Concordia Connect

2026 Term 4 Week 3

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From the Director of Marketing and Community Relations

One of our greatest joys is celebrating the people, experiences and achievements that make Concordia so special. Through our communications, publications and social media channels, we love sharing the stories of our College life.

Over recent months, schools across Australia have been reviewing how student photos and videos are captured and shared online. This work is being guided by recommendations from the eSafety Commissioner, with a shared goal of ensuring children are protected in an increasingly complex digital environment.

As a result, some things may begin to look a little different at Concordia, particularly in how we use student images across our various public communication channels and platforms. These changes are not about reducing opportunities to celebrate our students. Rather, they are about making sure we do so thoughtfully, safely and in ways that respect the preferences of families.

We are currently reviewing how student content is captured, stored and published, and exploring ways to give families greater agency over how and where their children may appear, without compromising their ability to participate in and be featured in the stories of College life.

This work is ongoing, and we will continue to engage with professional development, expert guidance and collaborate with other schools as best practice evolves. We look forward to sharing more details with families before the end of the term and further explaining what is changing at the College, and what it means for you and your children.

Our commitment remains unchanged: to celebrate our students while ensuring their wellbeing, safety and privacy are protected.

Maria Mesa
Director of Marketing and Community Relations

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Valedictory Service 2026

On Tuesday 21 October, our community gathered in the College Chapel for the 2026 Year 12 Valedictory Service, a beautiful celebration to honour the graduating class as they prepare to step into the next chapter of their lives. The atmosphere was warm, joyful and deeply reflective, with families, staff and students coming together to acknowledge the journey these young people have taken throughout their time at Concordia.

We were privileged to hear from Old Concordian Thomas Kelsall (Class of 2016), who shared an engaging and heartfelt reflection on life beyond school. Thomas spoke openly about his experiences in the years following graduation, describing the first four years as some of the best of his life, years filled with travel, exploration, and opportunities to learn about himself and the world. His message encouraged our students to embrace the possibilities that lie ahead, to stay curious and to hold tightly to the friendships formed during their school years, as they often become the relationships that anchor us through life's transitions.

We were also privileged to welcome David Serotzki, who delivered the official Valedictory Address. David spoke with sincerity about reflection, personal growth and the importance of understanding who you are becoming. He encouraged students to pause, look inward and consider the values and qualities they wish to carry with them beyond school. His message complemented Thomas's beautifully, offering a thoughtful and inspiring reminder that growth comes from reflection and a clear sense of self.

As we farewell the Class of 2026, we do so with pride, admiration and confidence in the futures they will shape. They leave Concordia carrying not only knowledge and skills, but the connections, values and character that will guide them well beyond our gates.

Laura Austin
Senior School Leader

Valedictory Service Awards

Congratulations to the following students, who received Valedictory Service Awards on the night.

Concordia Award

- Harry (12TMCC)
- Jack (12KNIC)
- Laura (12CFIL)

Arts Award

- Cameron (12CFIL)
- Lila (12CFIN)
- Sherry (12SBAC)

Sports Award

- Crawford (12KNIC)
- Hannah (12KNIC)
- Isobelle (12CRID)

Community Award

- Ethan (12SBAC)
- Genevieve (12KNIC)
- Hunter (12CRID)

Principal's Service Award

- Thomas (12CFIL)
- Claire (12CRID)
- Eamonn (12SBAC)
- Eric (12TMCC)
- Gwen (12CFIL)

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Join us for FestivALL

Plans are coming together for our biggest community event of the year—FestivALL, a vibrant event celebrating the creativity, curiosity and learning of our students—and the wonderful community that surrounds them. Families from all three campuses are warmly invited to join us for this special evening.

- **Date: Friday 27 November**
- **Time: 3.30–7.30pm**
- **Location: Fortiter Gymnasium, Wirrkuta Trruku and the College Oval, Highgate**

Look forward to...

- Learning Exhibitions
- Music performances and festive favourites
- Food trucks
- Bar and refreshments
- P&F Market Stalls and activities, including student *Makers' Market* and *Pick 'n' Win* stalls

Find our more about what's on offer at FestivALL and please refer to our recent email to parents and caregivers with all you need to know, including how you can get involved in the Makers' Market, donating items for the Pick 'n' Win stall or volunteering to assist on the night.

We can’t wait to celebrate with you!

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Year 10 Drama presents 'Selfie'

On Thursday 19 November at 6:30pm, the Year 10 Drama class will perform their Group Production, *Selfie* by Bradley Hayward, in the Drama Centre.

A fast-moving exploration of adolescent experience in the technological age, Selfie follows a group of young people as they navigate the final year of their schooling. The class has driven all components of the show, from performance to lighting, sound, costume and multimedia.

After winning Best Schools Film at the 48 Hour Film Project, please support the students by attending their performance!

Daniel Lynch
Key Teacher – Drama

Book Free Tickets (opens an external website in a new window)
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Adelaide Crows AFLW at Unley Oval

This Sunday, you're invited to the Adelaide Crows AFLW game at Unley Oval, with tickets available to our community for free.

- Date: Sunday 1 November
- Time: Gates open at 1pm | Game starts at 2.30pm
- Location: Unley Oval

In addition to the game, there will be hair braiding, face painting, a petting zoo and more.

Scan the QR code and use the codeword below to secure your free tickets today!

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ELC Student-Led Conferences at St Peters Campus

The Kindy children at St Peters Campus recently took part in their Student-Led Conferences, inviting their parents into our open classroom space. The children were excited to take on the role of leaders, guiding their families through a showcase of their learning. They confidently shared work samples, activities and experiences that reflected their growth and achievements throughout our latest learning journey.

This was a wonderful opportunity for parents to see their child’s learning journey in action and to celebrate the skills, knowledge and confidence that have developed in our Kindy

programme. The conferences highlighted the children's independence, communication skills and joy in learning, while strengthening the connection between home and school.

Sarah Midson
ELC Director – St Peters Campus

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Celebrate Light this Halloween at St John's Lutheran Church

Come and celebrate **Light** this Halloween!

- **Saturday 31 October** at **St John's Lutheran Church, Unley**
- Anytime from **4pm** to **7pm**
- A **free** event for the whole family and the whole community!

You are warmly invited to pop in anytime between 4–7pm and enjoy a sausage sizzle, coffee, face painting, hot popcorn, chocolate, a photo booth, games, activities and more!

We would love to see you!

Refer to the Facebook event for all the details.

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

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Year 6 Leaders at Parliament House

Our Year 6 Leaders from Concordia College – St Peters Campus had the privilege of attending a special Student Leaders event at Parliament House today (Wednesday 23 September), hosted by Catherine Hutchesson MP, Member for Waite.

The students were invited to take part in a special behind-the-scenes tour of Parliament House, learning more about how Parliament works, how decisions are made and the important role democracy plays in our community.

Following the tour, they joined student leaders from schools across the Waite electorate for lunch in the historic Old Chamber. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with other young leaders, share ideas and consider some of the issues that matter to young people in our community.

We are very proud of the way our Year 6 Leaders represented St Peters Campus and embraced the opportunity to learn more about leadership, service and having a voice in their community.

A sincere thank you to Catherine Hutchesson MP and her team for welcoming our students and providing such a memorable and valuable experience.

Experiences like these encourage our students to lead with Courage, Connection, Integrity and Aspiration, and remind them that young people can make a meaningful contribution to their communities.

Alison Ronoastro
Principal – St Peters Campus

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MADD Festival

MADD Festival, showcasing the artistic talents of Year 3 to Year 6 students from St John's and St Peters campuses, is this Friday!

- Date: Friday 30 October
- Time: 4.30–7.00pm
- Location: St John's Campus, Highgate

All families are welcome to attend this fun and entertaining event.

Bring along a family picnic to enjoy between performances.

Click to view the Performance Program.

We can't wait to see you there!

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Careers and Pathways Update

> "The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle." – Steve Jobs

Spring is here, summer is around the corner, and our students are busy planning their futures, applying for jobs, and a few are working with me to coordinate some late-in-the-year work experience opportunities.

With more than 130 Year 12s applying for tertiary study through SATAC, VTAC, UAC and QTAC, it’s been a busy time supporting students with their options, but it’s super exciting seeing the variation in pathways being pursued.

We also had 12 students complete uniTEST during the Year 12 practice exam week. uniTEST is an aptitude test that has been developed to assess the kinds of generic reasoning and thinking skills that underpin studies at higher education and that are needed for students to be

successful in their tertiary studies. Flinders University utilise a student's uniTEST results as another pathway into courses at Flinders.

Year 12 Results and Change of Preferences

After Year 12 results are released on Monday 14 December, I will be available to meet with Year 12s on Tuesday 15 December in the Careers and Industry Connections Office at Concordia from 9am to 3pm. Year 12s wanting to speak about pathways, courses or other plans for 2027 and beyond can drop in to see me. No appointment is necessary. I am also available after exams and encourage Year 12s to reach out with any queries.

Post-results being released, students can continue to change their preferences in SATAC until 11.59pm on Wednesday 6 January. First round offers will be released on Monday 14 January, second round offers on 28 January and subsequent rounds commencing on Thursday 4 February and continuing every Tuesday and Thursday until Thursday 11 March.

Adelaide University will be hosting a 'Your Next Steps' session for Years 12s on Wednesday 15 December from 3pm–7pm to explore pathway and study options. Students can click here to register or just drop in to Hub Central, Adelaide University, North Terrace, Adelaide, during these times.

Years 12s can also reach out to the AU Future Students Team—either drop in, call or pre-book an appointment. More details available here.

Flinders University will be ready to take Year 12 students' calls on 1300 354 633 (option 2), or students can drop into Flinders Connect at Bedford Park, or visit City Campus with any questions. No appointments are necessary. The Flinders University team will be available to support students right up until 1pm on Christmas Eve. Then, further support is available from Monday 4 January.

Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN) School Program

In late September, two Year 10 students, **Penny (10BWHA)** and **Jamie (10NSHR)**, attended the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network School Program at Flinders University. Penny and Jamie had a fantastic experience and really enjoyed the day.

"The SALHN day was very engaging, it started off with a couple of talks from doctors, practitioners and researchers. They gave us a small look into different branches of sciences and helping society with STEM. After a small morning break, we went off in groups and participated in small activities. We played games engineers designed for people with motor skills, tested our senses with chemicals and reaction time with machines, and learnt first aid with big plastic dummies. Overall, the day was very enjoyable, they answered all the questions that we thought of, made sure everyone learnt new things, and we had fun."
– **Penny (10BWHA)** and **Jamie (10NSHR)**

Women in Sport Excursion

On Monday 19 October, I had the privilege of taking eight senior girls to the *Women in Sport Summit: Futures Day* at Adelaide Oval.

Students were able to hear about the diverse career pathways available within the sporting industry, including sports science, health, technology, marketing, leadership and high-performance sport. Industry leaders, sports professionals and role models presented to students, allowing them to develop a greater understanding of the skills, qualifications and experiences required for careers in sport. Students were able to participate in workshops and speak one-on-one with experts from professional bodies, industry and government.

All of the girls connected with Associate Professor Ashlee Morgan, the keynote speaker, with **Jett (10VNAR)** commenting that she delivered her speech very well and the topics covered were insightful.

Zoe (11THAR) enjoyed the interactive stalls in the expo because it was an opportunity to talk to professionals in different fields. She said the day was a great chance to explore what other opportunities there are in sports other than just being an athlete.

"My highlight of attending the Women in Sport Summit was hearing from all of the amazing female athletes and professionals because they taught us how careers in sport are not limited to just being an athlete but are as broad as being a physio, occupational therapist and so much more." **– Sienna (10LTRA)**

Exploring Identities and Futures – My Future Self in Lego

Recently the Exploring Identities and Futures students spent some time creating their future aspirations with LEGO. The finished products were very impressive with everything from hospitality (chef) and construction to climbing Mount Everest and marine biology being represented.

#LetsGetDigital

Digital careers can be found in every industry and they're not just for coders and technical experts. Whether you're a problem solver, a creative or a people person, there's a role with your name on it. Discover today's digital careers and the flexible learning paths to get there.

Find your perfect match, take the quick quiz and you'll be matched to a digital career that fits your personality. Plus, you'll see a choice of pathways to get there—from vocational and university pathways. Visit www.digitalcareer.com.au

Investigate the Options

From cyber security to telecommunications, the career guide covers different career paths, job roles, salaries, required skills, day-to-day activities and training options.

Let's bust a myth: Digital careers aren't just "IT jobs."

They're so much more. Digital marketing, data analysts, social media managers, game developers, AI strategists, cybersecurity specialists. Digital careers are booming across every

industry, from healthcare and finance to entertainment and education... and the best part? They need people like you.

Forget the idea that digital careers are only for maths and science people. Visual thinker? Try digital design or game development. Love puzzles? Data analytics and cyber security offer endless challenges. Your strengths already point toward a digital future. You just might not know it yet.

There's no single right way in

You can earn while you learn through a traineeship, stack up micro-credentials around your current schedule, or choose from VET qualifications, industry certifications and degrees. Whatever your timeframe, budget or learning style, there's a pathway that fits your life.

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 (opposite the Art and Artists books). Grab some resources, have your questions answered or just come by for a chat. Alternatively, email me to make a meeting time.

Tarsh Boyko
Careers and Pathways Advisor

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Youth Governor's Leadership Foundation

"*Undergoing the Youth Governor's Leadership Foundation (YGLF) program had been quite a journey for me. There were both ups and downs throughout it but everything was a learning experience that allowed me to grow as a person. I had been hesitant and nervous to start the program, but it was eye-opening and such an amazing experience. There were many ways in which they taught the content we learnt that allowed it to be more engaging and intriguing, and by graduation I was able to understand many different aspects of leadership and how they all work in different ways. The program taught us about metacognition, integral quadrants, ART of meeting, etc. and all these skills allowed for personal growth. My biggest takeaway from the program was that leadership can be shown in many ways. You don't have to be in a position of power to create and advocate for change and anyone can be a leader without having a specific title. It allowed me to see how impactful us as students and younger people could be and allowed me to be inspired and want to create more change using the learning frameworks I have learnt. I would recommend the program to other interested students, because it can help you strengthen many different skills and grow so much as person. It also allows you to learn more about yourself as a person and how you can use your strengths and weaknesses to show leadership in different ways.*"

– Sophie (9LBON), 2026 Youth Governor's Leadership Foundation Graduate

"*Being presented with the opportunity to be a youth mentor in the YGLF has extended my*

learning experience beyond the program itself, allowing me to continue developing my own leadership skills while supporting others on their journeys. Supporting the participants through conversations, games and guidance during their opening retreat was an incredibly rewarding leadership opportunity for both Annabelle and myself, and it was lovely to be part of their first steps in the program. Their growth became truly rewarding, seeing the participants at the graduation, as they all developed specific skills that allowed them to share many insightful moments from the program.

I was also grateful for the opportunity to speak at their graduation, sharing advice to support the participants as they continue their leadership journeys beyond the program. I spoke about the importance of embracing what makes each of us unique, as the world doesn't need another version of someone else, but people who bring their own passions, goals, perspectives and ways of connecting with others. I believe this is especially true for the students at Concordia, where our involvement in sport, music, arts and so many other activities allows us to bring different perspectives and strengths to our community. It is these individual passions and contributions that help make Concordia a richer, more welcoming and vibrant place to learn and grow.

Congratulations to Sophie on this amazing achievement! We look forward to seeing how Concordia's student leadership continues to develop and flourish through this program, and the positive impact it will have on our wider community."

– Claire (12CRID), Youth Governor's Leadership Foundation Mentor 2026

"It has been such a privilege to see a new generation of leadership form from YGLF26—to see a group of diverse students from around Australia eager for change and creating a positive impact and making a difference. We are all proud of Sophie and her determination throughout this year to make a change. She has grown into a leader who knows how to work in a team, and she has grown to be confident, knowing when to lead up front but also knowing when to take a step back and lead."

– Annabelle (11THAR), Youth Governor's Leadership Foundation Mentor 2026

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St John's Campus Year 2 History Detectives

We went on a journey using our maps of Highgate, travelling from St John's Campus to Concordia College Middle and Senior School. Along the way, we became historians and scientists, exploring the rich history of Concordia. Ms Kleinig introduced us to the school's archives, sharing photographs and artefacts from the past, including autograph books, yearbooks and old uniforms. She answered our questions and helped us discover fascinating stories about the school's history. We then put on our scientist hats and carefully observed the different materials used in the buildings, including stone, wood, glass, marble and metal. We explored how these materials were used to create walls, windows and plaques, noticing the features that make each building unique. Our journey was a rich learning experience that deepened our understanding of the past and helped us make meaningful connections to our

Unit of Inquiry.

Year 2 Teachers

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Living Young eNewsletter

The October edition of the Living Young eNewsletter is out now with a range of opportunities to get involved in activities and initiative within the local community, including:

- The chance to nominate to join the Living Young Reference Group
- City of Unley Traineeship applications
- Ad advertisement for Study Hive, supporting students preparing for exams through to Friday 20 November
- Australia's Biggest Secondhand Treasure Hunt / Garage Sale Trail
- Upcoming AFLW game this Sunday at Unley Oval

... and more!

View the latest edition (opens an external website in a new window)
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ALWS Service Award

This year, Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) presented certificates recognising students who had made a significant contribution to the work of ALWS. Concordia College was pleased to award **Henry (12TMCC)** with a certificate recognising his outstanding participation in the ALWS Walk My Way fundraising event.

Walk My Way is an annual event, in which participants are sponsored to walk a significant distance (sometimes as far as 26 kilometres), raising money to support the work of ALWS, particularly the education of children in refugee camps in Kenya.

Henry has demonstrated a sustained commitment to this initiative, participating annually from Year 8 through to Year 12. His consistent involvement reflects a genuine dedication to fundraising for ALWS and supporting its work. Throughout his secondary schooling, Henry has shown that his participation is driven by a strong sense of service and a personal appreciation for the cause. His ongoing commitment exemplifies the values of compassion, generosity and service to others. Congratulations, Henry!

Judy Harris
Year 11 Leader and ALWS Ambassador

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SchoolTV Early Years Wellbeing Series

The first five years don't just prepare children for school.

They help shape who they become.

SchoolTV is delighted to introduce: The Early Years Wellbeing Series, a new series of topics exploring the developmental journey of children aged three to five, helping build a shared understanding across home and school.

Developed in collaboration with leading psychologist Dr Emma Woodward, the series explores many of the questions asked during these formative years. Each topic combines expert insights with practical strategies to help navigate the everyday opportunities and challenges of the early years.

By strengthening understanding and building capability early, the series supports one of our greatest opportunities for prevention and early intervention.

For schools, this is about much more than providing information. It's an opportunity to strengthen partnerships with families before children begin their formal education and continue building those relationships as they move into the primary years.

When parents and educators share a common understanding of children's development, they are better placed to support each child's wellbeing, learning and long-term success.

We invite you to watch this short introduction from Dr Emma Woodward, as she explains why the first five years are such an important opportunity to shape a child's future and why SchoolTV has created the Early Years Wellbeing Series.

Watch the Launch Video (opens an external website in a new window)

Designed to support parents and carers of children aged 3–5 years, the series includes a collection of Editions and Special Reports offering expert insights, practical guidance and trusted resources to help families support their child's early development and wellbeing.

View the Early Years Wellbeing Series (opens an external website in a new window)
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Stage 2 German Prizes

Earlier this year, during National German Language Week, a number of Concordia students took part in a range of competitions organised by the South Australian German Teachers'

Association and the Goethe Institut.

The Stage 2 German class entered the Wimmelbild competition, which involved naming a wide variety of over 100 German icons, from food and flags to landmarks and logos. In Week 2 of Term 4, the class was thrilled to find out that they had won the competition! The prize of $50 was spent on some German sweet treats to celebrate the win, as well as a duck-shaped cookie cutter for each student. The cookie cutters will be used to make Weihnachtsplätzchen (traditional German Christmas biscuits) with a true Concordia flavour!

During our final lesson, we were also pleased to present a book prize to **Zak (12KNIC)** and **Lily (12CRID)**, recognising their efforts and achievements as the top male Stage 2 student of German and the top female Stage 2 student of German at Concordia in 2026.

Gratuliere to all Stage 2 German students, and viel Glück for your exams!

Judy Harris
Stage 2 German Teacher

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Enrichment and Extended Learning News

Oliphant Science Awards Presentation

It was wonderful to see Concordia very well represented at the annual Oliphant Science Awards presentation evening. This year participation was strong across the state, with 143 schools involved and over 4,000 student registrants submitting 3,097 projects.

At the Concordia secondary campus we congratulate:

- **Laura (12TMCC)**, who won 1st place in the Year 11/12 Multimedia section. This is the second year in a row that Laura has placed first in this section. In addition, Laura was awarded a Highly Commended from the Australian Entomological Society for being one of the most outstanding entries demonstrating an understanding of the biodiversity, biology, behaviour or ecology of insects and / or their allies.
- **James (8LTHO)**, whi received 3rd place in the Year 7-8 Models and Inventions category for his 3D printed model of the Central Nervous System.

We also acknowledge **Henson (8JAPE)** for his Highly Commended entry in the Year 7/8 Multimedia category.

From the Primary School campuses we saw incredible success, with four students receiving prizes—including two first places.

- Logan R–2 Programming Apps and Robotics (St Peters Campus) - 2nd place
- Kelly 3–4 Science Writing (St John's Campus) - 3rd place
- Leah 3–4 Posters (St John's Campus) - 1st place
- Jane 5–6 Posters (St John's Campus) - 1st place

Overall, students from Concordia's three campuses won six prizes and five highly commended.

This year, our Science department also acknowledged exceptional work by students (Year 7-12) who entered the award in 2026. We presented three new annual awards within our school:

- **Scientific Scholarship Award** recognising a student with outstanding commitment, resilience and dedication to achieving excellence, submitting a project that demonstrated an extensive and discerning use of credible, relevant and authoritative sources. Congratulations to **Jimmy (8JCAR)** for his incredible Science Writing entry on the history of space exploration.
- **Curiosity and Creativity Award** recognising a project that demonstrated original thinking, imagination and innovative problem-solving. The project showed outstanding creativity and perseverance. Congratulations to **Laura (12TMCC)** for her amazing multimedia presentation about troglobites, specialised animals that live exclusively in underground caves and dark subterranean habitats.
- **Excellence in Science Communication Award** recognising an exceptional ability to communicate scientific ideas in an engaging, accurate and accessible way. The project demonstrated excellent scientific literacy. Congratulations to **Elsie (8MCAS)** for her outstanding feature article on stem cell research, which involved interviewing researchers from around Australia.

26 Book Challenge

As we power through Term 4 we have a few weeks left of reading for our 26 Book Challenge. Students will need to submit their named alphabet card key rings to the library by Friday 13 November (Week 5). Our readers will then receive a special pass to join our 'celebration event' to be held later in the term.

CARE@CC

We were delighted to welcome Old Concordian Amelia Griffin (2015), an accomplished speech pathologist and founder of My Mind Matters Therapy. She shared her inspiring journey in allied health. Amelia offered valuable insights into the transformative impact of her work, highlighting the importance of communication, compassion and innovation in improving the lives of others. Recognised as South Australia's Rising Star Woman of the Year in 2025 and a finalist for 2026 SA Young Australian of the Year, Amelia inspired students with her achievements, passion for helping others and commitment to making a difference.

Emma Rieger
Enrichment and Extended Learning

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Inter-School Chess 2026

This year, Concordia entered two teams in the Secondary School Division 2 Inter-School

Chess competition. Chess is traditionally a male-dominated game, but there is absolutely no reason why girls can't play too, and our girls certainly proved that this year, with them comprising one-third of our inter-school players.

The competition this year was very strong, but even when we didn't win, we put up a very good fight, making our opponents think very hard, and we have no doubt that our players all finished the season with new skills and tactics thanks to the games they played. Of 38 teams in the competition, Concordia Gold finished in equal 10th place and Concordia Blue finished in equal 15th place. We would likely have ended up higher, but both teams played the highest ranked teams in the final rounds; going into the second to last round, Concordia Blue was ranked third, and Concordia Gold entered the final round in 5th place. Our matches attracted quite a crowd on the final night!

Special congratulations to **Charles (7LSHO)**, who earned a State trophy for winning nearly all his inter-school games this year.

At an end-of-season celebration for the inter-school chess players at the start of Term 4, trophies were also awarded to four Year 12 students in recognition of the significant contribution that they have made to inter-school chess during their time at Concordia—Henry (12TMCC) – five years, Gwen (12CFIL) – five years, Sam (12KNIC) – four years, and Olivia (12TMCC) – four years.

Chess Club and inter-school chess are great opportunities to develop problem solving and strategic thinking skills, and to make new friends from across the year levels. Whether you're a beginner or a budding Grandmaster, we'd love to see you join in the fun next year.

Judy Harris & Matthew Casey
Inter-School Chess Coordinators

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City of Unley Living Young Reference Group

Nominations are now open to join the Living Young Reference Group. The City of Unley is looking for passionate, community-minded young people who are aged between 12–25 years who live, study, work or play in the City of Unley. Participants are inducted as Council volunteers and will have access to a range of training and skill development opportunities.

Nominations close **Sunday 6 December 2026**. To apply visit www.unley.sa.gov.au/LYRG

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International Week of Peace at St Peters Campus

Late in Term 3, our St Peters Campus community gathered around our Peace Pole each morning for a week, to begin the day together in prayer, reflection and a shared hope for

peace.

As we recognised the International Week of Peace, students, staff and families paused to consider what peace looks like in our world, our community and in the way we treat one another.

Our Peace Pole was generously donated by the Rotary Club of Blackwood and carries the simple but powerful message, “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in four different languages: English, German, Mandarin and Kaurna. We are grateful for this special gift and the connection it represents between St Peters Campus and our wider Blackwood community.

Throughout the week, our prayers encouraged students to think about the part each of us can play in creating peace through kindness, forgiveness, understanding and care for others.

These moments connect beautifully with our Concordia College values of *Connection*, *Grace* and *Care*, reminding us that even the smallest actions can make a difference.

Thank you to the families who have joined us each morning, and to the Rotary Club of Blackwood for providing such a meaningful focal point for our community.

May peace begin with each of us

Alison Ronoastro
Principal – St Peters Campus

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SchoolTV Topic: Cyber Safety

Young people today are growing up in an increasingly connected world where technology is part of their everyday lives—for learning, socialising and entertainment. While the digital world offers enormous benefits, it also comes with serious risks. From cyberbullying and online predators to inappropriate content and screen time concerns, navigating the online environment can be challenging for young people and their families.

Cybersafety is not just about blocking access—it's about empowering young people with the knowledge and skills they need to use technology responsibly and safely. This includes understanding privacy settings, recognising scams and developing healthy digital habits. At the same time, it's important for parents and caregivers to stay informed, have open and judgement-free conversations with their children, and lead by example through positive online behaviour.

In today's digital age, safeguarding a child's wellbeing must also include protecting their online life. This edition of SchoolTV will help you better understand the digital landscape your child is navigating and offer practical strategies to help them stay safe, confident and in control online.

View this Edition (opens an external website in a new window)
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Music Notes

The end of Term 3 was an especially busy and exciting time for the Music Department. Among the many events held was our Sunset Soirée, presented in the final week of school. The concert showcased the talents of our Stage 2 Music students and Year 9 Special Interest Music class as well as several outstanding soloists and small ensembles. It was a wonderful evening of music-making and a fitting celebration of the term's achievements. Congratulations to Marco, Amali, Lani and Hunter who completed their final Stage 2 performances.

This term, our 2027 Big Bands and Jazz Choirs have hit the ground running, beginning rehearsals and preparations for the year ahead. It has been fantastic to see so many students enthusiastically involved in our co-curricular music program.

As we complete auditions for our 2027 ensembles, we would like to remind families that it is never too late to get involved. If your child is interested in joining the music program in 2027, please contact us at music@concordia.sa.edu.au for more information. We look forward to welcoming even more students into our vibrant music community.

Kellie Rich
Head of Music ELC–12

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School-based Business Traineeship with the City of Unley

Kickstart Your Career with a Traineeship!

If you're a current Year 10 student, we have the perfect traineeship opportunity for you! This is your chance to get paid, gain hands-on experience and earn a nationally recognised qualification.

The Role on Offer

This School-Based Business Traineeship with the City of Unley provides an exciting opportunity to gain hands-on experience in community development, events and local government while completing your secondary education and a nationally recognised qualification. As part of the Community team, you will assist with the delivery of community programs, events, youth initiatives and administrative activities, while developing valuable skills in customer service, communications, event coordination and administration.

This role is ideal for a student who enjoys working with people, is passionate about their local community, and is looking to gain practical workplace experience while still at school. As a school-based trainee, you will work one day per week while completing Years 11 and 12. This position will commence at the beginning of Term 1, 2027.

For more information see the attached flyer or click here.

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Pedal Prix 24-Hour Race

From 18–20 September, our College Pedal Prix teams competed in the final event of the season, with five teams taking on more than 150 teams from across Australia in a continuous 24-hour race at Murray Bridge.

It was a fantastic three days of racing, with challenging conditions including significant heat on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Our students were outstanding throughout the weekend, demonstrating excellent preparation, organisation, enthusiasm and commitment both on and off the track.

Across the weekend, approximately 120 students, families and staff were involved, creating a wonderful sense of community. We would like to sincerely thank all of our families for their incredible support throughout the weekend, helping with a range of roles and ensuring the event ran smoothly.

There were also excellent team results, with Raptor finishing 5th and Concorde 10th in S2. Both teams secured top-eight positions in the overall series after five races this season.

We would also like to acknowledge Mr Divitkos, Mr Ceplitis and Mr Brown for their outstanding support. It was a fantastic team effort and a wonderful way to conclude the season.

Team	Laps	Category Position	2026 Series Position
Costa (S3)	460	21st	15th
Raptor (S2)	478	5th	4th
Concorde (S2)	427	10th	8th
Veloci (S2)	399	15th	28th
Shockwave (S2)	340	23rd	20th

Matthew Smart
Pedal Prix Coordinator

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SchoolTV Topic: Depression and Young People

Depression is a serious mental health condition that can affect how children and young people think, feel and interact with the world around them. While occasional sadness and mood changes are a normal part of growing up, depression is more persistent and can significantly impact a young person’s relationships, school engagement and overall wellbeing.

Recognising the signs of depression can sometimes be challenging, particularly during

adolescence when emotional and behavioural changes are common. Academic pressures, friendship difficulties, social media and challenges around identity and belonging can all contribute to emotional distress. Understanding the warning signs and knowing when to seek help are important steps in ensuring young people receive the support they need.

This edition of SchoolTV explores the signs and causes of depression, offering practical guidance and strategies to help recognise concerns early and provide appropriate support.

View the Topic on SchoolTV (opens an external website)
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Year 10 German Miele Excursion

The Year 10 German class had the opportunity in Term 3 this year to once again undertake the topic, "Unternehmen Deutsch." This unit, organised by the Goethe Institut, involves learning about German companies and business, specifically those that also operate within Australia. Students were able to interview a representative from their chosen company and for us this included Miele in Adelaide, Byron Bay Pretzels in NSW, Mandy Schöne-Salter (artist) in the Blue Mountains and Bavarian Sizzle in Brisbane. Some students even conducted their interview entirely or partly in German.

Miele once again invited us to visit their showroom in Mile End and gave us demonstrations of their appliances and services. We enjoyed learning about the history of the company, eating morning tea and helping to make our own pizzas in the fanciest of ovens for lunch. Brody even won a prize!

A big thank you to Miele for hosting us and for being so willing to work together with our students again this year.

Kathy Breitweg
German Teacher

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Study Hive

To support students studying for exams or final assignments, the City of Unley is offering study space and free refreshments at Unley Library, Goodwood Library, and Fullarton Park Community Centre between Monday 12 October and Friday 20 November. See the attached poster for further details or visit www.unley.sa.gov.au/study-hive

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Sports Update

Year 7/8 Soccer Finals

Our Year 7/8 knockout boys' soccer team capped off a fantastic campaign on Thursday 17 September, finishing as runner-up on finals day.

The boys opened finals day with a commanding semifinal performance, defeating Tenison Woods College 4-0 to book their spot in the grand final against Morialta Secondary College. The team saved their best soccer of the tournament for the big match, going toe-to-toe with a strong Morialta side.

Despite falling 1-0 behind at halftime, the boys kept their heads up and continued to fight, though they ultimately went down 2-0 in a tightly contested final.

Finishing second from an original pool of 29 schools across the state is an outstanding achievement, and the boys should be extremely proud of what they accomplished. Congratulations to every player involved, well done!

IGSSA Awards Breakfast

Our girls' sporting captains were invited to the IGSSA Awards Breakfast, a special event celebrating sporting achievements across all schools in the association at the conclusion of the season.

Guest speaker Jazz McKay, who recently signed a professional contract with the Thunderbirds, shared valuable insights with the girls on how to balance elite sport, social commitments and study—a timely message for our young athletes juggling their own busy schedules.

A highlight of the morning was seeing **Isobelle (12CRID)** awarded the prestigious Ashleigh Young Medal, recognising her outstanding contribution to IGSSA sport throughout her time at Concordia.

Congratulations, Isobelle—a wonderful achievement and a fitting recognition of your dedication.

Well done to all our sporting captains who represented the school at this special celebration.

Vittoria Peresano
Sports Coordinator

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SchoolTV Webinar Part III Replay Now Available

The replay of Part III of the SchoolTV webinar series, Understanding Anxiety & Depression to

Foster Resilience, is now available for families and staff to watch at any time.

In this session, Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Joe Stammeijer shared practical insights and strategies across three key areas:

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

The replay can be accessed using the link below or via the Webinar Series tile on our SchoolTV homepage.

Please note that the Webinar Series tile now includes recordings from all our previous webinars. These will remain permanently available, giving our school community ongoing access to the full webinar series at any time.

Missed the recent SchoolTV webinar?

Part III of Understanding Anxiety & Depression to Foster Resilience is now available to watch on replay.

This session explores how parents and carers can help build resilience through strong foundations and everyday wellbeing habits, with practical guidance for supporting neurodivergent children from a strengths-based perspective.

Watch the Webinar (opens an external website in a new window)

You can also download the KEYpoints Flyer for practical takeaways to help support conversations at home.

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Year 10 STEM Students Inspired by Satellite Expert

Year 10 STEM students recently had the privilege of welcoming local community member Graham Ratcliff to Concordia for an engaging presentation on satellites, space technology and the future of space exploration.

Drawing on decades of experience in satellite communications and space operations, Graham shared fascinating insights into the rapid growth of satellites orbiting Earth and the important roles they play in communication, navigation, weather monitoring, scientific research and Earth observation. Students learned about the International Space Station (ISS) and how astronauts live and work in space, as well as what happens to satellites when they reach the end of their operational lives.

One of the highlights of the presentation was Graham’s description of satellites that he has personally helped design, build and have launched into orbit. Students were fascinated to

discover that amateur radio operators can communicate with satellites using technologies including Morse code, demonstrating that even traditional communication methods still have a place in modern space technology.

Graham also introduced students to an exciting educational satellite building program that Concordia students may have the opportunity to become involved with in the future, providing a real-world pathway into engineering, space science and technology.

The presentation was a unique opportunity for students to learn from a passionate local expert whose contributions have helped advance satellite communications. We sincerely thank Graham for sharing his knowledge, experiences and enthusiasm with our Year 10 STEM students.

Shane Beitz
Faculty Leader – Applied Technologies

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Join us for Carols Service 2026

Come and celebrate the Advent season as we look to the coming of Christ. This is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, and for the gifts He has so freely bestowed upon us.

- **Wednesday 2 December 2026**
- **7.00pm–8.15pm**
- **Free event**

Led by Pastor Dale Gosden and our Music students, this will be a joyous occasion, and all are welcome to attend. We hope you will join us!

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Employment Opportunity: Part-time Bus Driver

Concordia is seeking an experienced bus driver to assist with part-time College bus driving duties, including morning and afternoon shifts and the potential for work during school holidays, supporting our Vacation Care program of planned excursions. Applicants will require an LR or MR licence.

If you or someone you know is interested in driving our bus, please contact our People and Culture team via email: employment@concordia.sa.edu.au

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Illumina Voices presents Light in the Stillness at St Peters Lutheran Church

Illumina Voices and Hand Chime Ensemble presents *Light in the Stillness* in two upcoming concerts, including one at our St Peters Campus.

Light in the Stillness

What happens when we pause, listen and let the light in?

Illumina Voices invites you to join them for a beautiful afternoon of music celebrating stillness, silence, dreams, light, and the joy of Christmas. From the exquisite choral masterpiece, Sure on This Shining Night, the jubilant Susanni, the haunting beauty of The Sound of Silence, the imaginative Australian work, Shall We Dream, to the festive sparkle of Nutcracker Jingles, this is a concert designed to touch the heart and lift the spirit.

Adding an extra touch of magic will be the Illumina Hand Chime Ensemble, creating shimmering moments of sound and light.

Come and pause… breathe… listen… and discover the Light in the Stillness.

- Date: Sunday 8 November 2026
- Time: 2.30pm
- Location: St Peters Lutheran Church, 71 Cumming Street, Blackwood
- Tickets: $32 (Adult), $30 (Concession), $12 (Student) | $32 (Door sales)

Book online via the button below or visit the Illumina Voices website for more information.

Book Online (opens an external website in a new window)
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Online Ordering Now Available at The School Shop

We are excited that online ordering is now available at The School Shop. You will find the link to our online store in the College app. Click on the 'Links' tile and locate 'The School Shop Online Store' to browse and order online.

If you have any problems using the online ordering system, are unable to find what you're looking for or have any enquiries about the school uniform, please contact The School Shop team by email: schoolshop@concordia.sa.edu.au or phone on 8291 9302.

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Student Achievement

Congratulations to Ashlynn (), who recently won the SANFL Juniors Association Best and Fairest medal across all teams for U16 division 2—a fantastic achievement!

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Noticeboard

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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: 1pm–4.30pm
- Thursday: 1pm–6.15pm
- Friday: 1pm–4.30pm

(Closed on Public Holidays)

The School Shop will be closed from Tuesday 8 December 2026 and will re-open on Wednesday 20 January 2027.

Exchanges, top-up purchases and collection of orders can be made during Holiday Opening as seen below.

School Holiday Hours – January 2027

- Wednesday 20 January: 8.00am–4.00pm
- Thursday 21 January: 1.00pm–6.15pm
- Friday 22 January: 1.00pm–4.30pm
- Monday 25 January: 8.00am–5.00pm
- Tuesday 26 January: Closed (Public Holiday)
- Wednesday 27 January: 8.00am–4.00pm

- Thursday 28 January: 1.00pm–6.15pm (Term time hours resume)

Online Ordering

We are excited that online ordering is now available. You will find the link to our online store in the College app. Click on the 'Links' tile and locate 'The School Shop Online Store' to browse and order online.

If you have any problems using the online ordering system, are unable to find what you're looking for or have any enquiries about the school uniform, please contact The School Shop team by email: schoolshop@concordia.sa.edu.au or phone on 8291 9302.

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

- The **Adelaide Crows AFLW** team invites members of our community to their match at Unley Oval this Sunday 1 November. View the poster, scan the QR code and use the promo code to book your free tickets.

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