

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Canberra Study Tour
- Celebration of Success
- Year 12 Parade and Breakfast
- Year 12 2025 Graduation Ceremony
- Door Wars

*Pictured: Year 12 Parade and Breakfast*

## 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

### SA TERM DATES 2026:

#### Term 1:

27 January – 10 April

#### Term 2:

27 April – 3 July

#### Term 3:

20 July – 25 September

#### Term 4:

12 October – 11 December

## CONTACT

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[f /heightsschool](https://www.facebook.com/heightsschool)



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

Department for Education T/A South Australian  
Government Schools - CRICOS Provider Number: 00018A



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

As we come to the end of another remarkable year at **The Heights School**, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements, growth, and collective effort that have shaped 2025 into one of our most successful years yet.

This year, The Heights continued to demonstrate why we are recognised as one of **South Australia's leading schools**, performing in the **top tier for both student growth and academic achievement**. These outcomes are a testament not only to the dedication of our students, but also to the expertise and unwavering commitment of our teachers, support staff, and families. Together, we have created a learning environment where every student is encouraged to aim high, take risks, and grow both academically and personally.

Our **Year 12 students** are now eagerly awaiting their final results, and we could not be prouder of the resilience, determination, and maturity they have shown throughout their final year. Whatever pathway they choose - university, vocational training, apprenticeships, or entering the workforce - we know they will take with them the skills, confidence, and values nurtured here at The Heights. We look forward to celebrating their achievements very soon.

Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be a year of innovation, expansion, and extraordinary opportunity for our school community. We are excited to announce several major initiatives, including:

- **The introduction of the World Peace Game**, a renowned experiential learning project that builds problem-solving, diplomacy, communication, and collaboration skills.
  - **New partnerships with leading universities**, providing enhanced access to specialised programs, mentoring, and pathways for our students.
  - **Community engagement events** designed to strengthen connections between families, local organisations and the school, celebrating the rich diversity and shared purpose of our community.
  - **A broader suite of course offerings** beginning development in 2026 and expanding into 2027, designed to give students more choice, flexibility, and future-focused learning options.
- These initiatives reflect our commitment to continually evolving as a school and preparing our students for the world they will lead.

As we close out the year, I want to extend my gratitude to every student for their hard work, curiosity, and spirit; to every family for your partnership and trust; and to our staff for their dedication and heart. You are the reason The Heights School continues to thrive.

I wish you all a **safe, joyful, and restful holiday break**, and a **wonderful New Year**. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2026 for another inspiring year of learning and growth at The Heights.



Warm regards,

**Alina Page**

*Principal, The Heights School*



*The Heights School Community pays respects to the Kurna people, the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we live on. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment to the Earth, the relationship of the Kurna people to this country, and we respect and value their past, present, and ongoing connection to this land and their cultural beliefs.*

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## Open to Assist in 2026

We will open our doors the week before school commences from 9:00am to 3:00pm on the following days:

Monday 19 January  
Tuesday 20 January  
Wednesday 21 January

### We'd love to see you!

Please note: Due to staff preparation for the beginning of term, service points will be intermittently closed on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 January



#### Can't make it?

Make payments, order uniforms and apply for school card via our website [www.theheights.sa.edu.au](http://www.theheights.sa.edu.au)



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



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## LOST ITEMS - END OF YEAR COLLECTION

We recognise it is inevitable that items will be misplaced by students. To assist in reuniting lost items with their owner we would like to highlight the importance of clear labelling with students full name on all items.

Primary years lost property will be located in a central collection point;

- Primary years; the corridor outside the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own belongings and if missing check appropriate collection area throughout the school day.

Primary Years parents seeking lost items should check the lost property before school (8:40am – 8:55am) or after school (3.05pm – 3.30pm) to claim items.

Unclaimed but labelled items will be returned to their rightful owners after each clean-up of the lost property.

At the end of each term/year any unclaimed uniform items in good condition will be utilised by the school and all non-uniform items in good condition will be donated to a local charity.



## IGNITE PROGRAM



## 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 2026 Year 6 students are eligible to sit the assessment for a place in the Year 7 IGNITE program in 2027. The date and location of the assessment are:**

**DATE:** SATURDAY 21 February 2026 9:00AM - 1:00PM

**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/1410>

A non-refundable registration fee of \$150 applies.

**Registrations close Wednesday 11 February, 2026.**

**No late registrations will be accepted.**



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## RETURN OF HIRED INSTRUMENTS

A reminder that all students between Years 3-8 who have hired an instrument this year must return their instrument by Friday of Week 9 for servicing.

Students in Year 9 onwards who have hired an instrument must return their instrument if they are not continuing with Music in 2026.

*Daniel Roberts*  
Leader of Curriculum and Pedagogy – The Arts

### THIS IS NOT JUST A TROMBONE.

This is also a tool to train inhibitory control.

It improves motor control and cognitive prediction.

This makes co-ordination and pattern recognition better.

### THIS IS NOT JUST A CLARINET.

This is also a tool for cognitive flexibility.

It will improve task switching and attention modulation.

This will help you use less brain energy to complete multiple tasks.

### THIS IS NOT JUST A TRUMPET.

This is also a tool to train motor control.

It will demand the co-ordination of motor and auditory processing.

This will help you pay attention for longer.

### THIS IS NOT JUST A SAX.

This is also a tool for social engagement.

It will hone your empathy and helping behaviours.

This will boost your enjoyment of school and learning.

### THIS IS NOT JUST A VIOLIN.

This is also a tool for cognitive enhancement.

It will enable your brain to work faster and harder for longer.

It is a full workout for the brain.

### THIS IS NOT JUST A FLUTE.

This is also a tool for social cohesion.

It will enable your brain to pick up non-verbal signals easily.

This makes social situations easier and more enjoyable.

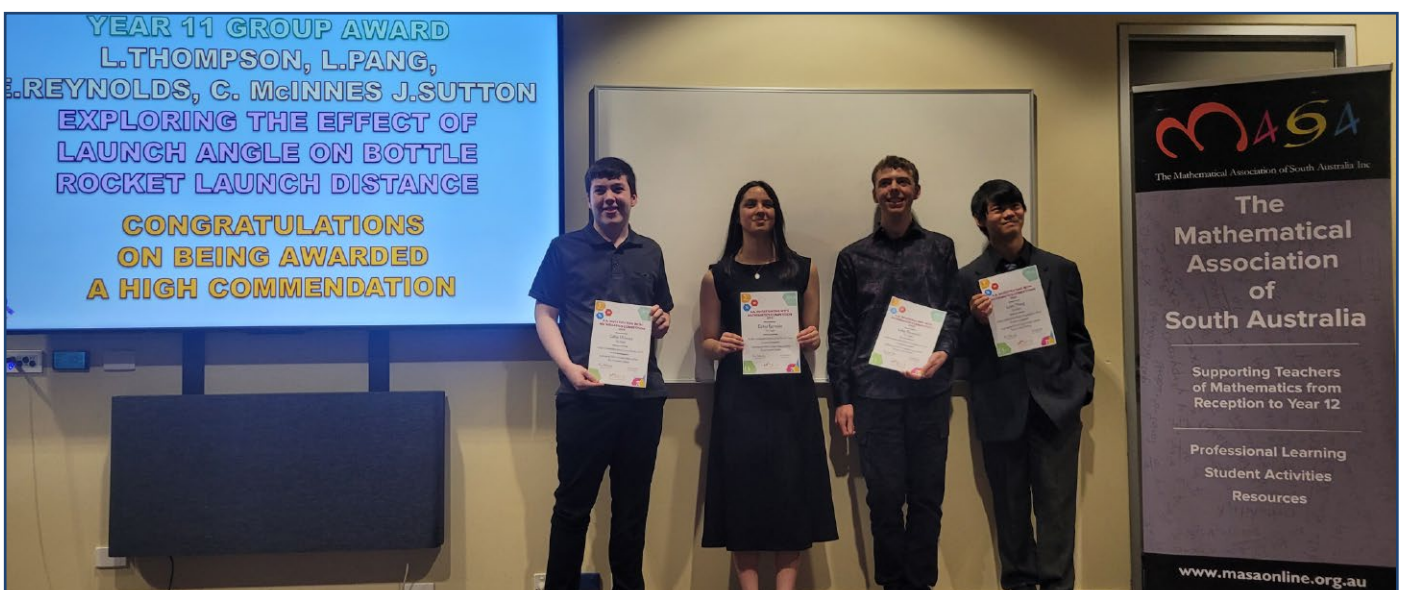
## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INVESTIGATING WITH MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

The South Australian Investigating with Mathematics competition allows students to explore real-world applications of mathematics and develop critical thinking skills. The competition is jointly sponsored by The Department for Education and The Mathematical Association of South Australia, and aims to foster a love for mathematics among secondary students.

I am pleased to announce that **Luke, Callan, Louis, Esther and Justin** were highly commended for their project titled “Exploring the effect of launch angle on bottle rocket launch distance.”

In October, the students were presented their award by The Department for Education, in front of other state award winners and their families.

*Maria Provatas*  
Year 7 – 12 Maths Leader



## END OF YEAR LUNCHTIME PERFORMANCES

During Monday and Friday of Week 6, our Senior Ensembles celebrated their learning with their peers by performing for the last time this year. On the Monday, the Classical Guitar Ensemble and Senior String Ensemble performed in the Resource Centre to a large crowd. On the Friday, the Concert Band, Year 9 Band and Year 10 Band performed in the courtyard to an excited crowd of Primary and Secondary students and staff.

On Wednesday of Week 9, the Junior String Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble performed during the Primary Concert.

Many thanks to DfE Instrumental Music Program teacher Kerryn Schofield for her help with the performances.

**Daniel Roberts**

*Leader of Curriculum and Pedagogy – The Arts*



Learning how to play a musical instrument and becoming a musician is an exercise in developing good listening skills, experimenting, overcoming repeated failure, self-discipline, and successful collaboration.

Paras Poray (2016). Why music majors make some of the best entrepreneurs. fastcompany.com

An extensive study has found that students who studied music in primary school and into high school were almost one year ahead of their non-musically trained peers in their Maths, Science and English performance.

Guhn, M., Emerson, S. D., & Gouzouasis, P. (2020). A population-level analysis of associations between school music participation and academic achievement. *Journal of Educational Psychology*



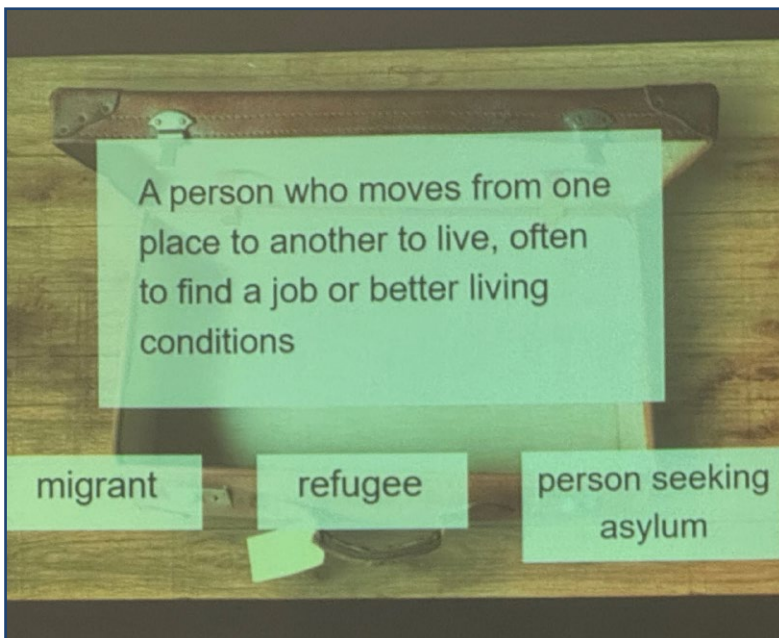
## YEAR 8 AND 9 EAL

We tell stories through our five senses, and even though technology has opened up new opportunities for us, the Year 8 and 9 EAL students explored traditional modes both New and Old – Then and Now.

In a recent excursion, the Year 8 and 9 EAL class partook on a scavenger hunt of North Terrace, the Migration Museum and State Library in search of ways we tell stories. We began on North Terrace to analyse our environment and discussed aspects of different ways we learn about our State through viewing the buildings, the flora, fauna and different artefacts. Even by focusing on just one sense, we begun the conversation around purpose of telling stories and target audiences.

At the Migration Museum, students took on both a detective role as well as storytelling role as they were broken into groups and provided with a “suitcase” to unpack and retell a potential story of the owner’s migration. Students were intrigued by the varied stories of many South Australians as well as connected to some of the examples used to their own family stories.

The State Library provided us with a magical experience for all our senses with the annual Christmas display, including the largest indoor Christmas tree in the state, and live carols. Students analysed texts new and old; from advertising to art, books to blankets and carols to concrete structures. I loved seeing students look with wonder at the number and age of texts in the infamous Mortlock Chamber.



## YEAR 9 GRAPHIC DESIGN

Year 9 Graphic Design students completed their packaging designs. In their development folios, they looked at competitor's packaging designs as a reference point, looked at the SA Health guidelines to see what details are legally required on food packaging, explored colours, fonts, textures, layout and the principles of design to make their designs aesthetically pleasing before constructing them in Adobe Illustrator. There certainly are some authentic-looking designs that could be seen in a supermarket. Our last activity was to display the packages in 'The Heights Supermarket' and review each other's work with positive feedback.

Mrs Beth Sztekel



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## YEAR 9 GRAPHIC DESIGN (CONTINUED)



Shopping and giving feedback. Feedback sheets.



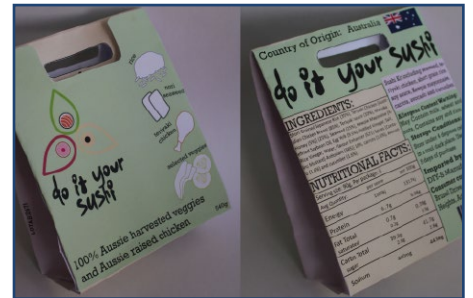
Stefan S - Sips



Allegra H - ARH Milk



Angeline K - Got a Sweet Tooth



Ash K - Do it Your Sushi



Hazell K - Cocoa Luxe



Jay S - Outback Indulgence



Joshua H - Way to Dough



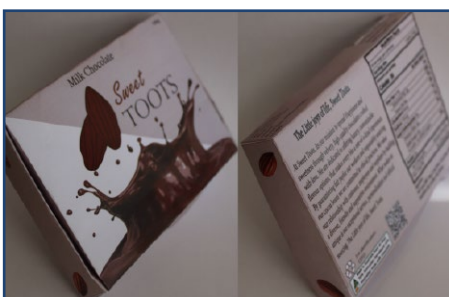
Kailas S - Fair Bread



Lucy C - Planet Pup



Rafael M - R&M M&M



Rutu P - Sweet Toots



Sahaj B - NB



Skantha M - NFP

## CANBERRA STUDY TOUR

As part of The Heights School's initiatives to expand student learning beyond the classroom and to encourage students to be lifelong learners, we took 90 Year 9 students to visit Canberra in Week 8 of Term 4 (Saturday 29th November – Friday 5th December 2025). This week-long camp, exposed students to a range of institutions that provide insight into our nation's history and democracy, whilst also developing a greater depth of understanding about Science, Mathematics, The Arts and Health and Physical Education.

Throughout our week in Canberra students visited:

- National War Memorial
- Parliament House / Old Parliament House
- The Museum of Australian Democracy
- The National Art Gallery
- The Australian Institute of Sport
- Deep Space Centre
- National Capital Exhibition
- The National Zoo and Aquarium
- The National Portrait Gallery
- Questacon
- The Botanic Gardens
- Mount Ainslie
- National Mint



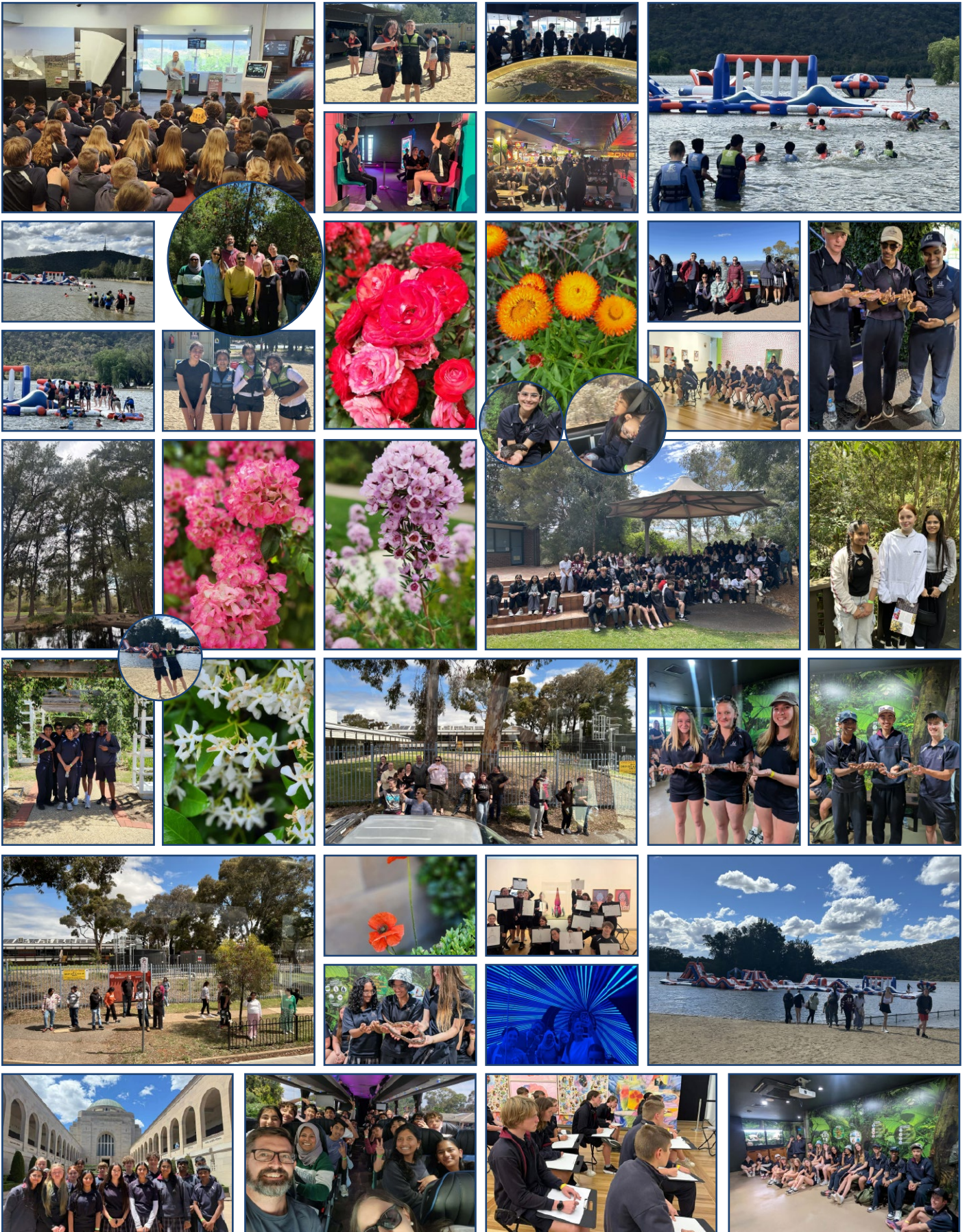
In amongst the jam-packed schedule, we found time for some team building, with students also visiting Bowland, Canberra Aquatic Park and having a friendly round of mini golf. Students stayed in cabin accommodation with their peers and had to develop greater independence and initiative throughout the week.

As a staff, we were incredibly impressed by our young people, particularly their resilience and the respect they showed our guides in some of Australia's most prestigious institutions. Every location we visited, students were praised for their consideration, thoughtful questions, compassion and intelligence.

We are looking forward to another tour of Canberra in 2026! *(Photos continued over)*



## CANBERRA STUDY TOUR (CONTINUED)



(Photos continued over)

## CANBERRA STUDY TOUR (CONTINUED)



(Photos continued over)

This collage consists of 40 individual photographs arranged in a grid-like fashion. The photos depict a variety of experiences from a school trip, including:

- Group Photos:** Large group shots of students in black uniforms posing on a hillside, in front of a river, and in various indoor settings.
- Activities:** Students participating in a river crossing, playing basketball, and visiting museums or galleries.
- Individual Portraits:** Smaller circular and rectangular photos of individual students smiling or engaged in activities.
- Landmarks:** Photos of scenic views, including a river, mountains, and a large building with a glass facade.

## CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

The Celebration of Success showcases the talents, skills and achievements of our students from Year 7-12 performing at the highest levels in their chosen fields. This year, we held the Celebration of Success over two events, Year 10-12 and Year 7-9 respectively. By holding the two events, we were able to invite a greater number of families and students into the event. Further, this allowed us to really slow down and give the award recipients the time they deserved after a year of hard work.

At both events, we were excited to see some of our talented musicians perform. A big thank you to the following students who contributed to the success of our event; Jaebeen, Chloe, Nadia, Aleks, Bianca, Darley and Eva. In addition, we would like to thank Mr Daniel Roberts and the team of Instrumental Music Teachers who support our music program at The Heights to thrive.

We are pleased to congratulate all award recipients across Year 7-12.

### Year 7-9 Event – 9 December 2025



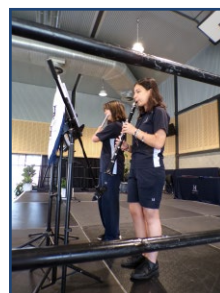
Acknowledgement  
of Country



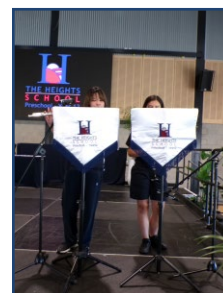
Assistant Principal  
Secondary Years  
Kelly Spalding



Award presented to  
The Heights School  
from Mawson Lakes Rotary Club



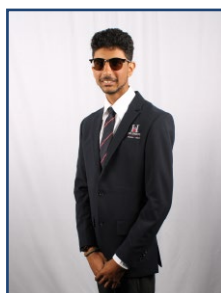
Clarinet and flute performance



Deputy Principal  
Ingrid Lees

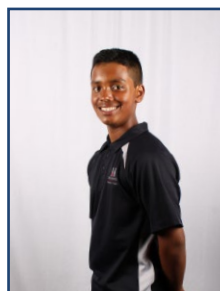
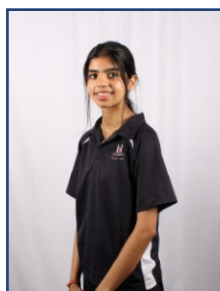
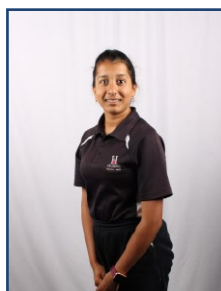
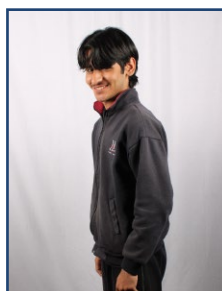


Hon Blair Boyer MP  
presenting Isambard  
Brunel STEM Award



Hosts

### Academic Excellence Award



(Continued over)

## CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS (CONTINUED)

### Year 7-9 Event – 9 December 2025 (continued)

*School Values Award Collaboration*



*School Values Award Integrity*



*School Values Award Resilience*



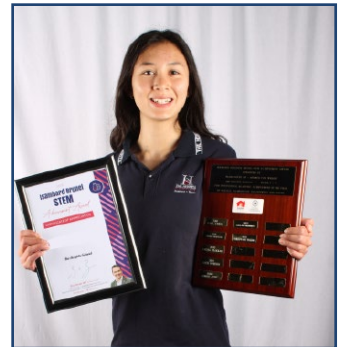
*School Values Award Respect*



*Student Leadership Award*



*Isambard Brunel STEM Award*



*Governing Council Equity and Respect Award*



*Music Award*



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## CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

### Year 10-12 Event – 25 November 2025



Assistant Principal  
Secondary Years  
Kelly Spalding



Principal Alina Page



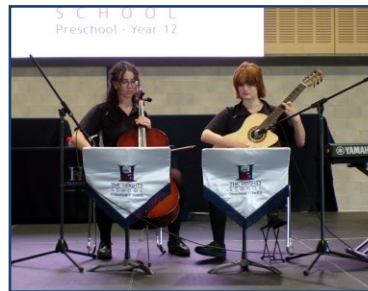
Hosts



Soloist



Guitar and Keyboard Performance



Cello and Guitar Performance



2026 School Captains

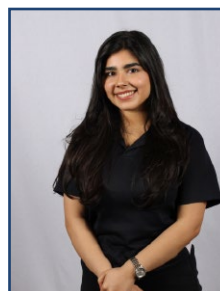
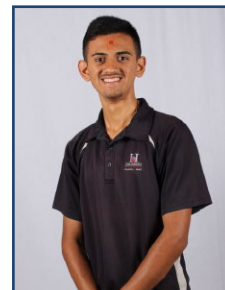


Gym view



Student Leadership Award

### Academic Excellence Award



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## CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

### Academic Achievement Award



ADF Future Innovators Award



ADF Long Tan Award



Governing Council Equity and  
Respect Award



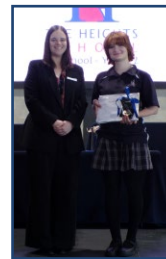
Muriel Matters Award



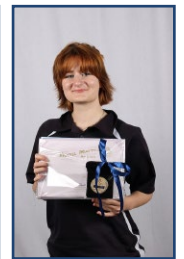
Internationalism Award



Tea Tree Gully Councillors Keane  
and Foreman Community Service  
Award



Isambard Brunel STEM Award



Lions Club Modbury Vocational  
Education and Training Award



School Values Collaboration



School Values Integrity



School Values Resilience



Sports Award



Sports Award



## YEAR 12 PARADE AND BREAKFAST

The final official school day for Year 12 students on October 24 was celebrated with the eagerly awaited Year 12 Parade and Breakfast. Upholding a beloved tradition, students showcased their creativity in vibrant costumes, bringing joy to the entire school during a lively parade in the courtyard.

Judges Ms Kelly Spalding, Ms Alina Page and Mr Arthur Roubanis presented awards for the most impressive costumes.

A special thank you goes to the Junior School students for their heartfelt “Good Luck” posters and cards.

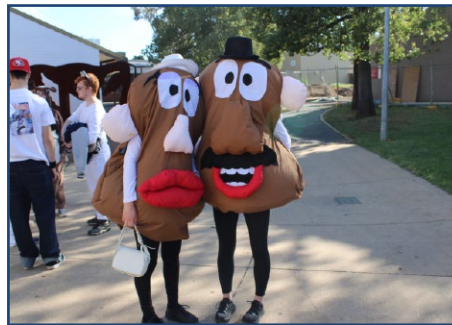
We extend our gratitude to the Year 12 Home Group teachers – Ms Williams, Mr Penna, Ms Rowland, Ms Cichinski, Ms Provatas, and Mr Davis – for their invaluable support throughout the year.

Our appreciation also goes to the staff and volunteers who contributed to the day’s success, including Ms Bourn for the photography, Julie Williams from Student Services, and Rachel Scott for her contributions to Milkshake Mondays.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 on this significant achievement! We wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

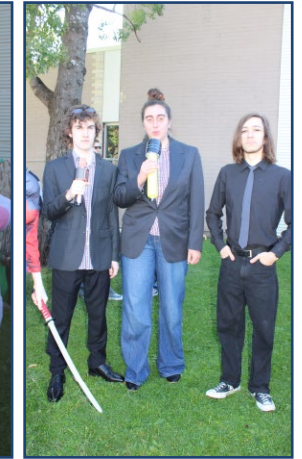
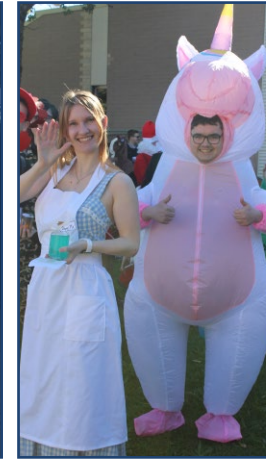
**Mr Arthur Roubanis**

*Year 12 Leader*



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## YEAR 12 PARADE AND BREAKFAST



## YEAR 12 2025 GRADUATION CEREMONY

On November 20, the Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2025 took place at Sfera's Convention Centre, uniting over 550 staff, family members, and esteemed guests to honour the achievements of our Year 12 students and celebrate their educational journeys.

The event was expertly hosted by MCs Madison R, Trinity U, Bethushan J and Ryan S, whose professionalism ensured a smooth and enjoyable evening.

This year, our guest speaker, Aimee Wilson (Class of 2022), delivered inspiring reflections from her post-graduation experiences.

Students Jamie R and Manuth C gave a heartfelt speech of reflection, followed by a slideshow presentation that captured cherished moments from the students' school years.

On behalf of all staff, I wish the Class of 2025 a future filled with success and fulfillment.

**Mr Arthur Roubanis, Year 12 Leader**



Above: Guest Speaker Aimee Wilson.  
Student Reflection Presenters - Jamie R, Manuth C.



I201 Ms Williams



I202 Mr Penna



I203 Ms Rowland



I204 Ms Cichinski



I205 (I207) Ms Provatas



I206 Mr Davis

(Continued over)

## YEAR 12 2025 GRADUATION CEREMONY



Pre School-Year 12 Students



Indulee J  
2024 SACE DUX Award



Ben E  
DUX English Literary  
Studies



Chandalee J  
DUX Spanish



Dhyani A  
School Values - Integrity



Dhyani A  
DUX General English,  
General Mathematics



Divya P  
Long Tan Leadership and  
Teamwork Award



Frank O  
DUX Design & Technology  
Materials (Furniture Construction)



Frankie O  
School Values - Integrity



Gagani D  
DUX Industry & Entrepreneurial  
Solutions (Food) Creative Arts



Hibah A  
School Values - Resilience



Akshay M  
DUX Chemistry



Jessica B  
DUX Essential English



Laith G  
School Values - Respect  
(Continued over)



Maddison H  
DUX Workplace Practices



Maddison S  
DUX Music Performance-  
Ensemble, Music Performance Solo



Maddison S  
School Values -  
Collaboration



Madison R  
DUX Drama

## YEAR 12 2025 GRADUATION CEREMONY



Madison R  
Modbury-Golden Grove  
Rotary Community Service  
Student of the Year Award



Madison W  
DUX Outdoor Education



Manuth C  
DUX Mathematical  
Methods, Physics,  
Specialist Mathematics



Manuth C  
School Values - Respect



Mia S  
DUX Modern History



Munmun P  
DUX Health and Wellbeing



Nysa K  
Ampol Best All Rounder  
Award



Nysa K  
DUX Research Project



Ohasha M  
DUX Visual Art-Art



Praveen G  
DUX Integrated Learning  
PE Focus



Rajvi S  
School Values -  
Collaboration



Ryan S  
ADF Innovation Award



Ryan S  
DUX Digital Communication  
Solutions (CAD)



Shivangi P  
DUX Psychology



Sofia F  
DUX Biology



Toby B  
DUX Essential  
Mathematics



Toby B  
School Values - Resilience

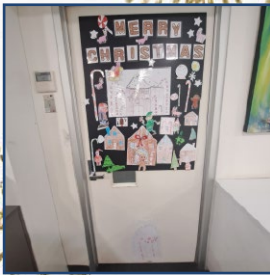


Trinity U  
DUX General Mathematics



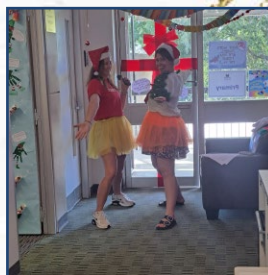
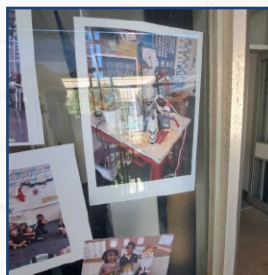
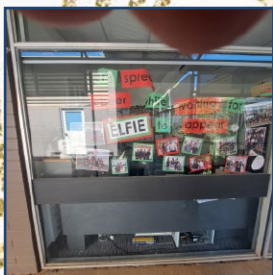
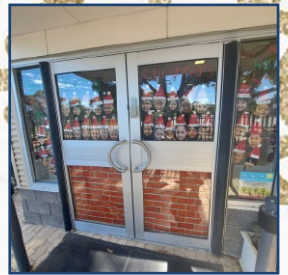
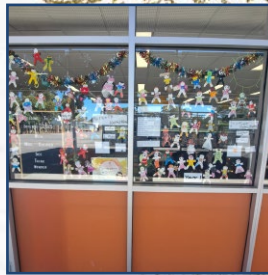
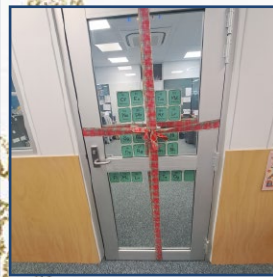
Trinity U  
Makin Humanitarian Award

## DOOR WARS



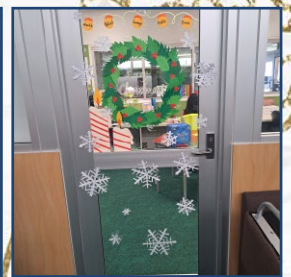
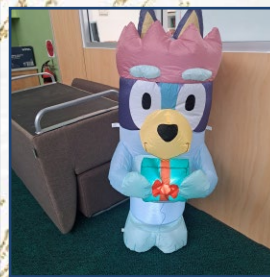
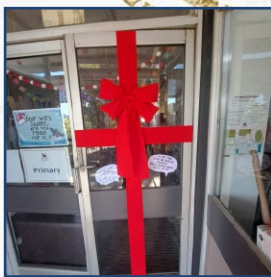
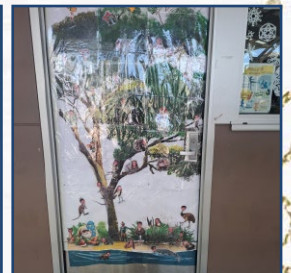
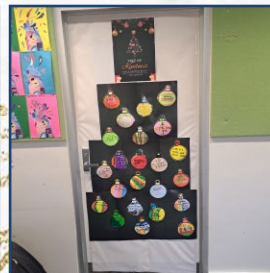
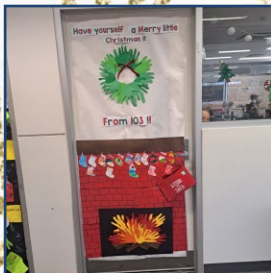
(Continued over)

## DOOR WARS (CONTINUED)



(Continued over)

## DOOR WARS (CONTINUED)



## MOHAMMED Z ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE!

Congratulations to Year 11 student Mohammed Z, who was selected to represent Singapore in the U17 National Football Team. He has been playing at the AFC Qualifiers tournament in Vietnam. In the game against Macau, Mohammed scored an equaliser and was subsequently named Man of the Match. Incredible achievement!



## NRL SA TAG FESTIVAL

Following last term's NRL Tag Carnival, 12 students in Year 5 and 6 were invited to represent The Heights School at the NRL SA Festival of Tag, which was held at Barratt Reserve East, West Beach in Week 6.

The Heights team played a total of 7 matches across the day, coming away with 5 wins and 2 close losses. Flynn L (601) was recognised by the NRL staff for upholding school values, fair play and his outstanding on field performance. Well done to all students for their efforts on the day and in the lead up to the day at team trainings and meetings.

A big thank you to Casey and Chip from NRL SA who have worked closely with our students in Year 3-6 throughout the year at the NRL workshop and clinics, as well as providing students with the opportunity to compete at the carnivals they have hosted throughout the year. We are looking forward to continuing working with NRL SA in 2026.

Josh Hart

Primary Years Sports Coordinator



## COMMUNITY NOTICE

### Term 1 Soccer Classes

**6 BIG Locations**

**PlayStart SOCCER**

Unley Park, Dernancourt, Stonyfell, Grange, Valley View and Mawson Lakes

TERM 1 - 2026  
February 7 and 8

**Sports Vouchers Plus**

**0401 410 465**

**FUN soccer classes for KIDS aged 2-10. All skill levels welcome. FREE trial sessions available...just give us a call to book or enrol for the term at WWW.PLAYSTART.COM.AU**

