



Adelaide Secondary School of English

We value: **Respect** **Responsibility** **Resilience**

Newsletter

Term 1, 2023



From the Principal

Welcome to all of our new students, families and staff. We have had more than 100 students, representing 45 different cultural and language groups, enrol since January, along with 12 new teachers. Harmony Week enabled us to acknowledge and celebrate this diversity and the importance of us all working together to ensure we continue to make our school a safe and supportive place where everyone belongs.

Our student Achievement/Harmony Day assembly highlighted some of the many talents our students have, whether it be singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument or doing magic tricks. Lunchtime activities gave students an opportunity to come together to celebrate and share aspects of their culture, with many students also wearing their traditional outfits. Our guest speaker, Eric Ibekwem, Workplace Manager from Origin Energy, shared his story of migrating to Adelaide and shared some of his personal experiences.



Families are a very important part of our school community, so a big thank you to the families who were able to attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and first Governing Council meeting for the year. Our school improvement priorities for 2023 and our plan to focus on improving student achievement in reading and writing were shared, along with the work teachers are doing as part of our Council of International Schools (CIS) “deep dive” self-study on teaching and learning.

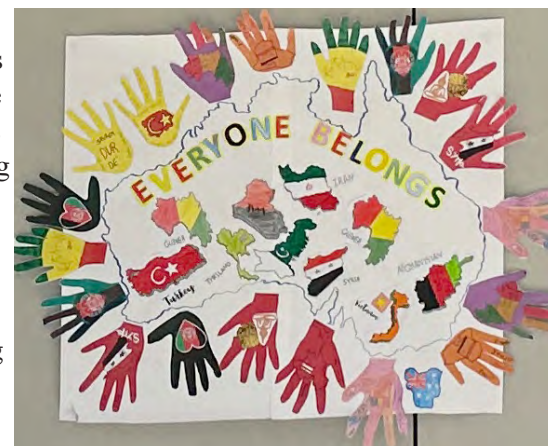
As our student numbers continue to grow, we are investing in upgrading facilities and some areas of the school grounds. We have had 3 new drinking fountains and 2 outdoor table tennis tables installed for student use during breaks. Our school canteen has recently re-opened, selling a range of foods for students to purchase at recess and lunch.

COVID-19 is still a concern and families are reminded of the expectation to report positive COVID-19 cases and that symptomatic students, staff and visitors/volunteers are expected to stay at home if they are unwell, or for 5 days if they test positive. The school is continuing to monitor attendance and to contact families via SMS if a student is absent. However, it is the responsibility of parents/families to ensure students attend school every day (unless they are unwell) and to communicate with the school when students are absent.

Lastly, the school is working towards fully enforcing the State Government’s “no phones at school” policy by the start of term 3. In the meantime, the school is encouraging students not to use phones during breaks and enforcing a “no phones during lessons” policy.

In finishing, I’d like to once again welcome all of the new members of our school community. We look forward to working with you to achieve the best possible learning outcomes for your children during their time at Adelaide Secondary School of English.

Anti Macri
Principal



Term 2, 2023 Dates

- **Monday 01/05/2023**
Student Free Day - NO school
- **Tuesday 02/05/2023**
FIRST day of Term 2
- **Thursday 08/06/2023**
Governing Council meeting
- **Monday 12/06/2023**
Public Holiday - NO school
- **14 - 16/06/2023**
High School visits
(Transition students)
- **Friday 07/07/2023**
Last day of Term 2

Excursion

On Monday, 6th March, classes 6, 11 and 28 met in the city and, with our teachers, travelled by bus to the Urrbrae Wetland for our Geography Water Quality Testing excursion. Thanks to Ms Vanessa, we learned even more about how to test water and appreciate the value of these wetlands. Probably the part that excited us most was catching a variety of macroinvertebrates from the main pond, and then identifying them under microscopes while watching them wriggling around. It was amazing.

After arriving back in the city, we visited the oldest library in Adelaide, the Mortlock Library, which is an impressive South Australian library museum where university students can study surrounded by old treasured books in a beautiful historic and quiet space.

Finally, we still had enough time to enjoy our favourite exhibits at the South Australian Museum.

Teachers were also extremely pleased with their students and their learning experience.

Classes 6, 11 and 28



SA SRC Summit

On Friday 24th of March, **Wais Kaizimi** from class 13 and **Noela Balezi** from class 7, represented Adelaide Secondary School of English at the SA Student Representative Council summit, hosted by the Commissioner for Children and Young People at the Adelaide Town Hall.

“We both felt nervous, but we met other students and collaborated, which helped us feel more comfortable. We were put into teams with local Members of Parliament (MP) and other students to work on projects for the rest of the year.

To conclude, we had an astonishing and unforgettable experience at the SA SRC summit.”



Beach safety day

On Thursday 16th of March 10 classes went to Glenelg Beach to learn about dangers and how to be safe at the beach. We had a nice sunny day, which meant students were able to go in the water and have fun learning to swim, float and use the paddle boards to ride the waves. Students also played ‘flags’ on the beach, practiced rescues, did a jetty walk to learn about fishing and read signs along the way. A great day was had by all.

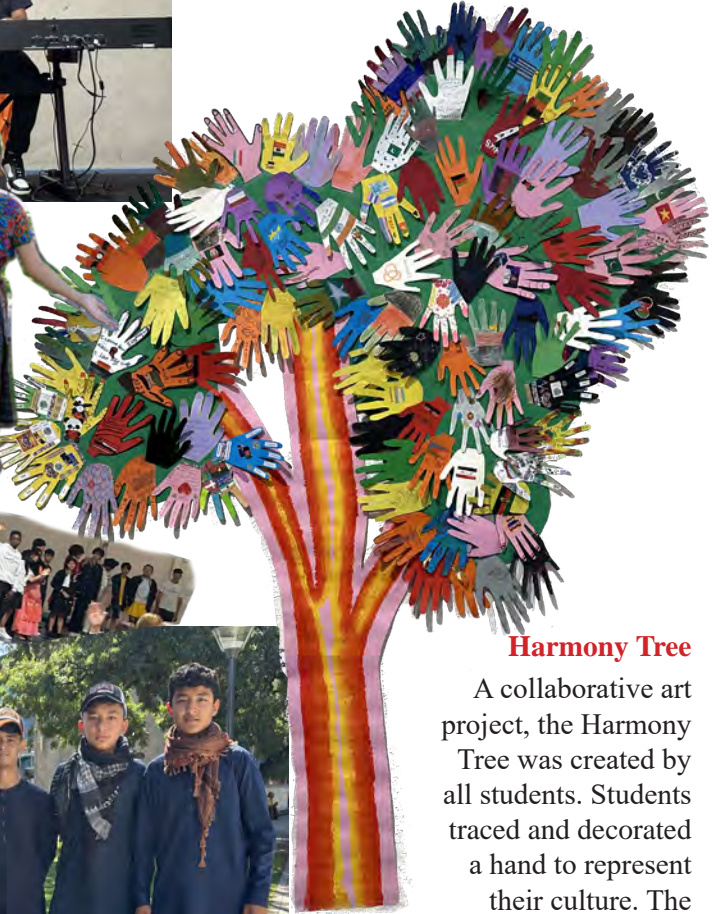
Mr Tom Ellenbroek





HARMONY DAY

We celebrated Harmony Week on the 22nd of March 2023 with multiple activities to mark the occasion. The Student Representative Council (SRC) hosted an assembly that featured some fabulous entertainment from students, student awards and a guest speaker. The celebrations continued all afternoon with each student enjoying a harmony day muffin and some students even displayed their artistic talents with henna hand art. It was a great joy to celebrate all the diversity at the school in ways that made everyone feel a sense of belonging.



Harmony Tree

A collaborative art project, the Harmony Tree was created by all students. Students traced and decorated a hand to represent their culture. The hands make the leaves, symbolising belonging. This tree represents the diverse cultures at Adelaide Secondary School of English.



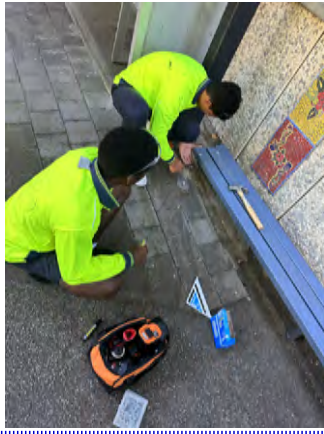
On Saturday 18th February, I participated in traditional Ukrainian dance at the Greek Festival in Norwood. I dressed in a traditional Ukrainian costume and performed traditional folk dancing with other dancers, male and female. My costume was brightly coloured and I was wearing a shiny red jacket. I am getting very good at a dance move called prysiadka, that only male dancers can do. I have been learning traditional Ukrainian dancing for 3-4 months. I really love it because it makes me feel like I am connected to my culture.
Denys Motsarenko (class 341C)



Work Studies

This term's community project for Work Studies with class 35 was to replace the student benches in the East quadrangle. Tasks included material purchasing, painting, measuring, cutting and installing. The class worked well gaining skills including how to work collaboratively and independently, as well as how to work safely.

Mr Ben Hilterbrand



Junior Soccer



This term, some students enjoyed an eight-week soccer program run by Football SA coaches. The program is designed to teach some new skills and provide opportunities for matches. The program was run after school on Tuesdays throughout Term 1 on the school oval. We plan to have other sports programs using the Sports SA Voucher in the future.

Ms Katie Tigani

SRC Leadership Camp

21 SRC students attended a 3 days Leadership Camp in March, run by the Australian Refugee Association (ARA), at Woodhouse in the Adelaide Hills. Here is a recount by one of the attendees, Angela Daniel.

"We left the school at 11:50am and by 12:55 pm we arrived at the camp. Next, we went through the camp's rules and what we will be doing that day and in the days to come. Then, after unpacking everything, we went to the Challenge Hill. It was a wonderful experience because we were all participating for the first time. After that, at 9:00 pm, we went outside to play hide-and-seek. It was a little spooky, but it was enjoyable to do so at night. The next few days were as amazing although a little bit more dull than the first. We discovered that we were to do three programmes on Saturday night: Capioca, African cultural dance, and drumming. At night, some of the groups performed an additional program."



Community Service

Class 6 and 41 visited the Uniting SA Aged Care Facility at West Lakes.

- I think the old people may be feeling lonely. When we got there they smiled and they looked nice. We made posters of our countries. It was so much fun and the residents smiled a lot. I learnt more about their life after we visited. (Janny)*
- We introduced our country to them and made big posters, then we printed our hands on a long paper for Harmony Day. (Connie)*
- They smiled and were very kind. (Yu)*
- Helping older people is a good thing to do because they are bored and lonely. We can get new experiences that help us in the future. (Jack)*
- We had a great time sharing our stories and helping the old people. (Naazveer)*
- We volunteered to support them. It was a refreshing and rewarding experience and improved our communication. (Tom)*



Students enjoying Art club (Thursday, Recess time) and the new outdoor table tennis (next to the new South building).

