Concordia Connect

2026 Term 2 Week 6

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From the Middle School Leader

The afternoon chill of autumn is settling in across the mallee scrub at Swan Reach. There is tension, nervousness and an eerie silence in the air. The Year 9 students are packed into the bench seats of the purpose built truck like anxious sardines awaiting the unknown of their Solo Experience on The Adventure camp. They have their pre-prepared materials on their laps and look expectantly to the staff for some final words of wisdom before they reach their site. One by one they are dropped, swag and tarp in hand and farewelled by the group with raptures of clapping, whooping and best wishes for the night ahead. Possibly the first night they have spent on their own in a long time, potentially the first time ever.

When I think back to that experience from Term 2, I reflect on the learning that was happening for our young people in real time. I visibly saw it on their faces, their body language and the way they talked to each other. This one experience perfectly embodied our Learning*Well* pillars of students being Connected, Empowered and Challenged. In this instance the element of intentional challenge built deeper connection among the group as they faced the unknown together. The next morning you could tell they felt empowered as they survived and maybe even enjoyed the experience. Learning*Well* at Concordia doesn't just occur through Pastoral Care programs or year level camps, it occurs every day in each lesson activity, each break time conversation, each Chapel service, each music lesson, each sports practice and each passing in the quadrangle.

Ben Crowe in his recent book 'Where the Light Gets In' speaks about the perspective shift from 'fitting in' to 'belonging' in our search for connection. Connection is a human need that is arguably at its most emphasised in the teenage years where 'fitting in' and finding your group can seem to be all that matters. These formative years require intentionality in creating opportunities for connection, that often form around challenge and lead to young people feeling empowered. Steve Biddulph outlines in his 'Raising Boys' / 'Raising Girls' books that our young people are hardwired to seek out connection through challenge as they establish who they are and what they are capable of. This often happens as they are on the bridge of adolescence, the space between childhood and adulthood. A space that needs clear rites of passage to help our young people navigate growing up. If we as schools and parents are not intentional in that space of growing up, our young people often find their own rites of passage to test themselves and this can be unhealthy risk-taking behaviour, causing more harm than good.

I wonder what ways you as a family already foster healthy opportunities for your children to be Connected, Empowered and Challenged at home? I also wonder what other ways we could continue to develop those characteristics here at Concordia as we find opportunities to foster belonging through Learning*Well*.

Ben Crook
Acting Middle School Leader

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Q&A with Gabriele Catana, Student Counsellor – St John's Campus

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

Before joining Concordia, I was working as a Student Counsellor supporting children and young people in schools. I was excited about the opportunity to join Concordia because of its strong sense of community and genuine commitment to supporting the wellbeing and growth of every student.

2. Three words to describe you.

Calm, friendly, genuine.

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

My motivation comes from helping children and young people feel heard, supported and understood. It is a blessing to walk alongside students as they discover their strengths, build confidence, and grow into capable learners and achievers.

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

Teleportation would be my top pick. I'd love the ability to explore new places around the world, while also having more time to enjoy with family, friends and the things I love doing.

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 would love the opportunity to sit down with members of my family from past generations and learn more about their lives, experiences and the journey that helped shape my family. I would ask what life was like in Italy before migrating to Australia, the challenges they faced, and the hopes they had for future generations. Hearing those stories firsthand and gaining a deeper understanding of my family history would be incredibly special.

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National Reconciliation Week 2026 at Concordia

National Reconciliation Week is held every year from 27 May (anniversary of the 1967 Referendum) to 3 June (Mabo Day).

At Concordia, we believe in the right of every individual to be treated with respect, to truly feel that they are valued, and to have their cultural heritage and beliefs honoured by others. In recent weeks, all students across the College engaged in learning experiences that supported

their understanding of racism and the painful impact this has on so many people. This focus will continue next term, as together we explore what it means to be anti-racist and how to speak up for others.

In our nation, rich with cultural diversity, Concordia recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia. We respect their cultural heritage and the enduring importance of language, culture and Country. Students and staff continue to learn about the truth of Australia's colonial history, recognising past wrongs and working with empathy and hope towards a more reconciled and equitable country.

At last Friday's 'All In' National Reconciliation Week assembly, students from each campus shared what they have been learning about reconciliation in Australia. It was great to see all ages joining in to learn the Kaurna language version of Heads and Shoulders, before the Rock Band and cross-campus choir thrilled us with their performance of Midnight Oil's *Beds Are Burning* as part of Reconciliation Australia's Voices For Reconciliation initiative.

St John's Campus students were also treated to a visit from Adelaide Crows Indigenous AFL players Izak Rankine and Callum Ah Chee this week, who shared about the importance of their culture, families and what reconciliation means to them.

Together, we strive to build a community that honours truth, values diversity and actively contributes to reconciliation in Australia.

Nancy Wells
Reconciliation Action Plan Coordinator

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Concordia Unplugged

On Monday 19 May, our Chamber Musicians showcased their talents at the wonderful *Concordia Unplugged*. Our Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, String, Guitar and Percussion Ensembles entertained parents and friends with a diverse range of repertoire, highlighting the impressive work they have undertaken so far this year.

It was fantastic to see so many young performers confidently taking to the stage and sharing their passion for music. Thank you to our staff, students and families for their support in making this event such a memorable success.

Kellie Rich
Head of Music ELC–12

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Book Now to see our Year 12 Drama production Tonight - Thursday 4 June

Our SACE Stage 2 Drama students had their first major performance last night and will be performing again tonight in their production of 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!

Book your tickets and head along tonight.

- Date: Thursday 4 June
- Time: 6.30pm
- Location: Concordia College Drama Centre
- Tickets: $10 per person

Please book online via the TryBooking link below.

Note: recommended for audiences aged 14+.

We hope to see you there!

Book Now (opens an external website in a new window)
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St Peters Campus Year 4 and 5 Adventure Camp

Our time at Mylor Adventure Camp was incredibly rewarding, as students were challenged to step outside their comfort zones, support one another and discover new strengths.

From the beginning, there was a strong sense of encouragement and teamwork. Whether standing at the base of the giant swing or waiting at the top of the flying fox, students were constantly cheering each other on. The giant swing, in particular, required real courage, but also brought a huge sense of achievement. Similarly, the flying fox pushed students to trust themselves as they launched from the platform and soared across the camp, quickly turning hesitation into excitement.

This spirit of teamwork carried through into activities like raft making, where groups problem-

solved to construct a raft from a range of materials. Watching their designs come to life—followed by energetic relay races—showed just how effective communication and collaboration can be.

The mud challenge course had everyone crawling, climbing and sliding their way through, and it didn't take long before everyone was completely covered. What stood out wasn't just the fun of it, but the determination students showed as they pushed through the obstacles together.

Support and trust were especially important during the low ropes course. Acting as spotters for each other, students took on responsibility for keeping their peers safe while offering guidance and encouragement.

Bouldering tested individual strength and persistence, and it was fantastic to see students pushing themselves to improve. A special mention goes to Liam, who achieved the second-best time ever recorded at Mylor for the Hanging Challenge—an outstanding effort! Archery provided a different kind of challenge, requiring focus and control, which even led to a few bullseyes.

As the sun went down, evenings brought everyone together in a different way, from the excitement of a glow stick scavenger hunt to the more relaxed atmosphere of a movie night, and the always-popular game of spotlight.

Overall, the camp was about much more than activities. It was about building confidence, facing fears and learning the value of supporting others. It was wonderful to see the students' growth across the camp, and they should all be very proud of what they achieved.

Lisa Smith and Trevor Burmeister
Year 4/5 Teachers

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Book Now for our St Peters Campus Musical Production

Bookings are now open for our upcoming St Peters Campus musical production of Disney and Pixar's *Finding Nemo KIDS*. We hope you will be able to come and enjoy these performances!

Tuesday 16 June

- Matinee Performance: 1.30pm
- Evening Performance: 6.30pm

Thursday 18 June

- Evening Performance: 6.30pm

Bookings

Ticket prices are as follows:

- Adults: $10
- Child / concession: $5
- Children under 12 years of age: Free

Please book online via the button below.

We hope to see you there!

Book Now (opens an external website in a new window)
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P&F All that Glitters Quiz Night

We had sequins, sparkles and sensational brain-bending fun at our 2026 P&F All that Glitters Quiz Night on Saturday 30 May. Thanks to all who joined us and made the night such a success. Congratulations to our winners and to the Christmas Tree Crew for winning 'Best Dressed Table'. A special thanks also to our donors and sponsors.

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Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad 2026

2026 is the fourth year Concordia has participated in the Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OzCLO). This year's problem set has been described by the organising committee as 'one of the hardest in the history of the competition'. In 2026, we once again had 16 students take part, who worked together under time pressure to solve a range of language analysis problems. The four Concordia teams—comprising students from Years 9, 10 and 11—were amongst 2,448 students from 82 schools across Australia who participated in the first round of the competition. We commend all students involved, and are very excited to announce that two of our teams achieved Bronze and Silver, placing them in the top 50% and 25% nationally.

Bronze

- **Yolanna (11HPAA)**
- **Paige (11EBAB)**
- **Sophie (11NMCG)**
- **Erin (11AMOF)**

Silver

- **Imogen (9LBON)**
- **Lewis (9JEGA)**
- **Thomas (9MGAS)**
- **Benjamin (9JEGA)**

Trish Prenzler
Faculty Leader - Languages

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Upcoming Music Concerts in Term 2 and Save the Dates for Term 3

Our Music Department invites you to a number of upcoming concerts, to be held at the College in Terms 2 and 3. Please see details below.

String Soiree

- Date: Friday 5 June
- Time: 5pm
- Location College Chapel, Concordia Campus
- Tickets: Gold coin donation entry / No bookings necessary
- What to expect: Concert featuring four large string ensembles—Senior Strings, Intermediate Strings, Crescendo Strings and Bambino Strings

Winter Winds

- Date: Thursday 11 June
- Time: 6.30pm start
- Location: College Chapel, Concordia Campus
- Tickets: Gold coin donation entry / No bookings necessary
- What to expect: Concert featuring Senior Concert Band, Intermediate Concert Band, St John's Campus Concert Band, Big Band 1, Big Band 2, Intermediate Rock Band and Jazz Combo

Voices of Concordia (Save the Date)

- Date: Thursday 30 July
- Time: 6.00pm (doors open) for a 6.30pm start
- Location: College Chapel, Concordia Campus
- Tickets: Gold coin donation entry / No bookings necessary
- What to expect: Concert featuring choirs from all three campuses as well as our Jazz Vocal Ensembles and Senior Vocal Soloists

Concordia in Concert 'The Red-Carpet Edition' (Save the Date)

- Date: Friday 4 September

- Time: 6.30pm (doors open) for a 7.00pm start
- Location: Fortiter (ELC–12 Gymnasium), Concordia Campus
- Tickets: Booking information coming soon
- What to expect: A musical celebration featuring students across all three campuses

Please mark these dates in your diaries and come along to support our students as they take to the stage. We'd love to see you there!

Kellie Rich
Head of Music ELC–12

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Languages Week

In Week 4 this term we celebrated Concordia's inaugural Languages Week. The week commenced with a special languages Chapel service, demonstrating the linguistic and cultural diversity within our community, and involving a number of students and staff speaking in German, Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, Vietnamese, French and Spanish. Throughout the week students in German and Chinese language classes had the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities such as food tasting in Year 8 as well as quizzes, games and competitions in other year levels. The Year 3 German class at St John's Campus was excited to have stories read to them by Year 12 German students. It was terrific to see and hear examples of other languages during the week too, as teachers were invited to greet students in different languages and share their own background, knowledge and experiences of other languages and cultures. Home classes across the whole school really enjoyed testing their collective knowledge in a languages 'Kahoot'. The 'Guess the Number of Gummibärchen in the Jar' competition drew many students to the library, where German and Chinese cultural items and language texts were displayed, and where students also had the opportunity to try traditional language board games such as 'Mensch ärgere dich nicht' and Chinese chess. The culmination of Languages Week was a special staff quiz!

During Languages Week we were reminded that 'languages matter'. Learning another language has many benefits, not the least of which is gaining a deeper understanding and appreciation of other cultures, and of our diversity! We are looking forward to celebrating Languages Week again in 2027!

Trish Prenzler
Faculty Leader - Languages

German class tasting traditional German foods

Chinese class tasting traditional Chinese foods

'Gummibärchen in the Jar' competition

Chinese chess in the Library

Languages Week display in the Library

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Curious Year 1 Minds on an EdVenture

Our St Peters Campus Year 1 students recently embarked on an exciting EdVenture to the South Australian Museum and Art Gallery as part of their 'Journeys That Shape Us' interdisciplinary unit.

At the Museum, students explored fossils, ancient artefacts and fascinating specimens, learning how museums collect, preserve and display items that help us understand people, places and events from the past. At the Art Gallery, they observed a range of artworks, discussing how artists use different materials, colours and techniques to tell stories and share ideas.

Throughout the day, students asked thoughtful questions, made connections to their classroom learning and discovered how objects, artworks and collections can help us learn about the journeys that have shaped individuals, communities and cultures over time.

This hands-on EdVenture brought learning to life, inspiring curiosity, wonder and a deeper understanding of the world around us. Thank you to our parent volunteers for helping make this memorable experience possible.

Nicolle Dupree
Year 1 Teacher

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Year 11 Drama presents Intersection: Orbit - Book now for Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 June

Our SACE Stage 1 Drama students will soon perform their production of Intersection: Orbit in collaboration with Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP).

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.

If you haven't yet booked your tickets and you would like to attend, please book today.

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

Please book online via the button below.

We hope to see you there!

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

During Term 2, Stage 1 Theatre Design and Stage 1 Drama classes worked with industry professionals to develop their work in the classroom and on the stage.

Theatre Design students were treated to an expert design session with State Theatre Company's Ailsa Paterson, who shared her personal process for making set and costume come to life. Students are now applying this learning to their own final products in which they imagine the world of Kate Mulvany's *Masquerade*.

Drama students worked closely with Ashton Malcolm, Adelaide theatremaker, who provided feedback and guidance on their upcoming Group Production. The students remarked on Ashton's warmth and experience, and her work significantly developed the short plays that the class is working on.

You can witness these plays yourself on 9-10 June!

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

Daniel Lynch
Key Teacher: Drama

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Year 11 Retreat

Thursday and Friday of Week 5 saw the Year 11 cohort gathering at Dzintari Latvian Campsite, near Normanville, for the inaugural Year 11 Retreat. The Retreat began with a motivational presentation by Sam Ghamrawi from *Sekseed*, covering topics such as motivation and time management. During Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, the students rotated between activities including a beach hike, team-building games and free time. The free time gave the students a valuable opportunity to relax with friends and engage in a range of activities of their

choice, including table tennis, board games, puzzles, basketball and football. A number of students also demonstrated impressive music talent, making excellent use of the on-site piano.

On Thursday evening, the students took part in a hotly contested quiz night, with Team Black Scribble emerging victorious. Students then had more time for board games, chatting with friends, sports and enjoying a massive bonfire (complete with toasted marshmallows).

Whilst the Retreat provided students with important opportunities to 'switch off' and refresh at a busy time of the semester as well as to connect with friends, students and staff alike also enjoyed opportunities for quiet reflection. We were treated to a magnificent sunset during our devotion on Thursday, and we also took part in a Reconciliation and Diversity themed reflection on Friday.

Thank you very much to all of the staff who attended Retreat. Their support of the students and the activities was much appreciated, and made this event possible.

Judy Harris
Year 11 Leader

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

A reminder that parents and caregivers from all three campuses are invited 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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Reconciliation Week Yunupingu Cup Football and Netball

Our girls' Open football team played Pembroke on Friday afternoon in the Yunupingu Cup, hosted at Pembroke. While the scoreline didn't go our way, it did not reflect the effort and spirit shown by our girls. They never gave up—consistently pushing, tackling strongly, and producing some inspiring passages of play. I was particularly impressed by their attitude throughout the match and the way they supported one another. The sportsmanship displayed by both teams was commendable.

On Saturday morning, Reconciliation Week was celebrated with an Indigenous round against Pembroke. Our Reserves team starting the morning with a convincing win. After a welcome to Country, the Premier League hit the court. Four quarters of strong determined netball was played out and our girls came away with a fantastic win, earning them the Yunupingu Cup trophy. **Lily (10NSHR)** was presented with the player of the round medal to top off a great morning.

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A Celebration of Year 2 Music Learning at St Peters Campus

The St Peters Campus Year 2 students recently performed for parents, showcasing the violin and cello skills they have been developing through our College Music Program.

The performance was a wonderful celebration of their learning, commitment and growth. Through learning a musical instrument, students develop important skills such as perseverance, concentration, coordination and listening, while building confidence and a love of music.

Congratulations to our Year 2 students on a fantastic performance and all they have achieved this semester!

Nicolle Dupree
St Peters Campus Teacher

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Annual Appeal 2026

At Concordia, every gift and every act of service count, and no matter how large or small make an immediate impact on the lives of our students. As Head of College, I am thankful for the difference our generous community makes to our students' lives, and the joy that seeing our contributions come to life brings to all of us.

Your generosity has directly funded student scholarships and enabled important College upgrades—all of which successfully contribute to the experiences, wellbeing and growth of our students.

The recent upgrade of the old gym into a multipurpose hub now provides dynamic, flexible spaces that support learning, creativity and connection. The upgrades to the St Peters Campus ELC, including a larger outdoor play space, now provides an environment for imaginative and active play and the host space for our newly formed playgroup 'Little EdVenturers'.

With the 2026 Annual Appeal underway, I would like to draw your attention to two important initiatives. The first is our scholarship program, which has transformed the lives of so many Concordia students over the years, and with your continued support, will keep opening doors to those who might not otherwise have the opportunity.

The second is an exciting outdoor student and community space planned for the former carpark outside the Fortiter Gymnasium—a place designed for students and broader community to connect.

Please join me in supporting the 2026 Annual Appeal by giving to one of the following projects:

- Fortiter Community Space
- Scholarships
- Other Opportunities

Give to the 2026 Appeal (opens in a new window)

Paul Weinert
Head of College

Fortiter Community Space

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Save the Date: Senior School Careers Evening

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12—along with their parents and caregivers—are asked to save the date for our Senior School Careers Evening, which will be held on **Monday 3 August** here at the College.

Please keep an eye out for further details coming soon.

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German Exchange Students Visit St John’s Campus German Classes

Whilst the German Exchange students were at Concordia College last term, they all took the opportunity to visit classes at the St John's Campus. The younger students enjoyed learning about what life is like in Germany and interacting with the German students. The German students had so much fun helping the Primary School students—and even kicking the football with them at recess—that they volunteered to visit many more times than originally planned! It was a great opportunity for the Junior School students to use and develop their German knowledge in a real life situation.

Judy Harris
Year 11 Leader and German Teacher

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Stage 2 Legal Studies Excursions to the Courts and Parliament House

In Week 4 of Term 2 the two Year 12 Legal Studies classes met in Adelaide City for an excursion to the courts of Adelaide City and Parliament House. In the morning, we attended the District Court. We observed a sentencing submissions procedure during which we witnessed first-hand the importance of our courts being open to the public. We then went to the Magistrate Courts and saw a variety of proceedings, as well as a Magistrate with a good sense of humor and a patient demeanor. In the afternoon we visited Parliament House as a guest of the newly elected Member for Unley and State Cabinet Minister the Hon. Alice Rolls MP. During Question Time we saw representative and responsible government at work as the government and the opposition robustly discussed several important and some seemingly less important issues of the day. It was a good day of immersion in our state legal system.

Bredan Whatley and Judy Harris
Stage 2 Legal Studies Teachers

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Enrichment and Extended Learning News

Rostrum Voice of Youth 2026 Success

This year, seven talented students from Years 9–11 represented us at the annual Rostrum Voice of Youth public speaking competition. Competitors were required to deliver both a polished prepared speech and a short-notice speech following only a brief preparation period. The competition tests not only students’ speaking abilities but also their capacity to think under pressure. The standard is exceptionally high, with students from schools across the

state presenting well-researched, original and persuasive speeches.

This year's event attracted 160 entrants from more than 30 schools across the Northern Territory, regional South Australia and metropolitan Adelaide. Four Concordia students earned places in the semifinals. Reaching the semifinals is a significant achievement, as contestants must first outperform many talented speakers in their heats, where only a small number progress. The competition demands confidence, creativity, strong communication skills and countless hours of preparation, making a place in the semifinals a testament to each student's dedication, resilience and public speaking talent.

Congratulations to **Maeve (9LBON)**, **Eva (10NSHR)**, **Sophia (10LTRA)** and **Keziah (11NMCG)** on your incredible efforts. We are thrilled that Keziah has earned a place in the SA/NT Senior Zone Final. Keziah is one of four senior students who will compete in the House of Assembly, Parliament House at the end of June.

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

We've been fortunate to hear from several fascinating speakers in recent weeks as part of CARE@CC—our Community of Advocates for Respect and Empathy. This group, made up of students from Years 9 to 12, brings together those with an interest in health-related careers and a passion for understanding the experiences of others.

We recently welcomed a leading cancer researcher who has built an internationally recognised program focused on understanding and treating prostate cancer, particularly therapy-resistant forms of the disease. His work has earned major national and international awards and funding, while contributing to the development of new therapies that aim to improve survival and quality of life for cancer patients. We also heard from an inspiring GP with extensive experience in COVID-19, Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) and other complex chronic health conditions. Each speaker has offered our students a deeper understanding of resilience, compassion, and the many pathways within health and care. Their stories leave a lasting impact on our students.

Emma Rieger
Enrichment and Extended Learning

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Patch Theatre Visits St Peters Campus

Recently, our St Peters Campus Reception students were treated to a wonderful incursion by Patch Theatre, experiencing the imaginative performance *It's a String Thing*.

Using nothing more than simple pieces of string, performer Ellen took the children on an exciting adventure in search of hidden treasure. Along the way, the string transformed into mountains to climb, forests to explore, tents for camping beneath a sky full of stars, and even gigantic holes to navigate. The children laughed as an army of ants devoured their picnic and enjoyed a playful stop at the river before continuing their journey.

The performance captivated the children's attention and demonstrated the incredible power of imagination. It showed how everyday objects can be transformed into anything we can dream up, inspiring creativity, storytelling and play.

Back in the classroom, the children enthusiastically recalled the many places they visited and the different ways the string was used throughout the adventure. The incursion was a fantastic opportunity to spark curiosity and encourage imaginative thinking, providing inspiration for our own storytelling and creative play experiences.

Laura Benger
Reception Teacher

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Pedal Prix Race 2

On Saturday 23 May, five Concordia Pedal Prix teams competed in the six-hour race at Tailem Bend Raceway. Racing against 167 teams from across Australia, riders reached speeds of more than 50km/h. For many of our students, this was their first racing experience, creating a great sense of excitement and energy throughout our team area.

All teams competed strongly, maintaining consistent lap times throughout the day and demonstrating excellent organisation in the pits. Students worked collaboratively during rider changeovers and communicated effectively with riders out on the track to keep motivation high. A number of impressive lap times were recorded, highlighting the strong improvement many students have made since last year. With a clean and successful day of racing, valuable experience was gained across all teams ahead of the next round.

A highlight of the day was our Middle A team, Raptor, which led the field early and achieved an outstanding fourth-place finish in the Middle School category, backing up another strong result from Race 1 at Mount Gambier.

Thank you to all staff and parents for their continued support of the program in the many areas that help make race days run so smoothly. We look forward to competing again in Adelaide at the all-schools six-hour race on Sunday 21 June.

Team	Laps	Position
Costa (S3)	72	19th
Raptor (S2)	78	4th
Concorde (S2)	67	11th
Veloci (S2)	58	26th
Shockwave (S2)	59	25th

Matthew Smart
Pedal Prix Coordinator

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Metropolitan Fire Service Road Awareness Program

On Tuesday 12 May, the Year 11 students attended a road accident prevention presentation run by the Metropolitan Fire Service. Students learnt about what constitutes 'risky' behaviour, and how they can best prevent accidents, whether as drivers, passengers or pedestrians. The students also heard from a road accident survivor named Eli, who uses his own experience to emphasise how one risky decision can have life-changing consequences. With many Year 11s on their L or P plates, this presentation was a timely reminder about the need to keep themselves and others safe on the roads.

Judy Harris
Year 11 Leader

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SchoolTV Free Parent and Caregiver Webinar

SchoolTV invites parents, grandparents, school leaders and staff to join international experts Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Joe Stammeijer for a free webinar on **Thursday 11 June** as they share valuable insights into recognising early signs of concern and practical approaches to supporting the wellbeing of young people.

Topics in this session will include:

- Staying Calm and Connected
- Building Daily Routines
- Meeting the Needs of Neurodivergent Learners

Please scan the QR code below to register.

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Knockout Sports Update

Well done to our boys' and girls' knockout volleyball teams and our Year 7/8 boys' knockout soccer team, who have competed in various matches at the College this week. The teams have each enjoyed some great wins and it has been wonderful to see them representing the College to a high standard.

We wish the girls' volleyball team and the boys' soccer team all the best as they advance to the next stage of their knockout competitions.

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Dr Jared Thomas Author Visit

We began our Reconciliation week activities a little early this year with a whole College incursion by Nukunu (of the Southern Flinders Ranges) author Dr Jared Thomas. Dr Thomas is the South Australian Museum Research Fellow – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Material Culture and Art, the Adelaide University Coordinator of Indigenous Collections and Archives, and an internationally recognised author of several books for children and young adults.

Concordia College students across all three campuses attended a presentation where he shared sections of his books and spoke about the importance of caring for Country, both land and sea. With the older students he spoke about challenging topics such as stereotypes and racism. In sessions with younger students he told dreaming stories, and shared his experience working with Patty Mills on their collaboration *Game Day*, as well as writing the *Uncle X Box* series. It was a huge honour to learn from such a talented and knowledgeable person.

Hajnalka Molloy
Learning Resources Manager

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Building Strong Foundations in Literacy at St Peters Campus

At St Peters Campus, students are making excellent progress in literacy through Playberry Laser, our structured literacy approach that forms part of the explicit teaching within our EdVenture Curriculum Framework.

Playberry Laser provides students with direct, systematic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, spelling, reading and writing, helping them build strong foundations for future learning. Through daily practice, review and targeted teaching, students develop the knowledge and skills needed to become confident readers and writers.

We are proud of the effort our students bring to each lesson. Their growth is a testament to their persistence, the quality of teaching, and the power of explicit instruction in helping every child succeed.

Nicolle Dupree
Year 1 Teacher

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Trailblazers Run Club

Each Wednesday afternoon, as the final school bell echoes through the grounds of Concordia College at St John's Campus, a small group of students lace up their runners, shoulder their backpacks, and head for the hills. At 3:30 pm, the Trailblazers Run Club begins.

What started as a handful of eager runners has steadily grown over the past year into something far greater than a training group. Together, students from Years 4–6 leave behind the classrooms and step into the winding trails surrounding our community—breathing in fresh air, climbing hills, splashing through puddles after rain and discovering what they are capable of one stride at a time.

Most weeks, our runners explore the peaceful tracks of the Waite Arboretum or tackle the Waite Loop behind the university, where gum trees sway overhead and the dirt paths twist through the Adelaide hills. The runs are challenging enough to build endurance, yet welcoming enough that every child feels they belong.

That spirit of friendship and belonging has become the heartbeat of Trailblazers.
This is not a group reserved only for the fastest runners. It is an inclusive space for all abilities—a place where encouragement matters more than pace, where older students support younger runners, and where friendships form naturally between students who may never have crossed paths during the school day. In a coeducational environment, the social connections built along the trails have been just as valuable as the kilometres covered.

For some students, Trailblazers has become a stepping stone into cross country and athletics competition. For others, it is simply an opportunity to move, improve fitness, challenge themselves and experience the joy that comes from running outdoors with friends.
There is something quietly powerful about children choosing movement after a long day of learning, about tired legs finding strength on a steep hill, about hearing laughter echo through the trees, and about seeing confidence grow with every run completed.
The Trailblazers Run Club continues to build not only stronger runners, but also resilient, connected and courageous young people.

"*I like being active and running with my friends.*" – Zara

"*I love running and being fit, but especially grabbing an ice cream from Bill in the summertime.*" – Harriet

"*I like to run and hang out with my friends on a Wednesday afternoon. It's great practice for cross country.*" – Zoe

"*I love running on all the different trails like Waite Arboretum, up The Glen, and the fast downhills of the Tank Trail.*" – Ada

If your child is interested in being involved, don't hesitate to contact me for more information.

Mark Routley
Year 3 Teacher

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Stage 1 Dance on Film

The Stage 1 Dance students had the exciting opportunity to collaborate with professional

videographer Dhuvrua Padmanabhan to create a Dance Film as part of their Choreography Assessment.

Students explored the creative possibilities of dance on screen, working with production elements such as camera angles, movement and storytelling to bring their choreographic visions to life. Dhuvrua shared his extensive experience in the dance industry, guiding students as they discovered new ways to communicate meaning and emotion through film.

A special thank you to our Tech Crew for their support, enthusiasm and hands-on assistance throughout the filming process. Your contribution helped make the day a success.

Congratulations to all of our dancers for their creativity, professionalism and commitment during filming. We look forward to sharing the '90s inspired Dance Film at the Dance Showcase in Term 4. The showcase date will be announced soon.

Carla Bigiolli
Dance Teacher

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Can you help April (Year 12) get to the cycling World Championships?

Concordia congratulates Year 12 student April, who has recently been selected to represent Australia in the 2026 UCI Track World Championships, to be held in Belgium later this year.

April needs to self fund her trip to the World Championships, and any support from our community would be greatly appreciated. You can find out more about April's campaign and support her fundraising efforts via the button below.

Read More and Donate (opens an external website in a new window)
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Scanning Electron Microscope

During Week 4, our Science students had the exciting opportunity to explore the microscopic world through the use of an electron microscope. Across Science classes, students examined samples in incredible detail that cannot normally be seen with the naked eye, including insects, plant materials, hair, grains of salt, sugar crystals and other everyday objects.

Students were fascinated by the intricate patterns, textures and structures revealed under the microscope, helping bring classroom learning to life in a highly engaging and hands on way. During selected break times, students also had the chance to visit and explore a range of samples of their own interest, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm for Science across year

levels.

It was a fantastic experience that encouraged students to look more closely at the world around them and discover just how amazing the hidden details of everyday objects can be.

Jonathan Carpenter
Middle and Senior School Teacher

Salt crystal (250x)

Cactus spike (100x)

Fly eye hair (1000x)

Pencil shaving (200x)

Staple (100x)

Thread (400x)

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SchoolTV New Topic Now Available

Vaping and nicotine use are becoming increasingly visible in the lives of young people, with many children exposed to it well before adolescence through social media, advertising, gaming culture and peer conversations. What can often begin as curiosity or experimentation may quickly develop into nicotine dependence due to the highly addictive nature of these products.

Many young people are unaware of the impact nicotine can have on brain development, emotional regulation, concentration and overall wellbeing. For families, early and ongoing conversations can play an important role in helping children and teens build critical thinking skills, resist social pressures and make informed choices.

This edition of SchoolTV explores nicotine addiction, the risks associated with vaping and practical ways to support young people through this growing challenge.

Read More (opens an external website in a new window)
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Noticeboard

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- Diary Dates
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- 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)

The last day of trading for Term 2 will be **Friday 26 June (last day of Term 2) from 12.30pm - 4.30pm**. The Shop will then be closed until we re-open in the holidays on Thursday 16 July (see holiday opening hours below).

July School Holiday Opening Hours

- Thursday 16 July: 12.30–6.15pm
- Friday 17 July: 12.30–4.30pm

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.

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

- **Code Camp** is running school holiday camps in Minecraft, coding, robotics, animation, craft and more. Download a flyer for more information and for a discount code.

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