



# Adelaide Secondary School of English

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

## Newsletter

## Term 4, 2021



### *From the Principal*

With the year almost over, it's time for us to reflect on all that we've achieved despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19. We have managed to maintain our focus on our goals of improving reading, writing and oral language skills, and celebrated the many successes of students and staff throughout the year.

Fortunately, we managed to hold our whole school assemblies in the gym, including our term 4 assembly celebrating cultural diversity. We had **Anthony Wilson** speak to students about the importance of language and culture as an Aboriginal young man and we acknowledged our rich and highly diverse school population where at least 25 different first languages are spoken. The most frequent languages spoken are Dari and Hazaraghi, Swahili, Vietnamese, Arabic and Thai. Other languages include: Mandarin, Spanish, Kirundi, Nepali, Japanese, Pitjantajara, Korean and Bosnian.



As a school, we know how important it is for all of our students to develop intercultural understandings by learning to value their own cultures, languages and beliefs, as well as those of others. All of our students have opportunities to make connections with people from a range of cultures and develop an appreciation for the things we have in common, as well as differences, enabling a mutual respect, empathy, and curiosity.

Although we are yet to receive our final External School Review (ESR) report, we know that the panel comments will highlight much of the work we do as a school to create a positive, safe learning environment for our students. The ESR team commented on the calmness in classrooms and surroundings, and on the classroom environments, which reflected an acceptance of the cultural diversity of students. They also commented positively on the commitment and support for the improvement work outlined in the School Improvement Plan (SIP) by staff, and it was clear to the ESR team that staff are passionate about improving learning outcomes for all learners.

We had our new building handed over at the start of this term, just before the ESR and we are currently using 7 out of 8 classrooms, as well as the Art room. Our Student Services

team are located in the building, along with 8 teachers, all of whom are thoroughly enjoying their new space.



We are still in the process of purchasing furniture and have set up a temporary "library corner" which is open at recess for student use. A new grounds shed and landscaping are the final stages of the building project, along with an outdoor gardening learning space, all of which are due to be completed before the end of 2021.

Last week, we had 27 year 6s and 7s attend a transition day, and we look forward to welcoming them to the school in 2022. We also had 10 former students meet with our transition classes to share their experiences and help prepare them for high school.

This week, we farewell approximately 100 of our current students as they transition to mainstream high schools across the metropolitan area. With the reduction in student numbers due to COVID-19, we will also be farewelling a few staff members. **Bronwen McClelland**, our Student Services and Community Engagement Senior Leader has won a position at Parafield Gardens High School and we wish her all the best in her new role. **Betty Bielecki**, our Transition and International Students Coordinator is also leaving us at the end of this year, along with **Elia Angel** who has taught at the school for the past 20 years, **Tom Missikos** who has taught at the school for 15 years and **Amin Afzali** one of our Bilingual School Services Officer who has been at the school for 12 years. We are sad to see them go and must thank them for their many contributions to the school.

On behalf of all staff, we wish our families a safe Christmas holiday break and a prosperous new year.

**Anti Macri**  
*Principal*

### 2022 School Fees Pay Dates

Monday	24 January	9:30am - 3pm
Tuesday	25 January	9:30am - 3pm
Wednesday	26 January	Closed
Thursday	27 January	9:30am - 3pm
Friday	28 January	9:30am - 3pm

\* Payment can be made by either EFTPOS, Visa card, Mastercard or Cash.

\* To apply for School Card, BOTH parents/caregivers must come with their Health Care Card to sign the application form.



## Breakfast Club

Every Tuesday and Thursday morning our students can come and enjoy a free, healthy breakfast before school. Students help teachers and Social Work placement student Anis to prepare and serve warm milo, boiled eggs, toast and jam and fresh fruit. There is always a large gathering of students who enjoy the sharing and socialising around breakfast. Classes 9 and 15 help to clean up each week. The food is kindly donated by a not-for-profit, volunteer-based Organisation called *Kick Start for Kids*. Kick Start for Kids help serve 50,000 breakfasts each week at around 350 South Australian schools. Teacher Ms Betty Bieleki has regularly made a generous donation of additional supplies of eggs and milo to supplement this too. Thanks Kick Start, Betty, Jenny, Anis and the students and teachers who help out. A healthy breakfast is an important step to kick starting our brains and bodies for learning English!



**Mr Paul Coats**



## Digital Technologies

Classes 1TB and 3TB were among the classes that studied Digital Technologies to learn implementing digital solutions using robotics. Students learned to define simple problems and independently developed a sequence of steps and algorithms needed to solve them. They used LEGO MINDSTORMS Education EV3 Core Set, which is a hands-on, cross-curricular STEM solution, and engaged in designing, building and programming their creations, as well as developed essential skills such as creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication."

**Mr Ash Parekh**



## Beach Safety

Unfortunately we had to cancel our beach safety day for all the Transition classes due to cold and wet weather, but we were able to take 4 other classes to Henley Beach. The weather was warmer, but very windy, so we spent most of the day learning about how to be safe at the beach. We played games on the sand, such as beach flags and practiced some rescues. The brave students then got in the water for a swim and enjoyed splashing in the waves.

**Mr Tom Ellenbroek**



## My last Term

*During my last term at ASSoE, I have been doing many different subjects in a program called "post transition". My subjects have included Maths, English, Science and Art.*

*In Mathematics we have been doing Statistics and Quadrants, while in English we have been doing essays about climate change and sustainability. We also did experiments with nuts in Science. Art has been the best subject compared to other subjects because we had to use teamwork and I learnt new skills.*

*This term in post-transition Art, we have been creating many amazing and interesting artworks using paint, clay and watercolour. Also we made a picture using recycled materials like eucalyptus leaves, plum seeds and sticks for branches.*

*Learning about "sustainability and climate change" was our main topic. I have learnt teamwork, being respectful to others, resilience and being responsible for what I do. Moreover, I learnt a lot about my lovely classmates and what they like or don't like, and their culture.*

*The best parts have been seeing my teachers all the time being healthy and with big beautiful smiles on their faces just like my classmates. Also having fun together during the lessons.*

**Yussuf Igirukwishaka (Class 15PT)**





## Reflections from Graduating Students of Class 11PT

• In my opinion, this school has the best teachers and students. Everyone displays fine behaviour and a helpful nature. Most importantly, teachers want us to help with any unpleasant situation. No one, including myself, wants to leave this school and it is all because of its caring, courteous and successful teamwork. **Akram**

• Firstly, this school is the best that I have ever seen with a fantastic environment. Both teachers and students are quite friendly with one another. Because of outstanding behaviour and many other factors, everyone loves this school. **Mahnaz**

• I will really miss this school because it was my first here in Australia. I will never forget the times I had here and appreciate the kind, wonderful and hard-working teachers. **Shakoorullah**

• Hello, my name is **Sandip**. I love this school because it gives me useful knowledge and I love every teacher because they try to prepare all students for secure futures and happy lives. I made new friends so I understand different backgrounds. Teachers are helpful and I love this as I have learnt many new English words.

• Hi everyone, ASSoE is a very powerful school. Also, teachers show so much courage to teach students who come from many different backgrounds. **Josias**

• The things that I like about this school are the kind and helpful teachers so I thank them for helping me for more than two years. I always feel happy here. Because they understand your feelings, students make you feel brighter when you feel down. They are also friendly so they are helpful and do not fight. I feel cared for when I feel alone. **Dansira**

• ASSoE is a place for increasing our knowledge, making friends from other countries and learning about their culture and personal stories. Be curious as it will become your positive asset. DO NOT forget, STAY CURIOUS! **Abas**

• In terms of teaching, learning and making friends, ASSoE offers a comfortable environment. It also promotes a bit of fun. **Morteza**

• Here, was my first school in Australia where I have only spent two terms. Thank you! **Dave**

• The best aspect of this school is the teachers who are kind and do not discriminate according to where you come from or what religion you follow. I also love the way we can form friendships and help students from different countries. I have also learnt to work independently here and increase my confidence. **Nazi**

• This school has been home to me for two years so I am really sad to leave my gorgeous teachers and classmates. If the choice were mine, I would never leave. But life must go on. To conclude, I want to add I really appreciate this school, especially all the amazing teachers. I will miss everything and everyone! **Nor**

• For me, studying at ASSoE has been all fun because of the supportive and lovely teachers from whom I have learnt so much. **Mohadisa**

• I have been with my friends for 18 months, I will miss them as well as the teachers who have supported me with my education. Relationships here between students and teachers are special as it certainly feels like family. **Ahmad**

Class 11PT

## Class 3TB Graduates



“... this school is a very good place for new arrival students who aren't good at English to come and spend their time improving their language skill. I would recommend this school to any new arrival students from other countries. Undeniably, this school isn't perfect, but there is nothing perfect in the world. However this school is still a good place for you to come and learn English. I rate this school 4.75/5”  
**Huy**

“... it is safe to say that this is an appropriate school for newly arrived students who don't know English well. There are some problems, but you don't have to worry about it so much. If you would like to be a good English speaker, I'm positive you can be. Just be confident and try to talk to each other. We welcome you!” **Ko**



Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year  
to  
EVERYONE





## Transition Student Forum

The Transition Student Forum was created in order to assist our current Transition students to be more prepared in moving to new mainstream high schools. Former ASSoE students were invited to come to share their experiences about their new schools. The Forum included group activities and opportunities for current students to ask questions and talk about transitioning to high school. 10 former students met with over 100 current Transition students throughout the day to talk about their experiences. Past and present students alike enjoyed reconnecting, asking questions, and sharing morning tea together in the Conference Room.

*Ms Koula Giannini*

*Reed O'Loughlin (Master of Social Work student, Flinders University)*



### Activities During School Holidays



This term, Anis (*Social Work student, Flinders University*) conducted a survey of all ASSoE students about the kinds of activities that students might like to do in the holidays. They were asked to show their interest in over 50 different free and low-cost holiday activities in the Adelaide area and over 170 students participated in the survey. Here is a list of the most popular activities that students indicated.

You might like to think about trying one of these things with your family during the school holidays?

#### Top 10 Free Activities:

1. Camping
2. BBQ in the park
3. Bike riding
4. Visiting Botanic Gardens
5. Visiting the beach
6. Playing soccer
7. Playing cricket
8. Playing basketball
9. Having a picnic
10. Riding/Mountain hike (Morialta)

#### Top 10 Paid Activities:

1. Swimming in the pool
2. Learning to cook and bake
3. River Cruise (Murry river)
4. Dolphin Cruise at Port Adelaide
5. Going to the movies
6. L Plate course (Learn to drive)
7. Adelaide Oval roof climbing
8. Boeing 737 flight simulator experience
9. Cleland Wildlife Park experience
10. Bowling

#### Term 1, 2022 Dates

- Monday 31/01/2022  
First day of Term 1
- Tuesday 01/03/2022  
Annual General Meeting
- Tuesday 08/03/2022  
Parent/Teacher interviews
- Monday 14/03/2022  
Adelaide Cup (Public Holiday)  
NO school day
- Tuesday 15/03/2022  
Student Free Day  
NO school day
- Thursday 17/03/2022  
Governing Council meeting
- Thursday 14/04/2022  
Last day of Term 1

