



Adelaide Secondary School of English

We value:

Respect

Responsibility

Resilience

Newsletter

Term 3, 2022



From the Principal

As we finally head into Spring and the October school holidays, we take the time to reflect on all that we have achieved in term 3. Our students have been active, celebrating “Wear It Purple” day, Ukrainian Independence Day, National Tree day and confidently hosting and performing at our International Day of Peace assemblies. They have also raised money for the Hutt St Centre, to help homeless people.

Thank you to the parents who completed the Department for Education (DfE) survey earlier this year, as well as those who have attended our Governing Council meetings, and a special thank you to those parents who participated in a discussion with the Council of International Schools accreditation officers. Although feedback from the DfE survey and at meetings has been very positive, indicating high satisfaction with the school overall, we have noted that parents really do want us to provide more support to improve student English language skills through homework, and by communicating via a range of formats to enable them to also support students with their learning. This is clearly an area for us to explore further, and something for us to action in 2023.

Earlier in the term we celebrated SSO week, thanking all of our support staff who help students and teachers in the

classroom and in different areas across the school on a daily basis. We have also welcomed 10 new teachers to the school this term, as our student numbers continue to grow.

We are very much at the stage of reflecting on our 2022 school improvement plan, and have started to refine our goals, targets and actions for 2023. Improving student achievement in reading and writing will continue to be our overarching goals, with a focus on further developing and assessing oral language skills as priorities. Teachers have been involved in a range of professional learning activities throughout the term, and also took some time out for a staff wellbeing activity on our student free day.

Although there will be a few changes to classes and teachers for term 4, we are very much looking forward to welcoming many more new students and supporting our Transition students with their preparation for mainstream schools.

Wishing staff and students a lovely holiday break.

Anti Macri
Principal



SRC meeting with the Commissioner for Children and Young People



On Thursday 18th August, Student Representative Council (SRC) members attended a special consultation session with *Ms Helen O'Connell*, the Commissioner for Children and Young People. The Commissioner met with around 30 members of the Student Representative Council and asked them to share with her what was important for newly-arrived young people in Adelaide. Some of the issues raised were public transport, housing affordability, and the availability of activities for young migrant people in the community.

Mr Paul Coats

Term 4, 2022 Dates

- **Monday 17/10/2022**
FIRST day of Term 4
- **23-25/11/2022**
High School Visits (Transition students)
- **Tuesday 24/11/2022**
Governing Council meeting
- **Friday 16/12/2022**
Last day of Term 4

Ukraine Independence Day

This year we have been privileged to be joined by many students from Ukraine in the wake of unfolding war and crisis in that country.

Ukrainian students met with the Student Wellbeing Leaders, Social Work placement students and Ukrainian BSSO Victor Bowkun, and decided to create a special celebration for Ukrainian Independence day (26 August) to share with the whole school. The students were also supported by Ms Aliona King, President of SLAVA Ukrainian Cultural Association, who helped them plan the cooking and decorations, and supported them to access traditional clothes to wear for the day. On the day of festivities, the students cooked traditional mlynyci (pancakes) and borsch (beetroot soup), supported by several parents and family members, and also cooked alongside some students from other cultures. It was a wonderful, chaotic, yet productive cooking session where the enthusiasm of the students, families and staff really combined to create something special. Ukrainian students served these delicious foods to their peers at lunchtime, and proudly displayed images about Ukrainian culture and history. The SRC also held a casual day to raise funds, by collecting a gold coin donation from students. They raised \$300 for war relief work organised by the SLAVA Ukrainian Cultural Association. *Mr Paul Coats*



Every year our students participate in *National Tree Day*, a day when we plant trees that can improve the beauty, health and biodiversity of our school grounds. In 2022 we celebrated Tree Day on Friday 29 July by planting 64 native trees and shrubs around the school grounds. The *City of Charles Sturt*, the council area in which the school resides, has made it a priority to invest in greening open spaces and increasing canopy cover. This year they gave the school a very generous grant of \$3,000 to purchase mature, advanced trees and shrubs. CMI Toyota also sponsored us with hats, gloves and a wonderful free BBQ for all the students who participated. Seven classes were involved in the planting, working hard to dig big holes for the mature plants. It will be wonderful to watch these plants grow and become a resource for future generations of students, a habitat for birds, and improve the air that we breathe! Sincere thanks to our sponsors, CMI Toyota and City of Charles Sturt, for making this event a success this year and for many years now.

Mr Paul Coats



Flinders University Incursion

Students in classes 15TA1, 21AB2, 32AC and 33AC participated in Flinders University's The River Journey (Navigator) presentation which aimed to encourage students to explore and map their education and career futures using the metaphor of a winding river, recognising that life journeys do not always progress in a straight line. Students learned to consider the benefit of higher education in achieving their career objectives and life goals. *Mr Ash Parekh*



Wear It Purple Day

In Week 5 we celebrated Wear It Purple Day, where students could wear

some purple clothing to show that we welcome and support Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people in our school community. Students created large mural posters with the message *Be Proud of who you are*, which were displayed around the school, and colourful messages and flags were planted around the quadrangle. *Mr Paul Coats*





On Friday 12th August, during Home Group and Lesson 1, we walked around the school, because we were raising money for the Hutt Street centre. The money will be given to homeless people. Class 1 students collected money for the homeless people from other students and teachers. The money collected was \$470.

Class IIB



Oz Asia



The Oz Asia festival in Adelaide celebrates Asian cultures and arts every year, and this year we were fortunate to be visited by a visual Artist working with the festival, *Ms Truc Truong*. Truc conducted some special workshops in Kirigami with about twelve of our classes. Kirigami is the Japanese art of both folding and cutting paper to create beautiful three-dimensional designs. Truc shared the traditional Chinese story of ‘the Cowherd and the Weaver girl’, in which banished lovers re-unite every year by a bridge formed by flocks of birds. She supported students to create a beautiful flock of birds that will be combined with other birds made by students from across South Australia, and then displayed at the festival. Truc has a special connection with our school because her mother worked as a teacher here many years ago, and some of her relatives attended here when they arrived as migrants from Vietnam. (More information: <https://www.ozasiafestival.com.au>) *Mr Paul Coats*

Mariposa Trails - Wellbeing for Latino students and families

This term Latino students from Honduras, Venezuela and Columbia - who all speak Spanish - came together for weekly wellbeing and culture workshops in a collaboration with the Mariposa Trails, an organisation that supports Spanish-speaking communities. *Estella Fuentes* led the workshops, supported by musician *Bortier Okoe* from African Soul, and our Flinders University Social Work placement students *Katie* and *Raj*. The students explored the 5 ways to wellbeing of connection, being active, learning, being aware and helping others. Students valued the opportunity to connect, be nurtured, and create community in the school while engaging with each other in culturally relevant ways. Several Latino parents also attended one of the workshops. *Mr Paul Coats*



Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes

In “Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes”, which Class 15 read, we felt inspiration because the central character, Sadako, has qualities such as hope, resilience and kindness. Furthermore, our teacher organised time for us to write a message to our world, so, we came up with an idea. When our term assessment was over, we began to make many paper cranes and then mounted them on a canvas kindly provided by Ms Leila with our message of hope for World Peace. It was designed by Nazanin Ibrahemi. *Mahdi Hussaini (class 15)*



Adelaide Hill Excursion

On 31st August, classes 3 and 15 travelled to Stirling for an amazing visit. First, we walked through the Woorabinda Bushland where we saw some friendly sheep, hiked up steep hills through mud and watched some elderly gentlemen race their remote-controlled hand-made yachts on the lake. After that, we were given a tour of the Stirling Library and eager students read and borrowed books. After lunch, we had a short walk around the Stirling village through the Organic Market and Matilda Bookshop. Everyone was very friendly. All students were incredibly kind to each other. *Daniyal T (class 15)*



Flinders University Excursion

Students in Classes 15TA1, 21AB2, 32AC and 33AC visited Flinders University Bedford Park Campus on 14th September as a part of their learning in the Personal Learning Plan subject. They participated in activities in different subject areas such as, *The Bone Box* (Palaeontology), *Spotlight on Drama* (Performing Arts) and *Roller Coaster Construction* (STEM). They also interacted with the University student ambassadors and asked questions about transition to university, flexibility in studies and variety of course options.



Motor Trades Association Workshop

Students in Transition classes participated in a career presentation delivered by the Motor Trade Association and learnt about the various career opportunities in the automobile industry and what tasks they involve. In the second half, the students viewed some artwork and props and then participated in a demonstration of pitstop where they competed against each other in pairs, as well as individually, to get an experience of what it is like to change tyres in Formula 1 races. To make it more interesting and competitive, their performances were timed and recorded. *Mr Ash Parekh*



Governor's Leadership Program



In May 2022, I participated in the Youth Governor's Leadership Foundation Program at the GLF Leaders Institute. I went to a camp with some other young people and stayed

for the whole weekend. At first I was really shy, but when I met everyone I felt more comfortable. We played games to get to know each other and ourselves better.

After the weekend we were put in a team and were given a project. My team

project was called “Ronald McDonald house”. We set up a goal to get young generations involved in the charity. After some months we had to do a presentation about what we did and how we achieved the goal, which was to have more young people involved by speaking to them.

I have to say that from this experience I have learned so many greatful things, such as being more of a leader and how to work collaboratively. As well, I have improved my communication skills. Moreover, I developed self understanding and I feel really great about myself.

Alexa Salas (class 21AB2)

A Change of Plans



As a result of the wet stormy weather, Foundation classes were unable to go on their excursion so instead they participated in a scavenger hunt. The winner was Ahmad from class 23 who spent a lot of time recreating anything he couldn't find. Well done Ahmad! *Ms Ourania Svingos*