

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Year 6 Aquatics
- Celebration of Success
- 2024 Graduation Ceremony
- Fleet Space Technologies

Pictured: 2024 Graduation Ceremony
(See article and photos on pages 11-13)



DIARY DATES

Please check the parent calendar on our website or by using the link below. Please note that this calendar is continually updated and we ask that families check for school events from time to time.
<https://www.theheights.sa.edu.au/link/calendar>

School Calendar

ADVANCE NOTICE: PUPIL FREE DAYS/ SCHOOL CLOSURE 2025

- Term 1**
- Friday 4 April (Week 10)
- Term 2**
- Friday 6 June (Week 6)
- Term 3**
- Monday 21 July (Week 1)
 - Monday 1 September (Week 7)
- School Closure
 - Tuesday 2 September (Week 7)

CONTACT

The Heights School
Brunel Drv, Modbury Heights SA 5092
Ph: (08) 8242 8900
Fax: (08) 8242 8999
E: dl.1430.info@schools.sa.edu.au
www.theheights.sa.edu.au
f /heightsschool



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Term 4 is a term of celebrations as the school year draws to a close. The Year 12 Graduation, 7 to 11 Celebration of Success, Year 6 Graduation and Primary Years Celebration all took place, recognising and showcasing student collaboration, participation and achievement.

Acknowledging SACE completion of our graduating students is always a special day. It was wonderful to see the class of 2024 together with their families, support staff and teachers to celebrate their graduation and reflect on their journey at The Heights. Well done and congratulations to the completing class of 2024.

The Celebration of Success Assembly for students in Year 7 and above is an opportunity to acknowledge our student contributions to the school community as well as academic achievement. It was great to see so many families of award recipients in the audience. A wonderful celebration.

Celebrating the completion of our Year 6 students primary schooling was also celebrated this term. It was wonderful to see our Year 6 students together with their families and teachers acknowledging their graduation and reflecting on their primary years at The Heights. The gym was filled with students and their families. Congratulations to the 2024 Year 6 graduates.

The final primary years celebration took place on Tuesday afternoon 10 December. This is always a fun event for our Preschool to Year 6 students and families. This year it was again live streamed for families unable to attend.

These events plus many more will feature in our 2024 Yearbook.

We look forward to another successful year in 2025.

Last Day of Term 4: Friday 13 December 2024

School Bus and OSHC have been organised for a 12.45pm finish. Semester 2 school reports will be available via Daymap Parent Portal from Friday 20 December 2024.

As the 2024 year comes to a close, I would like to thank families sincerely for supporting our school and for working with us to ensure the best opportunities for your child. To our Governing Council and volunteers, thank you for your support and contribution over the year. To our staff, thank you for the support for families and students; for being mentors and motivators and for sharing a passion for learning.



I wish all families a safe and happy summer break.

Meg Fay
Principal

REMINDERS:

LAST DAY OF TERM 4:
Friday 13 December 2024
(12.45pm Dismissal)

**FIRST DAY TERM 1
(R-7 & Year 12):**
Tuesday 28 January 2025

**FIRST DAY TERM 1
(Year 8-11):**
Thursday 30 January 2025



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STAGGERED START 2025

The Heights School will have a staggered start for 2025.
Please read the list below which details the start date for
different year levels:

Reception-Year 7 & Year 12: Tuesday 28 January 2025

Years 8-11: Thursday 30 January 2025

First day of school instructions will be emailed to all families
prior to school starting in 2025.

Staggered start to
the 2025 school year

FEE PAYING DAY 2025

Thursday 23 January
11:30am - 6pm
Location: Resource Centre

Can't make it?
Make payments, order
uniforms and apply for school
card via our website.
www.theheights.sa.edu.au

ignite
a program for gifted and talented children



**THE HEIGHTS
SCHOOL**
Preschool - Year 12

School card applications
Can be completed on site

Pay school fees
Or set up payment plans

Update medical plans
First Aid staff available to assist

Update family information
Address, email, emergency contacts

ICT questions and support

Try on and purchase uniforms
Attendance at the uniform shop during
holiday periods is by booking only.
Please see EdSmart email to reserve your time



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

IGNITE

IGNITE at The Heights School – REGISTER NOW



IGNITE is a specialist program for students with high intellectual potential. The Heights School is the official Department for Education school for gifted learners in the northern metropolitan area of Adelaide.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS GIFTED?

The characteristics of gifted learners vary, however, many display some or all of the following traits:

- High levels of curiosity and deep levels of knowledge in one or more areas
- Excellent creative thinking and ability to problem solve
- Strong empathy and sense of social justice
- Highly developed sense of humour

HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THIS PROGRAM?

Initial selection for the IGNITE program is based on performance in the Australian Council for Education (ACER) Gifted and Talented Assessment.

WHEN DO STUDENTS ENTER THE IGNITE PROGRAM?

Students who wish to be considered for the IGNITE program sit the ACER assessment in Year 6 for entry into the program in Year 7. Entry does **not** occur at other year levels.

In 2025 Year 6 students are eligible to sit the assessment for a place in the Year 7 IGNITE program in 2026. The date and location of the assessment are:

DATE: SATURDAY 22 February 2025 9AM - 1PM

LOCATION: THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL, BRUNEL DRIVE, MODBURY HEIGHTS, 5092

HOW DO I REGISTER MY CHILD FOR THE IGNITE ENTRY ASSESSMENT?

Register your child to sit the assessment at:

<https://higherability.acer.org/intro/1403>

A registration fee of \$145 applies.

Registrations close Sunday 16 February, 2025.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU



As we approach the end of another busy year, it's a perfect moment to reflect on the incredible support we've received from our school and community volunteers.

Their contributions have touched many areas, such as sporting events, camps, excursions, classroom assistance, resource centre, stalls, the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, the Breakfast Club, and more. The commitment of our volunteers underscores their significance within our school community and the daily impact they have.

Our volunteers include parents, guardians, extended family, old scholars, and members of the broader community, all of whom dedicate time from their busy lives to support our students, school programs, and events.

We would like to extend a special acknowledgment to the fantastic teams at Clovercrest Baptist Church, Pathway Community Centre, and Kickstart for Kids. Their invaluable support has made a remarkable difference, inspiring our students, and we recognise the importance of each volunteer's contribution.

On behalf of the staff and students at The Heights, we sincerely thank all our school volunteers for the countless hours you generously provide. We wish everyone a safe, joyful, and healthy festive season, and we look forward to seeing you in 2025!

Warmest regards,

Gjuzide Apat
Community Liaison Officer

HOST A STUDENT FROM JAPAN



Host a student from

JAPAN

Have you ever wanted to travel overseas but never had time to?
Why not bring overseas to you and your family by hosting a Japanese student!

Learn all about their culture and share your own, whilst getting paid.

We are looking for families to host girls and boys
We can doubly place them

Dates are March and August
For expression of interest you can email
or call Ms Lynn McKenzie on:

lynn.mckenzie485@schools.sa.edu.au
or (08) 8242 8900



THANK YOU FROM THE HEIGHTS LIBRARY

Thank you for supporting students to build their love of reading and please continue to encourage your child to read throughout the holidays.

If you are not already a member I recommend joining a public library. Membership is free and provides the opportunity to access a wide variety of books and resources for years to come.

Free holiday programs are often available.

Many thanks also to everyone who purchased items from our Scholastic Book Club during 2024! Every purchase contributes to our Library resources throughout the year.

Enjoy the holidays!

Ms Simpson & Mr Powell, Teacher Librarians



ROTARY COMMUNITY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Congratulations to Year 12 graduate Taylor Cook who was the winner of the Rotary Community Person of the Year Award 2024. She was up against other nominated students from schools in the Modbury/Golden Grove Area. Taylor was presented with the award at a ceremony at Tea Tree Gully Soccer Club. This was a significant award which also included a \$500 cash prize.

Taylor's nomination for the award included:

- Unwavering commitment to making a difference
- Role models what it means to be a leader
- Volunteers flipping delicious pancakes for our school breakfasts
- Supported SALA (Arts showcase event) opening night with exceptional catering skills, enthusiasm, professionalism and heart
- Sports Day Captain - led the team with grace but also supported younger students
- Inspired others to join in the fun and camaraderie at school events
- Lead by example - has ignited school spirit and encouraged everyone around them to strive for excellence
- Beyond our school grounds - shining as a youth leader at their church, guiding and supporting younger peers at camps and events
- Willingness to give their time and energy and speaks volumes about their character and dedication to uplifting others.
- Active member of the Drama Club
- Worked diligently on the school banner for the Year 12 parade
- Volunteered at the Kittens Kitchen Café and various nursing homes, where their compassionate nature has brought joy to many
- Mentoring younger students, umpiring soccer and netball, and assisting with playgroup sessions - each role showcasing their versatility and commitment to service
- Commitment to fostering a spirit of inclusion and support.

This is the second year in a row that a Heights student has won this award, well done!!!

Daniel Brzezinski

Assistant Principal - Yr 7-12 Student Support Services, Inclusive Education and Whole School Wellbeing



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARDS

A big congratulations to the following Year 10 students - Callan McInnes who is a recipient of the 2024 Department For Education STEM Scholarship and being accepted into the University of Adelaide's Karnkanthi Education Program. Also Michael Franey for winning the 2024 Walpaara Anpa Award and also being accepted into the University of Adelaide's Karnkanthi Education Program

The STEM Scholarship fund has been created to support high school students from under-represented groups to pursue science, technology and mathematics (STEM) subjects at SACE Stage 1 and 2 level.

The Walpaara Anpa Award is a Department for Infrastructure and Transport initiative that has been developed to encourage high level academic participation targeting Year 10 Aboriginal secondary school students across South Australia.

Karnkanthi, translating to 'lifting up' in Kaurna language ensures the success of Aboriginal students in Years 10, 11 and 12/13, as they transition from their senior years into university. The Karnkanthi scholarship will entitle funding and tutoring outside of school and inclusion into programs run by the university.

Congratulations to these well deserving recipients.

Aaron Murray-Raschella

Aboriginal Secondary Education & Transition Officer



THE HEIGHTS STRINGS WORKSHOP

On Thursday 14th of November, The Heights School hosted a string workshop for students from around the North East area. We had a total of 49 primary school students and 8 high school students attend. Schools involved were The Heights School, Highbury PS, Gulfview Heights PS, Madison Park PS, St Agnes PS and Salisbury East HS. Students learnt to play a range of songs in a large ensemble then performed for their families in the afternoon.

Thanks to String staff Anna Webb, Margie Hopgood and Adam Nanou for your assistance at the workshop. Your presence was highly valuable for the students to see other string teachers in action.

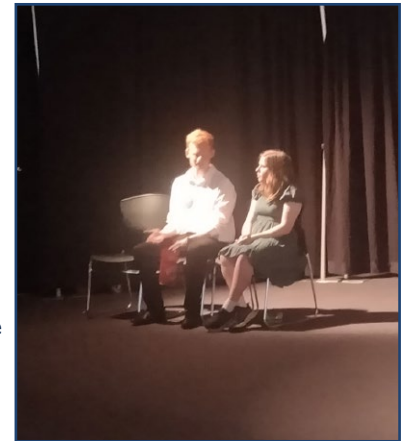
Thanks to Tom Helps for organising the event and Instrumental Music leader Robyn Paul for taking time out of your day to be there.

We hope to host more music events and workshops in partnership with the Instrumental Music team into 2025 and beyond.



THE HEIGHTS PLAYERS – DRAMA CLUB

The Heights Players or 'Drama Club' has been a wonderful institution at The Heights for many years. Started by Sally Putnam we have seen many plays and musical productions over the years. However, there has been a short break of a couple of years after Sally retired. In true Sally Putnam style, she couldn't stay away so returned as a volunteer to restart our Drama Club in 2024. Joined by Charisa Sanders, The Height's School Auslan teacher and long-time performing artist, the year began with getting to know the new students and welcoming back many original members. This year's production was a modest show where the students created a self-devised play with songs around the theme of happiness and what it means to be happy. 'The Playground' was performed on Thursday 28th November to a wonderful audience of family and friends. The students all did an amazing job of preparing their parts, designing their costumes and creating the set. Everyone enjoyed themselves and are now looking forward to 2025 where there will be a full scale production. Drama Club is open to all secondary students from Years 7-12. Come and be a part of something wonderful!

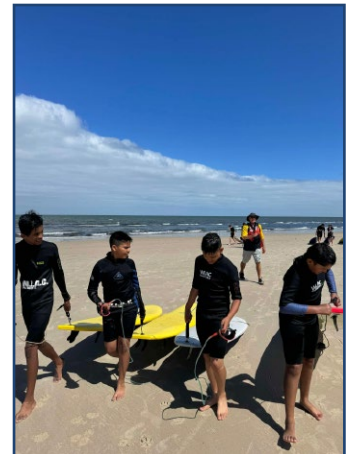


YEAR 6 AQUATICS

On Monday 18 November and Tuesday 19 November, the Year 6 cohort jumped on buses for their traditional Aquatics Day at West Lakes Aquatic Centre. Aquatics replaces the Swimming Program participated in by R-5 students, and involves learning new aquatic skills with a focus on safety around the open water. After an early start and a forty-minute drive, students split themselves into groups to undertake four separate activities throughout the day: kayaking, snorkelling, sailing (all on the lake) and surfing (a short walk away at Tennyson Beach).

Six hours in or on top of the water with only a half hour lunch break meant there were some tired students on the way home, but a fun and successful day was had by all.

Year 6 Team



CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

On Friday 29 November we hosted our annual Celebration of Success. This formal awards assembly recognises the hard work and dedication of students across our secondary years. Students were recognised for their contributions to academics, music, sport and community service. For the first time, the event was held in the New Gym, allowing us to host over six hundred students, staff, honoured guests and members of our community.

The talented Jaebeen Lee, Patrick Saing and Choir showcased their musical talents for the event, which was hosted by senior students Chandulee Jayawardena, Naunidh Kukreja and Rajvi Shah. Zoe Hatchard, led a team of student leaders to set up and support in the smooth running of the event. I would like to thank the students and staff involved in supporting the event, we really couldn't have done it without your hard work.

Congratulations to all our award winners.

Sponsored Awards

- Isambard Brunel STEM Achievement Awards.....Riya Trivedi and Ryan Suresh
- Lions Club Vocational Education and Training AwardsDaisy Brown and Cooper Serafin
- City of Tea Tree Gully Community Service Award.....Aleksandra Rebrun
- Governing Council Equity and Respect AwardsFrancesco Pergoleto and Tyler Williams
- Tea Tree Gully Youth Leadership Awards.....Maddison Sanders and Nysa Khanna
- Murial Matters Award.....Lorelai Archer
- ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award...Chandulee Jayawardena
- ADF Future Innovators Award.....Chitra Dave

School Awards

- Music AwardsJaebeen Lee and Patrick Saing
- Sports AwardsBeau Lawson, Leanna Batara, Mohammed Zharfan Zainal Abiddin and Kate Alexander
- Student Leadership.....Nithya Amraji and Lorelai Archer
- Internationalism.....Ryan Suresh



2024 GRADUATION CEREMONY

On November 20, the Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2024 was held at Sfera's Convention Centre. This prestigious event brought together staff, families, and invited guests to celebrate the accomplishments of our Year 12 students and reflect on their educational journeys.

The ceremony was skilfully hosted by MCs Siya Bhasin, Alyssa Coppens, and Indulee Jayawardena, whose professionalism ensured the evening flowed seamlessly. This year's guest speaker, Anthony Frith (Class of 2007), shared inspiring insights from his life journey since graduating from The Heights.

Students Ryan Ritter and Jack Campisi delivered a heartfelt reflection speech, followed by a slideshow presentation capturing memorable moments from the students' time at school.

On behalf of all staff, I extend my best wishes to the Class of 2024. May your futures be filled with success and fulfillment in all your chosen pathways.

Mr Arthur Roubanis, Year 12 Leader



1204



1201



1205



1202



1206



1203



1207

2024 GRADUATION CEREMONY (CONTINUED)



Alyssa Coppens - DUX Creative Arts



Arlo Yip - DUX Music Exploration



Ashlynn Bunt - DUX Psychology



Jack Matteucci - Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award



Dhanya Lotia - DUX General Maths and Legal Studies



Ella Pawelski-Leach - DUX Child Studies and Essential Maths



Hayden Mortlock - DUX Outdoor Education



Jaspa Driscoll - DUX Design and Technology Materials (Furniture Construction)



Indulee Jayawardena - The Heights All Rounder Award



Indulee Jayawardena - ADF Future Innovators Award



Indulee Jayawardena - DUX Chemistry, English Lit, Maths Methods, Physics, Research Project (Merit) and Specialist Maths



Katerina Antonas - DUX Visual Art



Kit Yi Lee - Makin Humanitarian Award



Ella Studwick - Perseverance and Determination Award



Ryan Ritter - DUX Integrated Learning, PE Focus Workplace Practices



Taylor Cook - Rotary Community Service Award



Sajid Bin Abdullah - DUX General English



Samara Brown - DUX Biology



Taihla Stevens - DUX Essential English



Veronica Vallelonga - DUX Industry and Entrepreneurial Solutions (Food Design)

2024 GRADUATION CEREMONY (CONTINUED)



Vatsal Thakkar - DUX 2023



A beautiful moment



Alyssa Coppens - MC



Indulee - MC



Siya Bhasin - MC



Student Reflection Presenters - Ryan Ritter and Jack Campisi



Jack Matteucci - Acknowledgement of Country



Anthony Frith - Guest Speaker

FLEET SPACE TECHNOLOGIES:

'Land your Design on the Moon Competition' - Award Winner

Congratulations to 2023 graduate and DUX of the school Vatsal Thakkar for winning the 'Land your Design on the Moon Competition' hosted by Fleet Space Technologies. This comes off the back of winning the 2023 Subs in Schools State Competition.

Vatsal was invited for a tour of Fleet Space Technologies along with his Heights team mates and school representatives. Fleet Space is pushing the boundaries of innovation with breakthrough advances in space technology, multiphysics data acquisition, edge computing, and AI. The satellite-enabled solutions they deliver are unlocking new capabilities in the global space sector, defence, and mineral exploration needed for net-zero.

Pioneering the world's first end-to-end mineral exploration technology – ExoSphere by Fleet® – Fleet Space integrates its proprietary satellite network, global exploration data acquisition, and AI into a single solution, delivering 3D subsurface insights in real-time with near-zero environmental impact.

Vatsal and the school were presented with a custom Model Spider featuring his winning design. The Model Spider will be sent into space to complete the 385,000km journey to the Moon and remain on its surface for future research and exploration.

Daniel Brzezinski

Assistant Principal - Yr 7-12 Student Support Services, Inclusive Education and Whole School Wellbeing

Brad Innes

Mathematics, Science & Physics Teacher



STUDENT PATHWAYS TRANSITION PROGRAM

Congratulations to Year 12 graduate Johanna Hyde Parker on completing the Student Pathways Transition Program. Johanna joined the course in early 2024 as part of her SACE and has engaged in a range of pathway activities including:

- Writing a resume
- Job-specific cover letters
- Immersion reflections
- Mock interviews
- Appropriate professional communication
- Industry research in Cosmetology
- Career Action Plan
- Personalised career profile
- Industry specific skills-based instruction
- WorkPro (WHS) certificate
- Job-specific safety assessment

She has also participated in multiple industry immersion activities including:

- History preservation
- Animal care
- Food preparation
- Food packaging
- Geology
- Personal and professional development
- Event management
- Employment support
- Retail
- Food and Hospitality
- Worker safety
- Construction
- Mechanical
- Sporting
- Health
- Micro enterprising

During the program Johanna has shown immense growth in her self-management, initiative and organisation. She was able to build confidence in her communication, teamwork and problem solving.

The Heights School is proud of your achievements - well done!!!

Daniel Brzezinski

Assistant Principal - Yr 7-12 Student Support Services, Inclusive Education and Whole School Wellbeing



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Beau Lawson

Recently, Beau Lawson (Year 8) represented South Australia at the Australian All Schools Track & Field Championships in Brisbane where he won gold in shot put and silver in hammer. Congratulations Beau!



Tahlia Miller

In April, Tahlia (Year 10) competed at the ESPN World Cheerleading Championships in Disneyworld, Florida, USA. 30 teams in this section qualified worldwide with her team then going on to make the world championship finals. Tahlia is currently on the Gold Coast for the Australian Championships.



COMMUNITY NOTICES




2025 JUNIORS

ALL NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

Calling on 'all' new female or male junior players interested in playing for the Para Hills Football Club in 2025.

For more information contact;
Junior Coordinator, Michael on 0414 360 503
Junior Director, Travis on 0480 133 360
Or email parahillsfcjuniors@gmail.com

JOIN THE BIG REDS



Register Now

 **EXP REALTY OVAL**
Paddocks Oval, Bridge Rd

BOYS, GIRLS & MIXED TEAMS

AUSKICK, U7, U8, U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17.5 & U14 & U16 GIRLS

MANKURRI-APINTHI

'BRING TOGETHER'

PEER TO PEER PROGRAM

Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander with children?
Do you want to connect with community while having fun?

Peer to peer program led by volunteers with lived experience to form community connections.

Each group has a small number of peers that meet weekly to work towards goals.

To lead a group to empower and strengthen others



To join a group to get connection and community support

MENS GROUP

When:

Tuesdays
11am- 1pm:
Northern Suburbs

Volunteers lead group yarning as group members work out their goals and what they want out of their groups.

A safe place to yarn with other likeminded families.



Contact Us
08 8377 7822
admin@kwy.org.au
www.kwy.org.au



5 Locations:

- ★ Grange
- ★ Stonyfell
- ★ Unley Park
- ★ Mawson Lakes
- ★ Windsor Gardens



PLAYSTART SOCCER TERM 1

FREE Trials Available

BOYS & GIRLS
2-10
Years Old

Kick Off Sat 8th & Sun 9th February

Class Times (all locations)

Play Social	9:00 - 9:30am
Play Develop	9:00 - 9:45am
Play Connect	10:00 - 11:00am
Play Improve	10:00 - 11:00am
Play Progress	10:00 - 11:00am

Saturday/Sunday Mornings

Play Social (2-3yo)	- \$130
Play Develop (4-5yo)	- \$140
Play Connect (5-6yo)	- \$160
Play Improve (6-8yo)	- \$160
Play Progress (8-10yo)	- \$160

8 Week Programs

Book Online

We Accept **SPORTS VOUCHERS**

www.playstart.com.au
Ph 0401 410 465 (Andrew)



10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

COMMUNITY FAMILY FUN DAY

11:00 - 4:00

1ST DECEMBER 2024



BANKSIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

- ✓ Special guest stars
- ✓ Sponsored colour run
- ✓ 2 ovals full of Crafts, Food trucks, rides, amusements, Show Bags
- ✓ Free event for the whole community
- ✓ Basketball events and competitions

MODBURYBASKETBALL.COM

