 5:30pm arrival | 6:30pm start – 10:00pm**
- **Location: Wirrkuta Trruku (St John's Campus Activity Hall)**
- **Tickets: $40 per person**
- **Theme: All That Glitters**
- **Tables: 8–10 people**

Food and beverage details coming soon!

Register now! Be a table captain by contacting Angela Warrick. Alternatively, book onto your

Campus table via the button below and select the year level you would like to be seated with.

Book Tickets (opens an external website in a new window)
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Year 10 School Immunisation Program - First Visit Reminder for Friday 15 May

The SA 2026 School Immunisation Program will be delivered by Eastern Health Authority on **Friday 15 May 2026 (first visit)**.

All Year 10 students will be offered:

- 2 doses of the meningococcal B vaccine at 2 separate visits (8 Weeks apart)
- 1 dose of the meningococcal ACWY vaccine

Immunisation Consent packs have been provided to all Year 10 students at the commencement of the school year, including information about the vaccines on offer. If you did not receive an Immunisation Consent pack, please contact the school office direct so this pack can be provided to you.

We would encourage all parents/appointed legal guardians to read the information supplied in the packs before providing consent for your child to be vaccinated at school. Additional, further information and videos are available online (click to view) if required.

If you have provided consent to participate in the immunisation program and information has changed, in particular in relation to your child's medical condition or if you wish to withdraw consent, please directly notify your school immunisation provider (Eastern Health Authority) as soon as possible prior to the date of immunisation.

Tips for the day of immunisation:

- encourage your child eat prior to the immunisations and drink plenty of water throughout the day; and
- wear sports uniform to allow for easy access to the upper arm.

If you have any further questions about the program, please directly contact your school immunisation provider, Eastern Health Authority, on 8132 3600 or via email at eha@eha.sa.gov.au

Please note - School Immunisation Program records will be available on MyGov within 24 hours of the school visit

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ELC, Reception, Year 3 and Year 4 Grandfriends' Day at St John's Campus

Grandfriends' Day for our ELC, Reception, Year 3 and Year 4 children was a special opportunity to celebrate the important role grandparents and special family members play in children's lives. The morning began with time in the classrooms, where grandparents and special friends joined the children to share in their learning and activities. We then gathered together for joyful singing and special words before enjoying morning tea and time to connect as a community. Thank you to all who attended and helped make the morning so warm and meaningful—your love, support and involvement help children feel connected, valued and confident as they grow and learn. We look forward to welcoming grandparents for Years 1, 2, and 5 later in the year.

Megan Fyffe
Junior Primary Leader

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Save the Date for Senior School Drama Performances

This term, audiences will witness two exciting performances for our Senior Drama classes. The Year 12s are grappling with the creative potential of performing 'in the round' for their production of SLAP BANG KISS and the Year 11s have formed their own theatre companies to independently perform brand new plays for the national Intersection Festival. Read on for more details and to buy your tickets!

Year 12 Drama presents SLAP BANG KISS by Dan Giovanni

Follow three performers as they tell intersecting stories of activism and agency. Immi resists an occupying force (SLAP). Sofia illuminates the horrors of violence (BANG). Darby celebrates his love (KISS). This performance moves in a fluid manner, with the actors taking on more than a dozen characters each, and involves a completely student-driven design team (set, costume, sound and light). This is the major production for this cohort and you will laugh, sigh and maybe even cry—not to be missed!

- Dates: Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 June
- Time: 6.30pm
- Location: Concordia College Drama Centre.
- Tickets: $10 per person

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

Year 11 Drama presents *Intersection: Orbit* in collaboration with Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP)

This class is participating in the inaugural ATYP's Intersection Festival. In this performance, audiences will enjoy three 15-minute brand-new plays that have never been performed before, commissioned by ATYP. Students have formed theatre companies and created diverse worlds

with their own agency and skills—you will see a fractured recount of a harrowing event (Driving Everywhere and Nowhere at Once); a dark comedy with impending doom (What Would Brian Cox Do) and a poetic exploration of romance (Begin to Glow). Based on this performance, some companies may be selected to debut these new plays at the ATYP Intersection Festival in August alongside other SA schools.

- Dates: Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 June
- Time: 6.30pm
- Location: Concordia College Drama Centre
- Tickets: $5 per person

Book Now (opens an external website)
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Concordia College Formal

The highly anticipated Year 12 Formal on Friday 10 April was an outstanding night of fun, friendship and formal attire enjoyed by the Class of 2026 and a number of staff. We hope you enjoy some photos from the evening.

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Harmony in the Chapel Year 7-12 Concert this Friday

Members of the College community are warmly invited to the first of our Harmony in the Chapel concerts for 2026, to be held this Friday. Please see details below.

- **Date: Friday 15 May**
- **Time: 2pm**
- **Location: Concordia College Chapel**
- **Cost: Gold Coin Donation / No bookings required**

Please come along if you can and enjoy a musical showcase presented by a range of Middle and Senior School student ensembles.

We would love to see you there!

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SchoolTV New Topic: Dealing With Conflict

Conflict is a natural and unavoidable part of family life. As children grow, differences in opinions, emotions and expectations can sometimes lead to tension at home, at school or with peers. While these moments can feel challenging, they also present valuable opportunities to

teach young people important life skills. How conflict is managed within the family plays a key role in shaping a child's ability to communicate, regulate emotions and navigate relationships.

For adult carers, supporting children through conflict means staying calm, listening with empathy and modelling respectful problem-solving. When handled constructively, conflict can strengthen relationships, build resilience and help children develop the confidence to manage disagreements in healthy and productive ways.

This edition of SchoolTV explores practical strategies to help families approach conflict with greater understanding and confidence.

View the New Topic (opens an external website in a new window)
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International Student Easter Event

On Tuesday 31 March, we held a special lunch for our Mandarin-speaking international students to explain more about how Easter, and the resurrection of Jesus, are core elements of the Christian faith.

We were delighted to be joined by Pastor Tim Chen and some other members of the Grace Lutheran Chinese Church in Glynde. They prepared a delicious, traditional meal that we enjoyed with some Chinese dumplings.

Pastor Tim then explained the Easter story using a fun game, where students had to open a number of plastic eggs, each containing a picture that represented something from the Easter account. It was fantastic to see the students grow in their understanding and make links between the story and our practices here at Concordia, such as our Chapel services.

It was a pleasant surprise to discover that a few of the students had deep links with our visitors, either through a shared home city, or a shared dialect, which can really help someone to feel at home. A huge thanks to Pastor Tim and his team for coming along and to Steve Eden for helping us put this event together. We hope that the event will be the start of some new initiatives that enable our international students to gain a greater understanding of our faith and culture.

Dale Gosden
College Pastor

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Join us for a Concordia Parent Prayer Breakfast on Friday 12 June

Concordia College is greatly enriched by the faith of our families, parents, students and staff. We would like to invite parents and caregivers from all three campuses to a Prayer Breakfast to provide an opportunity for people to get to know each other better and gain a greater

understanding of the spiritual life of our school.

As well as enjoying each other's company, we will also hear from staff involved in the ministry of the school, including music, chaplaincy, youth ministry and Christian Studies. There will also be time for parents to ask questions and—most importantly—pray together! We hope that this will be a time of connections and encouragement that both builds up our community and strengthens our faith.

- **Date: Friday 12 June**
- **Time: 7.30-8.45am**
- **Location: The Suaviter, Concordia Campus**
- **Tickets: Free (please RSVP via the button below for catering purposes)**

Note: Coffee and breakfast will be provided for guests.

If you would like to attend, please book via the TryBooking link below.

Register to Attend (opens an external website)

We hope you will be able to join us.

Kind regards

Dale Gosden
College Pastor

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St Peters Campus Year 1–3 Sustainability Market

Our Year 1, 2 and 3 students proudly led a vibrant sustainability market as part of our Belonging and Contributing inquiry unit. After investigating practical ways to help our community live more sustainably, students designed a market that put their learning into action.

They collected clothing donations and pre-loved books to resell, giving everyday items a second life. Students also dried citrus fruits from our school trees and their homes, sold seedlings and plants they had nurtured, and created beautiful watercolour cards. Our school chickens contributed too, with fresh eggs available for purchase. Families enjoyed homemade cakes and cookies, and students packaged seeds chosen to attract bees and butterflies into local gardens.

This hands-on project also connected directly to our learning in financial mathematics, giving students real-world experience in handling money, calculating change and understanding value.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, the funds raised will support the purchase of a food dehydrator and new trees for our school orchard, helping us continue to grow a sustainable future together.

Kathryn Watkins and Nicolle Dupree
St Peters Campus Teachers

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Enrichment and Extended Learning News

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

CARE @ CC is an extra-curricular lunchtime group to connect like-minded students (Year 9–12) who are interested in pursuing a career in medical-related fields. In our group we explore the 'stories' of health. The idea is that by listening to people telling their story, students will gain greater empathy and respect as a future medical professional. We love connecting with members of our school and wider community. Since this program began in 2024, we have enjoyed learning from 26 different medical professionals.

A snapshot of our learning so far this year:

- A GP with experience in rural and remote health and extensive experience as a supervisor, examiner and online health
- Endometriosis focus
- Prostate cancer research and an exploration of the work of the Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute.

Do you work in a health-related field—medicine/nursing/paramedicine/health research/allied health? Would you be willing to come and share your experiences during a lunchtime session (1.20pm–2.00pm) sometime in the future? We would **love** to have you visit. Please contact Emma Rieger.

We are currently planning our Term 3 program. Would you be free to share on one of these dates?

- Week 3 – Monday 3 August
- Week 4 – Friday 14 August
- Week 7 – Monday 31 August
- Week 9 – Friday 18 September

26 Book Challenge: Symphony of Stories

Visit the library circulation desk as you complete books from the 26 Book Challenge. Are you collecting your alphabet cards and adding them to your keyring? Our musical-themed reading challenge includes categories like:

- Forte (loud): Read a bold, high-stakes story, action thriller, big adventure, historical fiction, or book with explosive plot twists
- Glissando: Read a book that “slides” across places and time—stories with travel, time jumps or multiple settings.

Stuck on a category? The library staff will be very pleased to help.

Brain Bee Success

We have recently been notified that seven Year 10 students have qualified for the State Final of the Australian Brain Bee Challenge at Flinders University in July. This is an incredible achievement and builds on the success of previous Concordia students. Since we first participated in the competition in 2022, we have had 33 Concordia students reach the state final level. Congratulations and good luck!

Emma Rieger
Enrichment and Extended Learning

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It's a String Thing

Patch Theatre presented an imaginative and interactive show with the ELC and Reception children.

The children sat in a circle and were invited to handle a long continuous piece of ‘string’ that came out of a box. The string consisted of various materials and textures joined together, which continued to change as more and more string was released.

Discussions occurred while manipulating the interesting material string parts, fostering thoughts about a garden, forest, water, mountains, stars and a big deep hole. Invented sounds were also made by the performer as the string moved through the children’s hands.

The children were mesmerised by the performer’s stories, which unleashed their imaginations. They eagerly offered their ideas and built upon the storylines the various textures of material strings and performer provoked.

The children were demonstrating curiosity, enthusiasm, imagination, creativity, cooperation and communication skills. The learning was ‘alive’ and most evident!

Deborah Waters
ELC Teacher

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Saturday Morning Netball Umpires Required

Do you love netball? Do you have umpiring experience? Would you like to assist Concordia's vibrant netball program?

The College is currently seeking netball umpires for the winter season, with matches played on Saturdays across Terms 2 and 3 of 2026. Please see details in the image above and email Vittoria (Sport Coordinator) for more information.

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Blackwood ANZAC Day Dawn Service

On ANZAC Day, our Year 6 Student Leaders, Halle and Ben, along with their families, represented the St Peters Campus community at the Blackwood Dawn Service.

Gathering at 6:15am in readiness for the 6:30am service, there was a wonderful sense of respect and reflection as the community came together. The weather was kind, making for a calm and meaningful morning, and it was encouraging to see such a strong turnout from the local community.

Halle and Ben had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of St Peters Campus, a moment that was both significant and deeply respectful. They represented our community with pride and maturity, acknowledging the sacrifices made by those who have served our country.

We thank Halle and Ben, and their families, for their willingness to be part of this important occasion and for representing St Peters Campus so thoughtfully.

Lest we forget.

Alison Ronoastro
Principal – St Peters Campus

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Reminder: Volunteering at Concordia

Concordia College values and actively supports the involvement of volunteers in the many and various aspects of College life. Your interests and talents contribute positively to the Concordia community. We are committed to ensuring that any volunteers who support the College are able to work in a safe environment and in a manner that maintains the safety and wellbeing of volunteers, students and staff members.

For information about volunteering at Concordia, including necessary clearances, read our Screening and Induction Requirements for Volunteers. Please also refer to our Volunteers

Policy and Code of Conduct.

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Year 7/8 Boys' and Girls' Knockout Basketball Wins

Our Year 7/8 knockout basketball teams represented Concordia brilliantly in Round 1 yesterday, with both teams displaying outstanding skill, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day. Led by James Adcock, the boys' team was in fine form, defeating St Francis School 56–52 in a thrilling opening game before producing a dominant performance against Westminster School to win 78–34 and secure progression through to Round 2 of the knockout tournament.

Our girls' team, led by Laura Hodges, also showed tremendous resilience and teamwork. After a hard-fought opening loss to St Francis School 30–37, the girls responded with an incredible overtime victory against Faith Lutheran College, winning 41–39 with fantastic support from the Concordia crowd. Unfortunately, despite finishing with a win, the girls narrowly missed progressing through to the next round on for and against. It is shaping up to be a fantastic term of knockout sport ahead, so keep an eye out for more exciting results and achievements across the term.

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Save the Date for our St Peters Campus Production of Disney and Pixar's Finding Nemo KIDS

We are currently preparing for our upcoming St Peters Campus musical production of Disney and Pixar's *Finding Nemo KIDS*, and we can't wait to share it with our community!

Please save the date for the performances listed below:

- Tuesday 16 June
  Matinee Performance: 1.30pm | Evening Performance: 6.30pm
- Thursday 18 June
  Evening Performance: 6.30pm

Booking details are coming soon.

We hope to see you there!

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German Baking in Year 10

During Term 1 in Year 10 German, our class focused on learning about specific aspects of 'typical 'German culture, specifically music, sport and food. To celebrate the food aspect, we ended the term by baking some traditional German biscuits—Lebkuchen and Vanillekipferl. Students read through the recipes in German, mixed the ingredients, baked and decorated the biscuits all in one lesson. They then enjoyed eating their culinary creations. Guten Appetit!

Kathy Breitweg
German Teacher

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Living Young City of Unley eNewsletter

The latest edition of the City of Unley's Living Young eNewsletter is out now, including:

- Last call for Fish Tank Entrpreneurship Competition applications by Sunday 17 May
- Community Event Sponsorship
- Community Climate Action Plan
- Free Parenting Seminars
- Chamber in the Community – *Darwin Song* concert
- Chamber in the Community – *Voyage* concert

The newsletter also contains information about a range of community groups, from craft and digital drawing to martial arts.

Read the eNewsletter (opens an external website in a new window)
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Reminder: Concordia Bus Services Available Daily

A reminder that a number of bus services are available, running to Concordia College daily from across the metropolitan area and the Adelaide Hills.

For more information, view our Bus Information or contact our Finance Office.

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2026 Careers and Employment Expo

Concordia’s Year 10 students attended the 2026 Careers and Employment Expo on Friday 8 May. The Expo featured representatives from universities, training organisations, industry

bodies, the Australian Defence Force, government, community groups, employers and more, all keen to speak with young people about future study options, careers and pathways. Our students took part in a huge range of hands-on activities and enjoyed collecting the many freebies and prizes for their efforts, with sunglasses and red fire hats proving to very popular.

Sophia (10LTRA) shared this reflection:

"*The Career Expo at the Adelaide Showground's Jubilee Pavilion was bustling with energy and opportunity. Exploring the diverse range of industry stalls and educational pathways was eye-opening, and I realised the sheer variety of routes available to achieve professional excellence. I highly recommend this experience to all students, those with a clear goal for when they're older can learn how to get there, and those who don't, can discover a world of new possibilities.*"

There was a positive hum on the return bus trip with students commenting the event was very beneficial, introduced them to courses and pathways they had not considered and was well-worth attending.

Natasha Boyko
Careers and Pathways Advisor

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SchoolTV Special Report: Do It For Dolly Day

Bullying can have a profound and lasting impact on a young person's wellbeing, sense of belonging and confidence. It is not always visible and can include social exclusion, verbal abuse and online harassment, often occurring repeatedly over time. Research shows that bullying can increase the risk of anxiety, low self-esteem, social withdrawal and difficulties with learning and peer relationships.

For parents and carers, it can be difficult to know how best to respond. However, recognising the signs, listening without judgement and maintaining open communication can make a significant difference.

Do It For Dolly Day is a national reminder that kindness matters and that everyone has a role to play in creating safe and inclusive communities. This Special Report provides practical guidance to help families understand bullying, support their child and promote empathy, respect and positive relationships, ensuring no child feels alone.

Read the Special Report (opens an external website in a new window)
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Mother's Day Celebrations

"No language can express the power, beauty and heroism of a mother's love."

– Edwin Chapin

Our recent Mother's Day Celebrations were wonderful successes, bringing together mothers, grandmothers, special guests, staff and students in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. The events were filled with joy, appreciation and meaningful moments as mothers, students and guests enjoyed a delicious breakfast and quality time together. The photo backdrop, speeches from our Student Leaders and positive energy created a memorable celebration that highlighted the important role mothers and caregivers play in our lives. A huge thank you to the P&F and everyone who helped organise, prepare and support the event, making it such an enjoyable and successful occasion for all involved.

We also thank our sponsors—Moo Premium Foods and Tony & Mark's— for generously supporting this event.

Angela Warrick
Engagement and Events Manager

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Remember to be Sun Smart – Even in Cooler Weather

Concordia College is pleased to announce that our two Primary School campuses, including ELC and OSHC, have recently received SunSmart recognition from the Cancer Council.

The Cancer Council of SA advises that best practice is for sun protection to be in effect in schools for Terms 1, 3 and 4 as well as during daily sun protection times in Term 2, when the UV is forecast to reach 3 and above. Please remind child/ren to have their school hat with them each day and follow sun safe procedures.

For more information about sun safety at Concordia, please refer to our Sun Smart Policy and Procedures.

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Festival of Rice

Students and staff from Concordia College immersed themselves in the vibrant atmosphere of the Festival of Rice over the weekend, joining the wider community in a spectacular celebration of food, culture and connection.

Held on Saturday 9 May 2026, the streets of Unley came alive with colour, flavour, music and creativity as thousands gathered for this extraordinary cultural event. Concordia students proudly showcased their skills by demonstrating how to make hand roll temaki, enthusiastically

inviting festival guests to join in and experience the art of Japanese-inspired cuisine firsthand.

Adding to the excitement, students also hosted engaging cultural activities including loom band making with Asian-inspired charms, and origami creations, which attracted families, children and community members throughout the day. The festival provided students with an invaluable opportunity to experience the energy and excitement of a large-scale community event while sharing their creativity, confidence and hospitality with others.

The Festival of Rice celebrates the humble grain that connects billions of people across the world, bringing together Adelaide's leading culinary innovators, traditional flavours, bold fusion dishes and diverse cultural experiences. It was truly a memorable and enriching experience for everyone involved, and Concordia College was proud to be part of such a vibrant community celebration.

Mersina Harpas
Key Teacher – Food Design

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Have Your Say on the City of Unley's Climate Future

The City of Unley is currently undergoing community consultation to find community-led solutions to reduce emissions and keep the neighbourhoods within the local area cool and green. They are interested in finding out:

- What are you already doing to reduce climate-impacting emissions?
- What challenges do you face day-to-day to reduce your carbon footprint?
- Do you have ideas, big or small, that the community could apply together?

To get involved, visit the Your Say Unley website. Their survey is open until 11.59pm on Sunday 17 May.

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Celebrating Mother's Day Together in Reception at St John's Campus

On Friday afternoon before Mother's Day, the Reception students shared a lovely time with their mum or another important family member.

We began by singing a special song and reading a story about how precious mums are and how thankful we are for their love and care. The children were then excited to participate in a variety of activities and experiences set across the two Reception classrooms.

Together with their Mum, our students enjoyed making bath salts, giving hand scrubs and cleanses, sharing gentle back massages, decorating biscuits, creating afternoon tea with

playdough, and even designing their own signature scent perfumes.

We thank God for our Mums and for the special people in our lives. We are so grateful for the opportunity to spend this meaningful time together.

Jen Schultz
Reception Teacher

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Illumina Voices presents On Wings of Song

Where lullabies, jazz, and birds take flight,
Illumina Voices presents **On Wings of Song**

The all-female chorus Illumina Voices presents *On Wings of Song*, a joyful program celebrating the beauty and power of singing. Featuring works from Edward Elgar's *Fly, Singing Bird*, to the Beatles' classic *Blackbird*, along with favourites such as *Songbird*, *Lullaby of Birdland* and *Singin' in the Rain*, this uplifting concert promises warmth, harmony and musical delight.

Do not miss fabulous guest artists, Trish and Greg Hart—bringing their engaging and sensational renditions of iconic songs!

Concert 1

- Sunday 7 June, 2026
- 2:30pm
- St Peters Lutheran Church, 71 Cumming St, Blackwood
- Tickets: $32 Adult | $30 Concession | $12 Student | All Door Sales: $32

Come, join Illumina Voices as they take flight **On Wings of Song**—songs to lift the heart and soothe the soul.

Book Online (opens an external website in a new window)
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Children's Theatre in Year 8 Drama

At the beginning of Term 2, the Year 8 Drama students have embarked on an engaging and rewarding journey, exploring the elements of drama through the vibrant and playful lens of children's theatre. Applying skills in voice, movement, character and storytelling, they transformed familiar children's books into lively performances designed to captivate a young audience. Their visit to St John's Campus ELC and Reception classes became a highlight of this learning experience as they brought stories to life with energy, creativity and heart. The squeals of delight and wide-eyed wonder from the children reflected the success of their

efforts, while our Year 8 students beamed with pride, fully embracing the joy and responsibility of performance. In that shared space of imagination and connection, they discovered the true essence of theatre: to entertain, engage and inspire.

Suzanne Martin
Drama Teacher

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St John's Campus ELC 'Mother's and Other's Morning'

On Friday 8 May, mothers and other mother figures were invited to come into the ELC to spend some quality time with their child and participate in activities. It was fantastic to see so many mothers and others come and paint, create, build, read, experiment, glue, draw, write, thread, make, pose, cut, and play with their child. We finished the morning with the mothers and others joining in our 'Hands on Music' session with Ms Bartlett and singing and participating along with us. Thank you to everyone who came and took part in our morning.

Sarah Davis
ELC Director

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New in Term 2 – Little Explorers Playgroup at St John's Campus

Launching in Term 2 is Concordia's new playgroup at our St John's Campus in Highgate.

Designed as a warm, nurturing and play-rich space, it's where little learners can explore, create and build early connections—and where families can connect and feel part of a welcoming community.

Led by experienced educators and volunteers, children will enjoy both indoor play and our exciting new nature play area.

- Where: Concordia College Early Learning Centre – St John's Campus
- 20 Highgate Street, Highgate (enter via the ELC entrance on Winchester Street)
- Weekly on Fridays during term time, starting on Friday 15 May
- Time: 9:30am - 10:30am
- Cost: Free

Note: Little Explorers playgroup is currently at capacity for Term 2, but we would still love to have you join us in the future. Please complete the form below to register to join our waiting list

so that we can contact you if/when a place becomes available.

Register for Little Explorers Playgroup (opens an external website in a new window)
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Crochet Club is Back in the Library

Did you know that crochet is over 5,000 years old or that it is one of the only arts that cannot be replicated by a machine?

The Library Crochet Club is returning for Terms 2 and 3, creating a welcoming space where beginners can learn and practise a new skill, and experienced crocheters can come for advice or to work on a project they already have. All yarn and hooks are provided, and we have a variety of patterns available for students to use.

Crochet is not only fun, but also good for you. Learning a skill that requires hand-eye coordination, pattern reading and memory has a number of benefits for the brain. These are some of the benefits (Houtman, 2017) (Burns & Der Meer, 2021):

- Crocheting can reduce stress and anxiety because the rhythmic, repetitive motion helps calm the nervous system
- Crochet supports mindfulness by keeping attention on the present moment, which can interrupt rumination and mental overload
- Crochet can contribute to cognitive reserve by challenging the brain with a learned skill and repeated practice
- Crochet may improve mood and help with low feelings by creating a sense of accomplishment
- Crochet gives the brain a structured motor-and-cognitive workout, since you have to coordinate hand movements, follow patterns and track stitch sequences.

This year, Crochet Club has a theme: Scarves! Scarves are an easy way to practise a variety of stitches, from basic to advanced. They are also very quick to make, leaving you with a cool new piece of clothing for winter and the feeling of satisfaction that comes from making something with your hands. Students are also welcome to let their inspiration take the lead and try something else from the variety of patterns we have available in the Library Makerspace.

Crochet Club will run during Terms 2 and 3 in the Concordia Campus Yangadlitya Library on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at lunchtime. Everyone who is interested is welcome. For more information, please contact me.

Catherine Manthey
Library and Archive Technician

References

Burns.P., Van Der Meer. R. (2021). Happy Hookers: findings from an international study exploring the effects of crochet on wellbeing. Perspect Public Health. 141(3):149-157. doi: 10.1177/17579139209119 61.

Houtman. B. (2017). How Crochet and Knitting Help the Brain. Anxiety Research Centre Blog and Podcast. https://www.anxietyresourcecenter.org/2017/10/crochet-helps-brain/

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New Extra-Curricular Sport Uniforms

All students playing after school sports should now have either purchased or ordered the new indigenous sport uniform for all winter sports except netball and Primary School football. There is no change to the netball uniform and Primary School footballers have the option of plain navy or the new indigenous shorts. Students who purchased the new sport uniform in 2025 and have outgrown it or are no longer playing the sport can sell their uniform on consignment in The School Shop. If passing on numbered uniforms to siblings or other students, please check there is no clash of number with other team members by emailing schoolshop@concordia.sa.edu.au

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Australian Lutheran World Service Walk My Way

> “Of course it rained—we made plans.”

Australian Lutheran World Service’s (ALWS) Walk My Way is an event Concordia has been involved in for many years. This year we planned two major walks during the last week of Term 1 to raise money for the work of ALWS, especially to help send refugee children to school in East Africa—this year with a focus on girls.

Then came the rain…

Sadly, we had to postpone our Concordia Campus walk in the Adelaide Hills until Term 2, which was a disappointing result for our 25 Year 7–12 students who had volunteered to walk from Balhannah to Lobethal.

The previous day was planned to be a combined Primary School walkathon day where all students were to walk together at St John’s Campus or through the Waite Arboretum at Urrbrae. The threat of rain caused St Peters Campus to stay put at Blackwood and we forfeited our walk to the Arboretum. Unperturbed, both campuses made alternative plans to ensure the walks were completed. At St Peters Campus, before the heavens opened, students walked around the adjoining Blackwood footy oval. Meanwhile, at St John’s Campus our younger students did many laps of the College oval and the older students did 1.3km laps around the adjacent suburban streets.

While raising money is an important part of this event, creating awareness for the plight of refugee children is critical. Students were able to engage in fun learning activities led by our teachers and staff from ALWS as well as hearing a talk about how the money we raise makes such a big difference to many young lives. We even had a small lunch of a handful of rice to

remind students of the meagre amount of food many of these young people must live on (thanks to members of St John's Lutheran Church and Principal Ali at St Peters Campus for cooking the rice).

At the time of writing, we have raised over $11,000 and hopefully this will grow when the Concordia Campus students complete their walk. On behalf of ALWS, we are so thankful to our whole Concordia community who have, once again, so generously donated to this important project.

He will be kind to the weak and poor.
He will save their lives.
He will save them from cruel people who try to hurt them.
Their lives are precious to him.
– Psalm 73:13-14

Mark Rathjen
Chaplain – St John's Campus

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Continuing our Reconciliation Action Plan Journey With Staff Cultural Awareness Training

As we continue on our reconciliation journey at Concordia College, we have recently updated our Reconciliation Action Plan. This important plan incorporates student, parent and staff voice; has been approved by Reconciliation Australia; and is designed to help us continue to foster meaningful connections between First Nations Australians and our College community.

As part of the plan, we are committed to supporting staff to reflect on and build cultural responsiveness to improve our practice and best support the needs of First Nations students. With this commitment in mind, on Monday we were delighted to be joined by Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri woman Rebecca Hunter-Harvey from Ochre Dawn, who delivered a cultural awareness training session for all staff—leadership, teaching, administration and support staff. Her presentation—which was honest, thought-provoking and action-inspiring—was delivered with sensitivity and a wonderful positive sense of hope for the future. As a College, we thank Rebecca for sharing with our staff across all three campuses as we continue to implement our Reconciliation Action Plan while walking together towards reconciliation.

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Student Achievements

Concordia congratulates the following students on their recent achievements with the Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB), which are a testament to their hard work, dedication and musicianship:

- **Ulani (11RAMO)** received her Oboe Licentiate Diploma
- **Marco (12SBAC)** received his Trumpet Associate Diploma
- **Sean (11HPAA)** received his Piano Associate Diploma
- **Wilson (7SCHE)** received a Piano Certificate of Performance

Congratulations to **James (11AMOF)**, who recently competed at the 2026 Australian Youth Nationals Championships in Launceston, Tasmania, winning the gold medal for U21 and U18 matchplay competition. As a result, James has been invited to attend a selection trial at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra in August for the 2026 Youth Olympics. We wish James all the very best for the upcoming trial!

Well done to **Stella (11NMCG)** and **Daisy (10BWHA)**, who recently represented SA at the U16 Emerging Matilda's Championships in Melbourne. This is their second time representing the state at this event, which is a great achievement.

Towards the end of term 1, **Jacob (10HLEW)** took part in the French-Australian Regional Informatics Olympiad (FARIO), an invitational competition supported by the Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT) in which students answer a series of problems using logic and coding to find the desired solution. The published results of 29 students, for which he was the only representative of SA, shows that Jacob was placed ninth in the order of merit for 2026. This is an amazing achievement. Congratulations, Jacob!

We are thrilled for Class of 2025 Concordia graduate **Jess C**, who has won First Prize in the Unley Youth Art Showcase. The Unley Youth Art Showcase, part of SA Youth Week, and hosted in partnership with Carclew Youth Art Centre, encourages young artists to express their artistic talents in exhibition. Jess was successful in the 18–25 year old section for her Year 12 artwork, the self-portrait, ‘Specimen #201107’. The exhibition was held at Hughes Gallery at the Fullarton Park Community Centre in April. We congratulate her on this achievement, a great recognition of her talent and creativity. As part of the prize, Jess has also been awarded a mentorship programme at Carclew. We wish her all the best in her future artistic endeavours.

Congratulations to Year 3 student **Jude (3KM)** for performing in the Western Australian Ballet performances of Dracula. Performances were held at Adelaide Festival Theatre in April. We are very proud of your achievement in dancing and acting!

Congratulations to **Oliver (11HPAA)**, who has been selected for a Summer Program at Westlake University, Hangzhou, China. He will spend two weeks in July 2026 with 80 students from all over the world. Oliver’s scholarship includes flights, accommodation, stem programs and sightseeing.

Congratulations to **Scarlett (10LTRA)**, who has been offered a Goethe Institute German language course. Scarlett narrowly missed out on a trip to Austria, but her application and interview made such a strong impression on the interview panel that she has been rewarded with a scholarship to participate in a language course at the Goethe Institute.

Clockwise from top left: **Ulani** (Oboe Licentiate Diploma), **Marco** (Trumpet Associate Diploma), **Sean** (Piano Associate Diploma) and **Wilson** (Piano Certificate of Performance)

James (11AMOF) competing at the 2026 Australian Youth Nationals Championships in Launceston, Tasmania

Diasy (10BWHA) and **Stella (11NMCG)** at the U16 Emerging Matilda's Championships in Melbourne

Jess C (Class of 2025) with Unley Mayor Michael Hewitson and her 1st prize winning artwork 'Specimen #201107'

Jude (3KM) in front of an advertisement for the Western Australian Ballet performances of Dracula

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Noticeboard

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- Diary Dates
- The School Shop
- Public Notices and Events

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: 2.30–4.30pm

(Closed on Public Holidays)

Winter Uniform Fittings

A communication containing booking information has been sent to families who have students

new to the College this year and for students in Reception and Year 7. Booking times are available from March until the end of Term 1. If your child is new to Concordia or has entered Reception or Year 7 in 2026, please refer to the aforementioned email and book your fitting appointment at your earliest convenience.

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.

Secondhand Uniform Sales

The School Shop advises that our terms and conditions for the sale of secondhand uniforms have been updated, along with the consignment form. Secondhand uniform items can now be donated or sold on consignment according to our new Terms and Conditions for the sale of secondhand uniforms.

Download a consignment form

Umbrellas

The following items are now available in The School Shop:

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

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Public Notices & Events

- **Selby & Friends** performs chamber music in the Concordia College Chapel—and Concordia College students are invited to attend for free on Sunday 31 May at 2.30pm. Hear illustrious classical musicians in piano trios by Schubert, Beethoven and more. Tickets at the afternoon box office range from $66-$81, with one complimentary ticket reserved for each Concordia College student presenting school ID. Visit their website for more information.
- **Orienteering SA** runs free after school orienteering activities in the Mitcham Hills area on Friday afternoons. Download a flyer for more information.

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