Concordia Connect

2026 Term 3 Week 6

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From the Learning Resources Manager

Happy Book Week, everyone! 2026 is the 80th anniversary of Book Week! This presents us with a wonderful opportunity to focus on the real reason behind Book Week: To promote Australian Children's Literature and encourage reading for pleasure! "Reading for pleasure has proven benefits across health, education and employment and is vital to a healthier, happier and more connected society." (ALIA, ACSL, Australia Reads, 2026).

This week The Australian Library and Information Association, Australian Coalition for School Libraries and Australia Reads released their joint statement "Reading for Pleasure".

The document draws on extensive research and highlights that students who read for pleasure:

- are more likely to be proficient readers
- have better receptive language and expressive language abilities
- are more likely to achieve strong academic results
- better understand the world around them and the experiences of others
- have better mental health outcomes
- have increased positive long-term economic and employment outcomes
- are more likely to develop a lifelong habit of reading.

(ALIA, ACSL, Australia Reads, 2026)

Some tips and tricks to help encourage your child to read:

- Let them see you reading! We know children are more likely to do what we do, rather than what we say. If they see you reading, they are more likely to read. This is my favourite tip! Telling your child, "Sorry, not right now, I'm reading" is actually great parenting.
- Make time to read as a family! Have a reading party/afternoon/10 minutes—every minute counts. Share hot chocolates, treats, or simply carve out a few minutes before bedtime to read together. You could read aloud to your child or just be together and read your own books.
- Support them to choose books that they will enjoy! There is a book out there for

everyone, it’s just a matter of finding the right book for the right person. Tell them about the books you loved at their age, or what you are currently reading.
- Listen to audiobooks together whilst driving. You can download audiobooks for free from your public library straight to your phone and play it through your car’s speakers.

We all know that reading is excellent for our physical and mental health, but making time to read is challenging for all of us. Try to establish routines, find a few minutes, and role model being a reader. Even 10 minutes a day can make a big difference.

For more information about the benefits of reading, the blockers and how to overcome them check out the Australia Reads website.

Hajnalka Molloy
Learning Resources Manager

References

ALIA, ACSL, Australia Reads. (2026, August 26). ALIA ACSL and Australia Reads Statement on School Libraries and Reading for Pleasure. Australian Coalition for School Libraries. https://acsl.alia.org.au/wp-co...

Australia Reads. (2026). Australia Reads. Australia Reads. https://australiareads.org.au/

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ABODA Festival Results

Week 4 was a very busy week for our Music students participating in the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association (ABODA) Festival SA.

We were delighted to receive some fantastic results, with our four senior ensembles all having great success:

- Orchestra | Gold Award and Overall Section Winners
- Senior Strings | Gold Award
- Senior Concert Band | Gold Award
- Big Band 1 | Gold Award

Well done to all staff and students involved!

Kellie Rich
Head of Music ELC–12

Orchestra — Gold Award and Overall Section Winners

Big Band 1

Senior Strings

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Science Week 2026

The theme of National Science Week in 2026 *Seeds of Science: nurturing science for all*, centred on the idea that given the right conditions to develop, curiosity, inquiry and collaborative learning can grow into sensational scientific understandings.

Students across all three campuses explored a range of Science-related activities. From reactions involving liquid nitrogen through to producing giant bubbles, performing seed dissections, navigating STEM challenges and exploring how water moves through plants, there were plenty of opportunities for seeds of scientific curiosity to be nurtured. We hope students enjoyed engaging with the many experiences on offer!

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World's Greatest Shave

On Friday 14 August, Concordia College came together for the World's Greatest Shave, with 20 brave members of our Year 12 community taking part to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation.

The event was an incredible success, with the Concordia community raising over $15,000 to support people affected by blood cancer. Alongside the fundraising efforts, more than 10 hair donations were made, helping to provide wigs for people experiencing hair loss as a result of cancer treatment.

The Leukaemia Foundation supports people affected by more than 250 types of blood cancer, not just leukaemia. Their work provides wrap-around support, including emotional and practical assistance for individuals and families during what can be an incredibly challenging time. They provide accommodation across Australia, helping families stay close to loved ones while they receive treatment, as well as financial and practical support to help ease the challenges that come with a blood cancer diagnosis.

The $15,000 raised by Concordia could provide around 24 weeks of accommodation and help 239 people access support from a healthcare professional, showing the real impact our fundraising can have on people and families affected by blood cancer.

The day was filled with excitement, nerves and plenty of support as participants bravely said goodbye to their hair. For many, the event was about more than simply getting a haircut, it was an opportunity to make a difference and show support for people and families affected by blood cancer.

If you would like to continue supporting this important cause, you can make a donation to the Leukaemia Foundation through the World's Greatest Shave website or the link below. Every donation, no matter the size, can help make a difference to people and families affected by blood cancer.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated, donated and supported the event. The incredible generosity and courage shown by our community made this year's World's Greatest Shave a huge success!

Laura (12CFIL)
School Captain

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Reminder: Concordia in Concert - Tickets on Sale Now

A reminder that tickets are now on sale for our annual music showcase, *Concordia in Concert 2026 – The Red Carpet Edition*—an event not to be missed!

Hosted by Old Concordian and professional performer **Mark Stefanoff (2008)**, the evening will feature performances by a wide range of music groups from across the College, inspired by the glamour and greatness of the GRAMMY Awards®.

Come dressed to impress for an evening of stunning performances by our talented Music students.

- **Date: Friday 4 September**
- **Time: 7.00pm (doors open from 6.30pm)**
- **Location: Fortiter (ELC–12 Gymnasium), Concordia Campus**

We will also be drawing a raffle on the night, with three amazing prizes:

1. Kawai ES120SB Piano Keyboard Kit (including stand and pedal) | Donated by Kawai
2. Murray Bridge Bridgeport Hotel & Bottle of Champagne (voucher for 1 night for 2 people) | Donated by Living Choice
3. Basic Wills Package* & $50 Voucher for Vinh Xuan Pholicious (*couples) | Donated by CPC Lawyers and Vinh Xuan Pholicious

Tickets will be drawn and the winners (jn order) will get to select their prize from the options above. Raffle tickets are $5 each.

Book online today. We hope to see you there!

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

Special thanks to our Diamond Sponsors:

Kawai and LLL

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Jump Rope for Heart at St Peters Campus

This term, students at St Peters Campus have been lacing up and skipping their way through our Jump Rope for Heart program! Over a six-week period, students are taking part in a range of skipping activities during their Physical Education lessons, building skills with short ropes, long ropes, and fun partner activities.

The enthusiasm hasn't stopped at the classroom door—many students have kept skipping at break times, and quite a few have even been practising their new tricks at home! Jump Rope for Heart is a fantastic way for children to build fitness, coordination and confidence, all while learning about the importance of keeping their hearts healthy.

Alongside the skill-building, many of our students have taken on the challenge of fundraising for the Heart Foundation, gathering generous sponsorship from family and friends. We're thrilled to share that, at just past the halfway mark of our campaign, students have already raised over $5,000 for this important cause—a wonderful effort from our whole campus community!

The program will wrap up with a Jump Off Celebration on Wednesday 9 September, where students will have the chance to show off all the skipping skills they've developed over the past six weeks. We warmly invite families to come along and cheer on our budding skippers!

Thank you to everyone who has supported Jump Rope for Heart so far—through your generosity, our students are making a real difference for heart health research and education.

Trevor Burmeister
PE Teacher – St Peters Campus

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Instrumental Music Lessons with Novar Music at St Peters Campus

Novar Music is offering instrumental music lessons to St Peters Campus students in the following areas:

- Guitar
- Piano
- Singing
- Music Theory
- Musicianship Club

Visit the Novar Music website for more information.

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R U OK? Student Leadership Summit

It is always inspiring to see young people step into opportunities that strengthen their capacity to care for others. Recently, a group of our Year 5 students from both primary campuses attended the R U OK? Student Leadership Summit, joining hundreds of students from schools across the state who demonstrate strong leadership potential and a genuine commitment to making a positive difference in their communities.

Throughout the day, students explored the importance of wellbeing, resilience and connection, learning that the power of a simple conversation can have a profound impact on someone's life. They were encouraged to reflect on the importance of hope during difficult moments and reminded that caring for their own wellbeing is an essential first step in being able to support others.

The summit featured a range of engaging and thought-provoking sessions that challenged students to think deeply about what it means to lead with empathy, kindness and courage. Students collaborated with peers from a diverse range of schools, shared ideas, participated in discussions and stretched their thinking around creating positive cultures within their school communities.

Students were privileged to hear from inspiring presenters including Dr Hannah Brown, psychologist and wellbeing expert; Mr Christopher Richards, teacher, counsellor and R U OK? Ambassador; and media personality and advocate Ali Clarke. Through personal stories, practical strategies and powerful messages, the presenters reinforced that leadership is not always about taking the front position, but about noticing others, showing compassion and having the courage to start meaningful conversations.

A key message woven throughout the summit was that R U OK? is no longer viewed as simply a single day or annual event on the calendar. Instead, it is a reminder of the importance of creating a culture where checking in, listening without judgement and supporting one another becomes an everyday practice. Students learned that asking "Are you okay?" is only the beginning. Equally important is taking the time to listen, encouraging connection and helping others access support when needed. Small conversations, held regularly and with genuine care, can make a significant difference.

In the afternoon, students worked collaboratively to reflect on their learning and develop ideas for how they can contribute to wellbeing initiatives within their own school communities. They explored ways to partner with school leaders and staff to strategically plan future R U OK? activities, strengthen wellbeing programs and create meaningful opportunities for students to connect with and support one another. The focus was on creating initiatives that would have a lasting and positive impact across the school, rather than one-off events.

We are incredibly proud of the way our students engaged with the day and look forward to seeing the positive impact of their ideas and leadership in action.

Lisa Smith
Year 4/5 Teacher – St Peters Campus

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SchoolTV Special Report: Celebrating Father's Day

For many years now, the role of fathers has changed and evolved. During the industrial revolution, fathers were often considered detached and distant due to working long hours in factories. However, today things have changed dramatically with many dads being celebrated for being sensitive, caring and more hands-on.

Recent studies have shown that children benefit greatly from having fathers who are present and interacting in everyday activities. This has transformed the understanding of how fathers shape children's lives from the start, challenging conventional ideas of parenthood and gender.

Research also suggests that fathers influence their sons and daughters in different ways, which is especially true during their transition to adolescence. Engaging in regular physical activities can play a key role in influencing children to learn self-control, face challenges, regulate emotions and take manageable risks.

In this Special Report, fathers will learn about the positive impact they can have on their child's mental health and wellbeing, whilst also ensuring they indulge in a little self-care.

Read the Special Report (opens an external website)
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Careers and Pathways Update

> "*The best way to predict the future is to create it*" – Abraham Lincoln

Term 3 continues to be super busy with so much going on. Week 4 was jam-packed with subject counselling, one of my highlights on the school calendar! We also took our Year 11 cohort to the Flinders University Open Day. By all accounts the students had an interesting and enjoyable experience attending seminars, exploring the campus and getting a taste of Uni life. I also continue meeting with Year 11 and 12 students as well as assisting a number of our Middle School students.

On Friday 21 August, I presented to our Year 12 cohort about applying for tertiary study through the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC). In registering and completing their SATAC applications students, should remember to:

- Use a personal email address **not** their school email. Using a school email will prevent them accessing their account once they complete Year 12.
- Have their USI handy (or create one) Welcome to USI - Unique Student Identifier
- Have their SACE number handy

- Pay the fee when registering—the price increases from $60 (early bird payment) to $210 (after 30 September). Students who forget to pay will be ineligible to receive any offers.

This is also a great time for students to change their SACE email address from their school email to their personal one to ensure they continue to receive communications from SACE once they finish Year 12.

Students have been emailed a range of resources to support them through their SATAC application. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or visit the SATAC website.

Adelaide University and Flinders University – coming to Concordia College

I have arranged for a representative from both Adelaide University and Flinders University to spend time onsite, meeting 1:1 with our Year 12 students. Iona from Adelaide University was onsite earlier this week and Nicole from Flinders will be coming in September. Year 12 students will be provided with further details about Flinders University as soon as a date is confirmed.

Did you know that in 2027, more than 50 Bachelor degrees will be available to study at the Flinders University City Campus in North Terrace? This includes courses in Business, Allied Health, Education, Law, Engineering, Nursing and Midwifery. For more information visit the website for Flinders University City Campus.

In addition, don't forget the shortened Allied Health Degrees commencing at Flinders next year, where you can complete your study in Physiotherapy, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy or Nutrition/Dietetics in 3.5 years. Learn more at Allied Health Degrees at Flinders University

uniTEST – Friday 18 September, 12.30pm

uniTEST is available for Year 12 students to enhance their chances of getting into Flinders University. Year 12 students wanting to complete uniTEST must register their interest by emailing me no later than Friday 4 September.

Students who sit uniTEST are selected based on their Year 12 results (60% weighting toward the ATAR selection rank) and uniTEST results (40%). Flinders also considers applicants based on their uniTEST results (100%) as a standalone entry score (subject to SACE completion and any course pre-requisites or specific admissions requirements). If you take the test and don't do so well, don't worry, Flinders will only consider your highest selection rank. For additional details, visit their website.

Careers and Industry Connections Office

Don't forget to swing by and see me in the Careers and Industry Connections office located off the hallway in the library. Grab some resources, have your questions answered or just come by for a chat.

Upcoming Events

Torrens University – Open Day in Adelaide

- Saturday August 29, 2026
- Location: Wakefield Street
- Time: 10:00am – 12:30pm

From 10am (ACST), come and meet our academics and Future Student Advisors, who will be able to answer all your questions about applying, scholarships, entry pathways and our world-class facilities. Explore our campus and find out firsthand how exciting studying in Adelaide can be.

Attend Open Day for your chance to win a $1000 gift voucher*

** T&Cs apply*

Click for more details and registration.

Adelaide Tuition Centre – Exam Revision Seminars

- Monday 28 September – Friday 9 October

Revision seminars are available for Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, English Literary Studies, General Mathematics, Legal Studies, Mathematical Methods, Modern History, Nutrition, Physics, Psychology, Specialist Mathematics and Study Skills.

Click for more information and to make a booking.

Natasha Boyko
Careers and Pathways Advisor

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Year 11 Drama Presents 'Truth'

On Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 September at 6.30pm, our Stage 1 Drama students will be performing two newly devised plays called 'Truth' in the College Drama Centre.

Book now to secure your tickets and to support our students as they take to the stage!

Book Now (opens an external website)
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Reminder: Term 3 Community Coffee Catch Up on Friday 25 September

A reminder that parents and caregivers from all three campuses are warmly invited to join us for our Term 3 Community Coffee Catch Up. Please see details below.

- Date: Friday 25 September (last day of Term 3)
- Time: 8:30–10:00am
- Location: Junior Primary Verandah, St John's Campus, Highgate (eastern end of the College Oval)

We hope to see you there!

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Year 6 Students Explore the Torrens to Darlington Project

In Week 4, our Year 6 students from both St John’s and St Peters campuses had the exciting opportunity to learn more about the Torrens to Darlington (T2D) Project through a visit from the T2D Community Outreach Team.

The session provided students with an insight into the scale and complexity of this major infrastructure project, which will transform how people travel through Adelaide. Engineers from a range of fields also joined the session to share their expertise and explain how their different roles contribute to the project.

It was particularly special to hear from members of our own College community. A huge thank you to Argenis Rodriguez (Fire Safety Lead), Mathieu Gonzalez (Engineering and Sustainability Director) and John Slade (Engineering Manager) for generously sharing their knowledge, experiences and career insights with our students.

The visit connected beautifully with our Year 6 Urban Planning and Design unit, where students are exploring how engineers, designers and planners solve complex problems and create infrastructure that meets the needs of communities.

To extend their learning, students also constructed their own model of the tunnel boring machines, considering how these enormous machines are used to construct tunnels and the engineering challenges involved.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to see how the concepts they are learning in the classroom connect to real-world projects happening right here in Adelaide.

Adriana Weling
STEM Teacher

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Explore Faith Online with 'Presence — What We Believe'

The Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA) invites those interested in exploring what Lutherans believe to engage with Presence, a nine-part video series with accompanying study guide.

Visit the LCA website for more information.

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Music Notes

Twilight Concert

On Monday 17 August, several of our intermediate ensembles, including Intermediate Concert Band and String Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Big Band 2, and Intermediate Flute Ensemble, hosted a Twilight Concert in the Chapel. The evening provided an opportunity for students to share with family and friends the repertoire they have been developing throughout the term. Congratulations to all students on their wonderful performances, and thank you to our staff for their support in making the event a success.

Lutheran Schools Choral Festival

The inaugural Lutheran Schools Choral Festival was hosted by Concordia College on Saturday 22 August. We were delighted to welcome vocal ensembles from Encounter Lutheran College, Endeavour College and Cornerstone College for a day of workshops and rehearsals, culminating in a fantastic public concert in the Chapel. The program featured both individual and combined performances, showcasing the talents of students from across our Lutheran school community.

A highlight of the event was the premiere of *Under the Same Sky*, a commissioned work written by Kathie Renner and generously sponsored by LLL for the festival.

A huge thank you to all staff involved in making the day such a success, particularly Emma Borgas, whose vision and dedication brought the festival to life. We also extend our sincere thanks to the parent volunteers who catered throughout the day, helping to keep our students energised and ready to perform.

Kellie Rich
Head of Music ELC–12

Lutheran Schools Choral Festival

Lutheran Schools Choral Festival

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Road Safety on Winchester Street

A reminder that to help keep members of our community safe and to support the flow of traffic around the College at peak times each day, there is signage in place in our Winchester Street car park stating that **vehicles cannot turn right onto Winchester Street between 8am and 9am** (morning drop-off time) **as well as between 3pm and 4pm** (afternoon pick-up time).

Please adhere to these and all other traffic signs in place around the College and take care when driving in the surrounding streets.

Thank you for your help in keeping our community safe and ensuring traffic to and from the College flows as freely as possible during peak times.

John Dinan
Operations Manager

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Year 3 German Lantern Festival

"Laterne, Laterne, Sonne Mond und Sterne"

Last Tuesday, our Year 3 students—together with students from German-speaking backgrounds and their families—celebrated our wonderful Lantern Festival (Laternenumzug). This German tradition—which highlights the values of kindness, community, and sharing—has become a much-loved annual event at our school that many Junior Primary students look forward to until they finally reach Year 3.

The students shared the story of St Martin and its message of generosity and compassion. A special highlight was their performance of the traditional German song *“Laterne, Laterne*", with some students proudly playing the melody on their recorders.

Families then gathered with the beautiful handmade lanterns the students had created during their Art lessons. As the lanterns lit up the evening, everyone enjoyed a festive walk around the oval while Ms Bartlett and **Chloe (3EN)** enthusiastically led a cheerful “train” of students, families and staff singing along.

After the walk, the students shared a big pretzel with their families, and everyone had the opportunity to enjoy a warm Kinderpunsch. With glowing lanterns, music, laughter and a strong sense of community, the evening was a memorable celebration for everyone involved and a wonderful way to bring our school community together.

Vicky Miegel

German Teacher – St John's Campus

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SchoolTV Free Parenting Webinar

SchoolTV is pleased to invite you to Part III of their free webinar series.

This webinar is suitable for parents, carers, grandparents, school leaders and staff, offering practical insights and guidance to help support the wellbeing of both primary and secondary students.

- Title: Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience (Part III)
- Date: Thursday, 3 September 2026
- Time: 7.30pm

This presentation forms part of a broader webinar series designed to strengthen mental health literacy across school communities.

Join international experts Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Joe Stammeijer 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:

- Building Resilience Foundations
- Everyday Habits for Wellbeing
- Strength-Based Resilience for Neurodivergent Children

Participants can register here or by scanning the QR code on the image below.

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SA Volleyball Schools Cup

Recently, our Concordia volleyball teams competed at the South Australian Volleyball Schools Cup, with four teams taking to the courts across the three-day competition.

The Middle girls' team showed great resilience throughout the competition. After their first matches, the girls responded strongly on Friday, securing wins that put them into a playoff for fifth place. They continued that momentum on the final day with an impressive win to finish the competition in fifth place, a solid result for a new team.

The Open girls were involved in a number of closely contested matches throughout the competition, recording some great wins along the way. This team elected to play in the Open Honours Division to seek a challenge and experience after winning the IGSSA shield in Term 1.

They finished with a playoff for sixth place and produced a fantastic three-set performance to secure the victory and finish sixth overall.

The Middle boys were outstanding throughout the preliminary rounds, finishing first and progressing directly through to the grand final. The final was a very closely fought contest, with the boys narrowly missing out on the championship. Finishing as runners-up was still an excellent achievement and a reflection of their strong tournament.

The Open boys progressed through to the semifinals, where they faced a team from the Northern Territory. After narrowly missing out on a place in the grand final, they competed in the bronze medal playoff against Marryatville. The match was incredibly close, with Concordia emerging victorious! After consideration of the rules by Volleyball South Australia, the boys were awarded a silver medal within the SA only competition.

Overall, it was a fantastic three days of volleyball, with our students competing strongly, supporting one another and representing Concordia College proudly. Congratulations to all players and a huge thank you to our coaches and staff for their time and commitment throughout the competition.

Vittoria Peresano
Sports Coordinator

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City of Unley Living Young eNewsletter

The latest edition of the City of Unley's Living Young eNewsletter is out now, covering a wide range of topics in the local area, including:

- East Waste Schools Food Waste Artwork Competition
- Teen Book Club
- Digital Drawing Group

View the Latest Edition (opens an external website in a new window)
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St Peters Campus Shines at Statewide Basketball Competition

On Monday 10 August, St Peters Campus proudly sent both a boys' and girls' basketball team to compete in the Statewide Basketball Competition, and both teams did our school community proud with their skill, sportsmanship and determination.

Boys' Team Storms Through to the State Finals

The boys' team put in an outstanding performance on the day, winning every single match they played. Their consistency, teamwork and competitive spirit shone through from the first game

to the last, and their unbeaten run has secured them a place in the State Finals. Congratulations to the boys team on this fantastic achievement—we will be cheering you on as you take the next step!

Girls' Team Fights to the Final Whistle

The girls' team also delivered a brilliant showing, playing their way into the playoff for a spot in the State Finals. They competed with heart and skill throughout the day, culminating in a tightly contested final match that came right down to the wire. Unfortunately, the girls fell just short, losing by a narrow margin of three points. It was a tough result after such a strong campaign, but the team should be immensely proud of how they represented St Peters Campus.

There is still hope yet—the girls' team is now in the running for a wildcard entry into the State Finals, and we will keep the school community updated as soon as we hear more.

Congratulations to all!

Whatever happens next, both teams have shown outstanding talent, resilience and team spirit. A huge congratulations to all players and a big thank you to the coaches and staff who supported them on the day. Go St Peters Campus!

Trevor Burmeister
PE Teacher and Sports Coordinator – St Peters Campus

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SchoolTV Special Report: Smartphone Readiness Quiz

Deciding when a child is ready for their first smartphone can be a challenging parenting decision. Readiness is not just about age. It also depends on a child's maturity, self-regulation, judgement and ability to manage the responsibilities of being connected online.

The Smartphone Readiness Quiz is designed for parents and adult carers to complete with their child, encouraging important conversations while exploring the key skills that support safe and responsible smartphone use.

Rather than providing a simple yes or no answer, the results highlight areas of strength and where further development may be helpful. Families are also guided through suggested next steps, including a Family Smartphone Agreement and practical guidance on setting up parental controls before introducing a smartphone.

We encourage you to complete the quiz together and use the results as a starting point for ongoing conversations about safe, responsible and healthy smartphone use.

Read the Special Report (opens an external website in a new window)
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Champions Cup Non-Uniform Day Fundraiser for Years 7–12

On Friday 4 September (Week 7), the Concordia community will come together once again for one of our most anticipated annual events, the Champions Cup Fundraiser.

This year's event will feature a special Year 11/12 Soccer Showcase Match, played on the oval at lunch. Students and staff are invited to come along, cheer on the players and enjoy the lively atmosphere as our senior teams compete in an entertaining game.

Alongside the action on the field, the Student Leaders will be running a sausage sizzle, with food and drinks available for purchase throughout lunch. All funds raised will go directly to World Vision, supporting their work with children, families and communities experiencing poverty around the world.

World Vision provides essential support including education programs, emergency relief, healthcare initiatives and long-term community development. Their work helps create lasting change, and our fundraising efforts contribute to improving lives in meaningful and practical ways.

A huge thank you to all students, staff and volunteers who make this event possible each year. Your enthusiasm and generosity continue to strengthen our Concordia community.
If you'd like to learn more about the organisation we're supporting, you can explore World Vision's mission and the impact of their work on their website.

Harry (12TMCC)
School Captain

As part of our efforts to contribute to the work of World Vision, and to coincide with the final of our Champions Cup soccer competition, Year 7 to Year 12 students on campus are invited to participate in a non-uniform day on Friday 4 September.

- Students may bring a $2 coin donation to World Vision to wear non-uniform clothes for the day
- At lunchtime, the Student Leaders will be running a sausage sizzle | Prices are $3.50 for a sausage, $2 for a drink and $1.50 for a Freddo Frog (note: cash and EFTPOS will be available, but not Apple Pay).

Non-Uniform Day Reminders

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

- Covered-in shoes for practical subjects, including Science, PE, Food Design and Design Technology
- Long hair must be able to be tied up for the subjects listed above
- No inappropriate slogans
- No bare midriffs
- Remember Concordia is a workplace - shorts and tops need to be appropriate i.e. not

too short or brief
- Middle and Senior School students must change into full PE uniform for PE classes.

We look forward to a great day supporting the work of World Vision.

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St Peters Campus Adelaide Botanic Gardens and the Urrbrae Wetlands EdVenture

As part of our Edventure Inquiry this term, the Year 4/5 students from St Peters campus have been exploring Earth's resources, how people use them and how we can make sustainable choices for the future. To deepen our learning, we visited the Adelaide Botanic Gardens and the Urrbrae Wetlands for a day of hands-on investigation and discovery.

At the Botanic Gardens, we participated in an Indigenous Walking Food Trail, where we learned about the deep knowledge First Nations Peoples have of Country and how they have sustainably used natural resources for tens of thousands of years. We discovered how different native plants can provide food, medicine, hydration, shelter, tools, fibre and materials for everyday living. We also learned how First Nations Peoples care for Country by understanding seasonal changes, harvesting resources respectfully, and ensuring that plants and animals can continue to thrive for future generations. This highlighted the importance of living sustainably and maintaining a strong connection with the land, waters and ecosystems around us.

Throughout the trail, we were amazed by the variety of uses that native plants have and how every resource was valued and used thoughtfully. It helped us strengthen our understanding that sustainability is not a new idea but has been practised by First Nations Peoples for thousands of years.

We then visited the Urrbrae Wetlands, where we investigated the important role wetlands play in both human and environmental health. We learned that wetlands act like natural filters, helping to remove pollutants, improve water quality, reduce flooding, and provide habitats for many different plants and animals. In growing urban areas, wetlands are especially important because they help protect waterways while creating healthy ecosystems for wildlife.

As part of our field studies, we explored the wetland environment and carried out a range of scientific investigations. We examined both macroinvertebrates (animals large enough to see without a microscope) and microinvertebrates found in water samples. We learned that a greater diversity of invertebrates is often a sign of a healthy wetland ecosystem, as different species have varying levels of tolerance to pollution and environmental change. Scientists can use these organisms as indicators to assess the health of a waterway.

We also conducted water quality testing, measuring salinity and turbidity at different locations, including near the wetland inlet and outlet. Turbidity measures how clear or cloudy the water is and can indicate the amount of sediment or particles present. Salinity measures the concentration of salt in the water. By comparing our results, we discussed what these measurements reveal about water quality and how effectively the wetland is filtering and

improving the water as it moves through the system.

This excursion provided us with valuable real-world connections to our classroom learning. It helped us develop a deeper understanding of sustainability, the significance of First Nations knowledge, and the important role wetlands play in supporting healthy environments. We returned to school with new knowledge, plenty of questions and a greater appreciation for the natural resources we depend on every day.

Lisa Smith
Year 4/5 Teacher – St Peters Campus

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Enrichment and Extended Learning News

Thriving Minds at Concordia - Academy Learning Junior and Senior Conferences

In line with our strong commitment to providing high-quality educational opportunities that stretch and challenge our students, Concordia recently hosted a series of learning days with international gifted education specialist Julie Arliss, direct from the UK. This is the 13th year Concordia has hosted these events.

Across three days—a Junior Student Conference, a Senior Student Conference and a Teacher Gifted Symposium for educators from across South Australia—more than 90 Concordia students engaged in a rich program of lectures, workshops and debates alongside a few hundred students from other schools. A highlight included a live lecture streamed from Oxford University by Dr Chris O'Neill—an Oxford-based polymathic thinker, psychologist, psychotherapist and educator whose work spans psychology, philosophy, resilience and wellbeing, drawing on 40 years of experience working with young people and educators.

The Junior program (Years 7–9) moved impressively between astrophysics, philosophy of mind and ethics; the origins of the universe; the nature of the soul; moral luck; and a formal debate on whether patriotism is a virtue.

The Senior program (Years 10–12) moved into epistemology, neuroscience, ethics and public policy. Students considered mystical experiences and the limits of empirical evidence, tackled an Oxbridge-style problem about when rules may legitimately be broken, explored music's effects on the brain, debated free will and moral responsibility, and finished by examining Australia's approach to young people and social media. Should social media be controlled through prohibition, or through education and trust?

Through lectures, discussion and debate, students were challenged to question assumptions, consider competing perspectives and defend their ideas with reason and evidence. It was an exciting celebration of intellectual curiosity, and a reminder that sometimes the most valuable learning begins not with an answer, but with a great question.

State Final Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award

The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is a national competition that aims to enhance students' communication skills while encouraging an appreciation of the ideals of Legacy: voluntary service, social justice, care and compassion, personal sacrifice and mateship. Legacy is a unique Australian voluntary not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting the families of Australian Defence Force veterans who have served in war, peacekeeping and humanitarian missions, and who have died or become incapacitated during or following their service.

The organisation currently cares for more than 2,000 people throughout South Australia. Year 10 student **Sophia (10LTRA)** and Year 9 student **Benjamin (9JEGA)** represented Concordia with distinction during the preliminary round of the competition, both advancing to the State Final.

On Friday 21 August, Sophia and Benjamin were each awarded trophies as two of just eight South Australian finalists competing at the Legacy House State Final. They impressed and inspired the audience not only through the high quality of their delivery, but also through the thoughtfulness, sincerity and depth of their speech content. Congratulations to Sophia and Benjamin on this outstanding achievement and for representing Concordia with such confidence and distinction.

26 Book Challenge

It's Book Week—the perfect time to check in at the library and update your Concordia College 26 Book Challenge Symphony of Stories collector cards keyring!

This year's challenge will conclude in Week 5 of Term 4, so there is still time to keep reading and collecting. Will you be able to collect all 26 letters of the alphabet, each representing a different reading challenge category?

Competition Time

This week sees the formal launch of our annual Year 7/8 Interschool Fantasy Map and Writing Competition. The top five entries from Years 7 and 8 will be submitted for judging with a chance to win great prizes. Students will receive an email with all the information they need to get started. Judging will take place in Term 4, so there is plenty of time to dream, design and create, and to let imaginations run wild. Contact me via email if you would like to take part.

Emma Rieger
Enrichment and Extended Learning

Live cross to Oxford during the Academy Learning Junior Conference

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Sapsasa Athletics Carnival

Recently, 42 talented students from our St John's Campus proudly represented Concordia at the Adelaide South East District Sapsasa Athletics Carnival. In ideal conditions, our young athletes competed with energy, determination and plenty of school spirit across a wide range of track and field events.

As the day unfolded, our bright yellow competition singlets began filling with ribbons, with students collecting first, second and third-place finishes across the events. The excitement continued to build, and following a dominant performance from our relay teams, we were thrilled to be announced as Adelaide South East District Champions!

Even more exciting, a large number of our students have now earned selection to represent the Adelaide South East District at the Sapsasa State Athletics Carnival in early September. What an incredible achievement!

A huge congratulations to every student who competed. Your effort, sportsmanship and determination throughout the day were fantastic to see.

A big thank you to our Year 9 students who helped run the day and did a fantastic job of their marshalling duties.

Finally, a massive thank you also goes to all the parents and staff who supported our athletes and helped make the day such a memorable success. What a day for St John's Campus!

Mick Phillips
PE Teacher and Sports Coordinator – St John's Campus

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Now Available on SchoolTV: ADHD

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a commonly diagnosed neurodevelopmental condition that affects how children regulate attention, impulses and activity levels. While many children can appear restless, distracted or forgetful at times, ADHD involves ongoing patterns that may impact learning, behaviour, organisation and relationships. These challenges can sometimes lead to frustration at home and school, particularly when a child is trying hard but struggling to meet expectations.

For families, understanding ADHD means recognising that these behaviours are not simply a matter of effort or discipline. ADHD is influenced by a combination of neurological, biological and environmental factors that affect how a child's brain processes information and manages self-control. With the right support, structure and strategies, children with ADHD can develop the skills they need to succeed and thrive.

This edition of SchoolTV explores how families can better understand ADHD and support children to build confidence, strengthen emotional regulation and navigate everyday challenges

more successfully.

Read the Latest Edition (opens an external website in a new window)
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Year 9 Dance with Restless Dance Theatre

Our Year 9 Dance students recently had the exciting opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of Restless Dance Theatre, experiencing a day in the life of a professional dancer. Students went behind the scenes to gain insight into the life of a professional dance company, observing a company class and viewing film excerpts from current development work. They engaged in a Q&A with the artists and company dancers before taking part in creative dance workshops led by company dancers, Artistic Director Michelle Ryan, and Associate Artist Larissa McGowan. Students then performed their workshop outcomes, sharing their creative responses and putting their newly developed skills into practice.

It was an inspiring opportunity for our emerging dancers, made even more special as Restless Dance Theatre celebrates 35 years of artistry, inclusivity and impact. The experience provided students with valuable insight into the professional dance industry while celebrating the power of dance to connect, challenge and inspire.

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

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Planning a move? Please let us know!

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

If you do make a decision to leave Concordia, please be aware that in line with the Enrolment Policy – if your child is leaving the College at the end of 2026, we require one full term’s notice to avoid penalties. We understand that this may not always be possible, but sincerely appreciate your assistance with future planning. Withdrawal notification for 2026 should be received no later than close of business Friday 25 September 2026 and should be sent to the Principal of the relevant campus and our Enrolments office:

- Paul Bannister, Principal ELC to Year 6 (St John's Campus, Highgate)

- Alison Ronoastro, Principal ELC to Year 6 (St Peters Campus, Blackwood)
- Penny McKenzie, Principal Year 7 to Year 12 (Concordia Campus, Highgate)

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

If notification is not received by close of business **Friday 25 September 2026**, a full term's tuition will be payable.

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Sports Update

Middle Girls' Football Semifinal

In their recent semifinal, the Middle girls' footballers were playing well, trailing by only two goals midway through the game, with plenty of opportunities in the forward 50. Despite a great effort, the opposition managed to hang on and win by a single goal.

Open Boys' Basketball Grand Final

This game was tight. There was never more than three points between the teams. Our opponents went into the second quarter leading, but we pulled it back for the lead going into halftime and then going into the final quarter. With 14 seconds remaining on the clock, we scored a three-pointer, taking us back into the lead with a one point advantage. However, the opposition team had the ball. They ran the clock down and swished a ball for a three-pointer, putting them two points ahead with four seconds to play. We had the ball to start in their half. The clock started and right on the buzzer, the ball was shot, it touched the ring but didn’t drop. A very close, nail-biting, entertaining game, despite the result not quite going our way.

The boys now regroup for the Knockout tournament.

Despite some challenging results, Concordia students have character and they displayed that at every juncture.

Ric van Wachem
Director of Extra and Co-curricular Sport

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Student Achievements

Congratulations to **Elsa (7NBRO)** on competing for South Australia at the School Sport Australia U12 Australian Football Championship in Canberra. The championship was a fantastic week of football, and the South Australian girls demonstrated incredible teamwork,

determination and resilience throughout the carnival. In a thrilling and hard-fought match, the South Australian girls achieved a nail-biting victory over Victoria, who have won the last four consecutive championships, to be crowned the School Sport Australia U12 National Australian Football Champions, bringing home both the gold medal and the national trophy.

Congratulations to **Nina (8IROS)** who recently competed in the SA Skate 2026 competition, where she won 1st place in the Advanced Novice division. She also achieved another personal best in her short program, bringing her Australian ranking to 7th out of 47 skaters in her division. Nina then represented South Australia at the Crystal Challenge Figure Skating Competition in Melbourne, one of Australia's major figure skating competitions. From a field of 15 skaters, Nina placed 4th in the short program and 2nd in the free skating program, earning the bronze trophy overall. She also achieved new personal bests in both programs, improving her Australian ranking to 6th out of 47 skaters in the Advanced Novice division.

Congratulations to **James (11AMOF)** who recently won silver as a member of the Australian under 21 archery team.

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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 3 New Opening Hours

General trading – no appointment required.

- Monday: 8am–4pm
- Wednesday: 1pm–4.30pm
- Thursday: 1pm–6.15pm
- Friday: 1pm–4.30pm

(Closed on Public Holidays)

School Holiday Opening Hours

The School Shop will be open on Friday 25 September (the last day of Term 3) from 1.00pm–4.30pm and will reopen during the holiday period on Thursday 8 October (see holiday opening hours below).

- Friday 25 September: 1.00pm–4.30pm (Last day of term 3)
- Thursday 8 October: 1.00pm–6.15pm
- Friday 9 October: 1.00pm–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

- **Walk My Way** Aberfoyle Park is stepping our to protect refugee girls through a walkathon at Happy Valley Reservoir on Saturday 12 September. Download a flyer for more information.
- **The Marine Discovery Centre** is hosting a National Science Week premiere event 'Little

Scientists, Big Blue' on Saturday 22 August from 10.30am–12.00pm at The Piccadilly, 181 O'Connell Street, North Adelaide. Click here for more information.

- **Colonel Light Gardens Bowling Club** is seeking men's and women's pennant bowlers for their Wednesday and Saturday competitions. For more information about how you can get involved, download a flyer.

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