

Playford International College

NEWSLETTER

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Issue 8 - 15th December 2017

Message from the Principal

Good afternoon everyone,

We have come to the end of yet another busy but highly productive school year. Over the past few weeks, we have enjoyed many school celebrations including the graduation and farewell of our 2017 Year 12 students and our annual Awards Night where more than 100 students received awards. Our middle school students and staff have also been involved in our end of semester Exhibition and Presentations of Learnings.

2017 Reflections

This year, the growth of our staff and students have once again been significant. Our enrolments exceeded 1000 students for the first time this century and both Year 8 and Year 12 enrolments surpassed 200 students for the first time. This is a remarkable achievement given just 3 years ago, the school had only 750 enrolments and outcomes for students were poor.

Today, Playford International College is a vibrant school that is strongly working towards an international accreditation standard that is reserved for only the highest performing schools. This year, we successfully completed stage 2 of this accreditation process and by March 2019, we expect to achieve full Council of International Schools (CIS) accreditation.

The latter half of this year has been dominated by the physical development of our buildings, learning environment and landscape. The bulldozers and builders moved in August and \$11m is progressively being spent to transform our school into a state of the art learning environment.

Computers are also dramatically reshaping how our students learn. This year, we were connected to a high speed 1000gb per second fibre optic Internet and we flicked the switch to turn on Google Classrooms. Our staff and students are now connected to a global, online learning environment, 24/7. As we further explore a new Personalised Learning approach in 2018, the need to only be physically present in a classroom or at school, is quickly disappearing.



Playford International College is one of the state's most innovative and creative schools. Our students are happy and motivated learners and our staff is dedicated to helping every student achieve success, one at a time. We now attract new students from 26 different feeder schools and our school has a vital role to play in our community. Our future and that of your children, is indeed bright. Education is the gateway to a successful and happy life and our school is indeed a gateway to the world for your child.

Farewells

We wish all exiting students and families great success and happiness for the future. We trust that you'll look back on your involvement with PIC with great fondness. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all our wonderful staff for their enormous contribution to our school once again this year. A school as large and successful as PIC does not happen by chance. It takes the passion, commitment and energy of our staff to achieve what we do. A number of staff will be on leave in 2017 and some move onto to new employment opportunities. Best wishes to these people. Dr Paul Paris, Steve Hughes and Richard Satchell will all retire at the end of this year. I would like to thank them for their wonderful contribution to the teaching profession and wish them great health and happiness in the next chapter of their lives.

2018 Return to School Program

The school will be officially closed from 22nd December until the 15th January. Ancillary services will recommence from Monday, 15th January and leadership and teaching staff will return to work from Monday, 22nd January. Year 8 and 12 students will return to school on Monday, 29th January followed by Year 9,10,11 students on Tuesday, 30th January. Please remember that the school day begins at 9.00 am and finishes at 3.00 pm each day in 2018.

Finally

2018 will again be an exciting year of improvement and success for our school and your children. Thank you for your contribution to our school this year and I forward to again leading Playford International College next year.

Quote of the Week

"Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas."

Merry Christmas everyone.

Warm Regards,

Rob Knight
Principal



Senior School Report

2018 Wrap Up

The thing that makes the class of 2017 so successful and special is the pure number of students the school said good luck and good bye to at the Farewell Assembly on Friday 24th November. The class of 2017 is the biggest stage 2 cohort the school has ever had. As a school it is no secret that if you can retain all of your senior students in their final year that you can plausibly argue that they were engaged enough to stay around, I believe this is true, and a testament to the changing teaching and learning culture here at PIC. But not just that! The way senior students at PIC now conduct themselves is truly outstanding. Watching them mature throughout years 11 and 12 is one of the most satisfying elements for all staff here at PIC. The way the senior centre functions now is a hive of activity that is an excellent representation of what a senior space should look like, with;

- University like teacher-student tut groups
- Student led study groups, and
- Things like the PIC Café etc.

This isn't possible, however, without all the hard work of the senior school team, the SACE teachers and the students, but that is my point – everyone works together for each other and that is built off the back of amazing teacher-student relationships. Just think, 'If we miss the most important things, like relationships, then the whole journey is not worth it?'

At the start of the year the class of 2017 was set a challenge. "As the biggest class of seniors to ever start a year at this school your challenge is to all be here at the end!" Now, not everyone achieved that but it's ok because everyone that left PIC during the year has moved on to alternate study or work in an area that they truly love and want to pursue as a career in life. Well done to the class of 2017 and the entire staff at PIC wish you the best of luck with your final results that are released on Tues day 19th December.

Senior Students getting industry ready

Governor's Leadership Foundation (GLF) Program - Overview

The GLF program is a unique and challenging program. Participants from organisations around SA commit to a challenging, action-packed ten months participating in regular experiential sessions (including sessions on farms, in businesses, in a prison, in Parliament House, an Aboriginal community, homeless centres, Government House and more), three weekends away between February and November and graduate after undertaking a community action program. This year PIC was lucky enough to have 8 GLF participants run a program for year 12 students to help broaden their horizons around potential pathway options. The program was known as 'The Learn & Grow Program' and 16 year 12 students participated in its first year.

The program stretches students' intellectually and personally and helped develop practical wisdom around the work place. Students' were positive influenced and excited about the range of work opportunities available in one organisation and learnt that through developing leadership and communication skills planning for the future is more exciting and the possibilities are endless.



Students were involved in dynamic, interactive sessions that focussed on networking, goal setting and employability skills. Students also visited Rossi Boots and Pernod-Richard Wines to see first-hand how large scale companies operate.

At the end of the year the students got to meet the Governor, The Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, listen to his story of success and then participants shared their own personal growth and experiences from the program with the rest of the senior school cohort.

Thanks for another great year at PIC and merry Christmas to all staff and students.

Senior School Team

AMEB Music Theory Exams 2017



**Australian
Music
Examinations
Board**

Year 8/9/10 Special Interest Music

Grade 1, 2 and 3

Our Special Interest Music Students in years 8, 9 and 10 have recently sat for their online Music Theory Exam through the Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB).

We had 15 SIM students sit the exam on Thursday 30th November and Monday 4th December, sitting the Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3 Theory exams. We received some fantastic results from these exams with all students achieving above 50%. A special mention to the following students for achieving either a Credit, Honours or High Distinction score in their exam.

GRADE 1

Antonietta Valdivia	HIGH DISTINCTION
Caitlyn Walker	HIGH DISTINCTION
Nikkita Chappell	HIGH DISTINCTION
Mulan Kapao	HONOURS
Chloe Muga-Bartel	HONOURS
Kayleah Leedham	CREDIT

GRADE 2

Ella Homer	HIGH DISTINCTION
Sharni Carter	HIGH DISTINCTION
Kyle Osborne	CREDIT
Maison Bellett	CREDIT

GRADE 3

Emille Collins	HONOURS
Peter Moore	CREDIT

You have all worked really hard this year towards the AMEB exam and we are proud of you all. Well Done.

Rachel Seager & Nicole Trenbirth

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Special Interest Music News

Asian School Pacific Games Performance

On Monday December 4 and Wednesday December 6, Special Interest Music students from Year 8 -10 performed at Adelaide University as part of the entertainment for the Asian School Pacific Games held in Adelaide. On Monday small group 'Lyrics' performed a set of up beat originals in a hip hop style. Congratulations to Lochlan McCue, Ivan Sparnon, Robert Hausum and Suresh Tamang on their energetic performance. Wednesday night featured our Saxophone ensemble as well as solos and duets by students. Congratulations to Peter Moore, Emille Collings, Sharni Carter, Maison Bellett, Kimberley Daly and Ella Homer on their performance. Performing in small groups and as soloists, students developed their own set-lists and performed to a large group of games participants. Entertainment organisers and audience members commented on the high standard of the performance and the diversity of the repertoire performed. Well done to all students involved.

Playford Christmas Carols

On Saturday December 2 Year 11 Special Interest Music student Amber Rogers performed at Fremont Park as part of the Playford Christmas Carols. In a line-up that included local, national and international performers including Anthony Callea, Amber performed an upbeat version of 'The First Noel' and this was very well received by the audience. Congratulations to Amber for learning this piece on short notice and performing to an exceptional standard.

Northern Sound System

On Thursday November 30 the year 9/10 improvisation class went to Northern Sound System to do a studio recording. This was a fantastic experience for students to perform in a professional studio set up through headphones and separate booths to complete a professional quality full band recording. Well done to all involved and a big thank you to Northern Sound System who helped facilitate the experience. We look forward to doing more projects in 2018.

Nick Birch

Assistant Principal, Head of Music



Playford Christmas Pageant

On Saturday November 25th our Playford International College BACK BEAT MARCHING BAND strut their stuff at the Playford Christmas Pageant at Munno Para.

The marching band consisted of 19 students in year 8 – 12, led by Drum Major Mrs Trenbirth. The marching band thrilled the crowd with their splendid sounds and their energetic moves while performing 3 songs throughout the pageant route to thousands of onlookers: Shut Up and Dance, Jazzed up Jingles and Santa Baby Swing.

Congratulations to the Marching Band for your amazing efforts on this warm morning, you dug deep and kept playing to a high standard right through to the end of the pageant. Thanks for your positive and energetic contribution to the Wind Ensemble and Marching Band in 2017.

Nicole Trenbirth





Awards Night



Senior Year All-Rounder

Tara McNulty

Middle School All-Rounder

Jamie Taylor

Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award Year 12

Elizabeta Brkic

Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award Year 10

Kiara Nicholson

Special Interest Music Award

Matthew Snelling

Alice Rigney Aboriginal Award

Joshua Keenan

Old Scholars Award for Perseverance

Chelsea Limburg
Damien Purling

Student Leadership and Volunteering Award

Rachael Hull
Riley Baker-Hall

Sporting Excellence Award

Gracie Slater
Amuri Bizimana

Flexible Learner Award

Grace Bennett

Supported Learner Award

Robert Tyndall

Student Pathways Award

Matthew Ashworth

Languages & Multiculturalism Award

Mussa Ahmadi

Global Citizen Medal

Donata Nshimyizanye

House Spirit Shield Award

Mitchell House





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New Primary Music Programs 2018

From 2018, significant changes to our Primary Music Program will be implemented that affect the Adelaide North Primary Music Hub (ANPMH). While there will be changes to the structure, times and accessibility for new students to the program, all current ANPMH students that wish to continue on their instrument in 2018 will still be able to access music at Playford IC in 2018.

In July 2017, we began conducting an extensive review of all Music Programs and Curricula. Data trends over the last few years have shown reductions in numbers of students accessing the ANPMH, particularly numbers of students in the Elizabeth Partnership. Similarly, this data also showed reduction in students transitioning from ANPMH into the Playford Special Interest Music Program.

Discussing these concerns as a team and in conjunction with other stakeholders including DECD Instrumental Music Leaders, Primary School Teachers and Principals, three clear and consistent barriers to student attendance and participation in the program were identified;

- Many families were unable to transport students to and from PIC.
- ANPMH students experienced significant disruption to their school day and other learning.
- Small numbers of students attending from many schools is not incorporating music into primary school curricula, nor embedding a culture of music participation at any one site.

Based on feedback from key stakeholders in conjunction with data analysis of our Music Programs, we are modifying the delivery of the ANPMH from 2018 onwards. Some of these changes include;

- Delivery of instrumental and group music lessons at five local Primary Schools from 2018, with the aim to expand in the future. Elizabeth East, Elizabeth Grove, Elizabeth Park Elizabeth South and Elizabeth Vale (Semester 2) will all benefit from new instrumental programs delivered through DECD IM in conjunction with our school.
- Continuing ANPMH students can continue with their current music learning program, however the time has changed to 2.30pm-3.30pm every Tuesday afternoon.
- A combined Primary Orchestra will run from 3.30pm – 4.30pm, incorporating any interested students from the ANPMH and participating students from local Primary School groups.

Please contact our Music Centre if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Nick Birch

Assistant Principal - Head of Music



Good News Story - Naomi Forbes

Naomi joined FLO in 2015 and when meeting with me (case manager) for the first time she appeared very shy and reserved. It didn't take long for Naomi and I to form a strong working relationship and for Naomi to tell me about her hopes and aspirations for the future.

Naomi stated that she loved animals and wanted to enrol in a certificate course regarding animal care. I could see that Naomi was passionate about this but felt she wasn't ready to do a certificate course just yet. Naomi and I worked together on a plan for her to achieve her end goal of doing such a course. Naomi was enrolled in the Mission Australia RISE Program [Numeracy & Literacy], obtained her First Aid Certificate and participated in the Baptistcare Soul Good Program. I then enrolled Naomi in the SSAYIT Program [Brain Injury SA] which supports the participants to work on their confidence, presentation and preparation for further education or employment. In May 2017, I attended Naomi's graduation from the SSAYIT Program and was so proud of her for completing the 18 week course. Naomi was then asked to return to the stage and was presented with the 'Encouragement Award'. I was certainly not surprised that Naomi was chosen for this award. Naomi is a young woman who has overcome so much and I am so grateful that I was lucky enough to have worked alongside her on her journey for almost 3 years. Naomi is currently enrolled in Certificate I Animal Studies at NASC and is hoping to one day work in the Veterinary Industry.

By Kimberlee Daniels

Flo Case Manager





PAL Centre

On Thursday of week 6 our PAL Centre students participated in a Basketball tournament with FLO students from Victor Harbor High at Flinders University. PAL Centre students were the underdogs competing against a team of 6 foot giants. Students played in a variety of matches competing against the other school along with mixing up students and competing against staff. Students showed significant improvement in their basketball skills and the results from their 5 week conditioning program with Ben from Pushing Performance were evident. All students displayed exceptional team work skills, positive behaviour, resilience, courage and zest when competing. At the end of the tournament the students from both schools enjoyed a shared lunch and agreed to make this a regular occurrence. Since the tournament we have begun looking at increasing our partnerships with extended communities and already have 3 other FLO schools excited about the opportunity for an Inter-FLO tournament.

FLO Team



Business Managers Report

- 2017 has been a progressive year for our school from all aspects.
- \$11M of capital works transforming our school learning environment,
 - amazing exhibitions of learning that clearly paint a picture of our students'
 - our staff commitment to offering our students the best educational opportunities possible through improved, innovative curriculum
 - School Board expansion to include more parents, 2 student representatives, staff representatives, an Old Scholar, the Mayor of Elizabeth and Member for Little Para
 - Council of International Schools accreditation
 - student leadership
 - international soccer tournaments-
 - Cambodia trip planning
 - sister school alliance in China
 - Partnerships with Adelaide United Soccer Club and Playford Council.

The pride evident on parents' faces when attending school events and functions is what makes the work we do so very rewarding.

2018 will continue to be a year of development in building works, and also the online environment. I look forward to continuing the positive relationships that are being built between our school and school community.

Julie Heddle - Business Manager

Kurna Woingbandi Shield Soccer Carnival

The inaugural Kurna Woingbandi Shield soccer carnival was held in early November on a sunny day at Playford International College in Elizabeth. The carnival was a 5 a side soccer carnival for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high secondary school students hosted by Playford with great support from Adelaide United Football club and the City of Playford. Over 60 Students from Playford International College, Gawler and District College, Mark Oliphant College and Kurna Plains School took part on the day in boys and girls tournaments.

With a Welcome to Country ceremony conducted at the start of the day followed by a DJ playing music, food stalls and a BBQ set up around the pitches, everyone was in for a great day. Adelaide United provided a number of men's and women's players to assist in refereeing and mentoring students throughout the day. The students enjoyed the opportunity to play in front of United's players as well as receive their winner's medallions during presentations from a number of Adelaide United's W-League players. There was also a number of primary school aged students from Kurna Plains School who came over to watch the games as well, and receive some mentoring while playing some small sided games with the W-League players.

After a long game in warm conditions, in the grand final for the girl's competition, the Playford Junior girls' team defeated a team comprising of Playford Senior and Mark Oliphant College girls 3 - 2. It was a tight match with the winning goal being scored by the Playford Junior girls late into the game.

In the boy's competition, Playford and Mark Oliphant finished at the top of their group to proceed through to the grand final. The boys grand final was another close match like the girls game, with the score finishing locked at 2 - 2 after full time. With the match headed into penalties and spectators cheering on, Mark Oliphant, with some great saves from their goal keeper held their nerve and managed to win the shootout 3 -1.

Jesse Rogerson

Sports Academies Coordinator





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Primary Hub - Children's Week Celebration

What is Saver Plus?

- A free ten-month savings program** providing financial education, budgeting and savings tips.
- Participants receive up to \$500 in matched savings** for education costs for themselves or their children.
- Delivered by Brotherhood of St Laurence, Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family** and other local community organisations.
- Offered in communities across Australia** in every state and territory.

A Saver Plus Participant's Journey

Goal
Talks to a Saver Plus Coordinator from a community organisation and, if eligible for the program, sets a goal to save a regular amount of money over 10 months

Saving
Opens an ANZ Progress Saver account and makes regular deposits

Education
Completes the MoneyMinded financial education program with support from a Saver Plus Coordinator

Matching
Reaches savings goal and receives matched funds, up to \$500, for their own or their children's education costs

Benefits for participants!

- 87%** continue to save the same amount or more up to three years after completing the program
- 81%** were better equipped for unexpected expenses
- 93%** reported increased self-esteem
- 85%** had more control over their finances

Who can join?

Participants must meet all of the below criteria:

- have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- be at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (themselves or their partner)
- have a child at school or attend vocational education themselves.

How did it start?

Saver Plus began in 2009 as a Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ pilot program with 288 participants in three sites across Victoria and New South Wales.

Since then, the program has expanded to all Australian states and territories, reaching more than 32,000 people, making it the largest and longest-running program of its kind in the world.

Since 2004!:

- 32,000+** participants
- \$17.3m** - total amount saved by participants
- \$14m** - matched funds paid by ANZ
- \$753** average amount saved per participant

Find out more

- 1300 610 355
- saverplus@bsl.org.au
- www.saverplus.org.au



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your local Saver Plus Coordinator

Phone
0409 986 245

Email
Michelle.Macarthy@thesmithfamily.com.au

Web
www.saverplus.org.au

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.saverplus.org.au for more information.

CITY OF PLAYFORD TENNIS INTERNATIONAL

Ballkid Training Day

Tennis SA and Tennis Australia, in conjunction with the City of Playford, TennisAusar and The Tennis Club, will host the City of Playford Tennis International from Saturday 30 October 2017 to Sunday 7 January 2018 at the brand new Playford City Tennis Centre.

We are on the hunt for some enthusiastic, passionate and reliable clubbies aged 10-17 to be a part of the event as Ballkids, an experience necessary!

Date: Sunday 17 December 2017
Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Venue: Playford City Tennis Centre, Spruance Road, Elizabeth East
Register at: ballkids.tennis.com.au (select Australian Pro Tour) by 8 December



Laptops for Learning



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**DL.0910.INFO@SCHOOLS.SA.EDU.AU
PHONE: (08) 8255 7566
FAX: (08) 8287 1113**

2018 OPTIONS:

Option 1 (Most Recommended):

Brand new Dell Touchscreen Chromebook.

Cost \$150 per year (\$3 per week) for 3 years.

This Chromebook has a 13-hour battery life and high-performance specifications developed for the school's IT network, the Google Educational Suite and external Internet access. Accidental damage insurance and 48-hour loan replacement is also provided through the school. **At the end of a 3 year lease you have the option to own the device.**

Centrepay or part payment through the school is available via a signed agreement if required.

Option 2: Purchase your Own Chromebook.

Many devices are available from a range of retailers and prices/quality vary. If choosing this option, please ensure that your laptop is a Dell Chromebook. Please check with the school that any device being considered meets the minimum specifications required for connection to the school's network.

Option 3: 2nd Hand School Device.

Cost \$75 per year (\$1.50 per week). A basic device is provided for the school year. Quality and performance between devices will vary depending on the age and brand of the device.

Centrepay or part payment is not available with this option.

Option 4: Free Loan Laptop. In cases of extreme financial hardship, the school can provide students with a free 2nd hand device for the school year. Please provide the school with written correspondence and evidence of hardship to be considered for this option.