

Term 1: Update 3

Community

It felt very special last week being able to welcome families back into the school, albeit with COVID requirements in place for the 'Connect with Year 11' evening. There was excitement and a sense of being a community again as we reconnected and had time to explore ways that together we support our students to be successful.

Our students in Year 11 embark upon the first full year of SACE subjects during 2021 at Adelaide Botanic High School. As part of the 'Connect with Year 11' evening, I was able to share with parents the already high-level results these students have achieved. In our first year of the PLP (Personal Learning Plan) a compulsory SACE Stage 1 subject that must be passed as a requirement for achieving the SACE, 100% of our students successfully passed. Not only did they pass, their results were of an extremely high standard with 68% of the students achieving A and B grades. I am often asked, and at times challenged, by parents as to how we know that the middle years learning approach at Adelaide Botanic is supporting success in the senior years. The results already are providing strong support. Our students last year were the first group to enter the senior years at Adelaide Botanic and not only were their PLP results outstanding, their subject results were also very high with 62% of the students achieving A and B grades and less than 1% receiving an E grade. Being able to share this type of information along with the opportunity to help support parents partner with us to support their child is a strong focus of the Connect evenings.

It is important to understand what it is that your child is learning and how they are learning it, but just as important, is understanding why the learning is approached differently to traditional schooling at Adelaide Botanic. The Connect evenings are a useful way to build a better understanding and also engage with your child's Connect teacher.

I look forward to catching up with you this week as you join us for these evenings.

Alistair on behalf of our whole Team

Upcoming Dates

Monday 22 February
Connect with Year 10

Tuesday 23 February
Connect with Year 9

Wednesday 24 February
Connect with Year 8

Monday 1 March
Entries close for STEM Pathways Program 2022

Monday 8 March
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

Saturday 13 March
ACER Higher Abilities Skills Test (for entry into
STEM Pathways Program 2022)

Monday 15 March
Whole school Sports Day

Friday 2 April & Monday 5 April
Easter Long Weekend





Cultural Immersion Studio

As part of the Year 8s' Cultural Immersion Studio last Wednesday, ABHS welcomed Aboriginal Elder, Uncle John Walker, a Kurna Ramindjeri initiated man and Michael Connelly, a Wiraduri NSW man, who facilitated three Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness sessions.

The cultural awareness sessions were introduced by George Hannaford, ABHS Aboriginal Education Teacher, who assisted Uncle John in the teachings. The topics explored included the meaning of culture, *Tjukurrpa* (the Aboriginal word for 'dreaming'), the AIATSIS map showing the different nations and their borders, as well as cultural diversity in our nation and the effect it has across the different language groups.

During the session, students walked over to Botanic Park to watch Uncle John conduct a 'Welcome to Country' and a smoking ceremony, during which students were given the opportunity to cleanse themselves with the smoke. One of the highlights enjoyed by the students was when Michael Connelly took student requests to re-create different animals sounds on his didgeridoo.

Also covered was the topic of totems and what they represent to an individual and the connection that may be felt to that particular totem. Students asked lots of interesting questions, giving them the opportunity for a deeper insight into Aboriginal history and culture and setting a great foundation for future learning.



Notification of Student Absences, Late Arrivals or Early Departures

A reminder that the preferred method of notification is an SMS to the school via 0419 850 419 or an email to ABHS.studentservices321@schools.sa.edu.au.



Cook and Capture

The Cook and Capture Studio is off to a great start! After choosing a coloured background and a range of plates, students worked individually and in groups to photograph an apple. In Week 3 students began prepping their own food boards as backdrops to their cooking sessions which started this week.

These will be used by a number of classes over the next two years. With Sophia's expert guidance, students will style their food and photograph the finished product demonstrating magazine quality for presentation.



ABHS is glass-free

There have been several recent instances of glass food containers being brought to school and broken on school grounds. Broken glass can be difficult to remove entirely and presents a safety hazard to students and staff.

In the interests of student and staff safety, ABHS is a glass-free zone and parents are asked to provide suitable alternatives to glassware for the storage of students' food and water.

Glassware alternatives may include plastic, silicone, bamboo or stainless steel containers and bottles.



Labelling personal property

Student Services has a number of unlabelled items in lost property awaiting collection. To facilitate the safe return of lost property to its owners please ensure that any personal items belonging to students are clearly labelled.

Personal items may include metro cards, graphic calculators, stylus, and items of clothing.



Using aerosol/spray alternatives

Aerosol use at school is discouraged as it can cause serious health problems. Aerosols include deodorants, hairsprays and perfume sprays.

We acknowledge that personal hygiene is important and we encourage students to use aerosol alternatives such as roll-ons, pump sprays or crystal deodorants.

Thank you for helping us keep ABHS aerosol-free!



Buying and Selling Uniforms

If you are looking to sell outgrown uniform items or purchase secondhand items, visit these websites to link with other families:

oldschooltrading.com.au

theuniformexchange.com.au



Wellbeing is a priority at ABHS

Wellbeing, Engagement and Inclusiveness Team



Ingred Perry
Engagement and
Wellbeing Leader

Andrea West
Inclusive Education
Leader

Bruno Rocca
Youth Worker

Dillan Olliver
Youth Worker

Adelaide Botanic High School is committed to providing a holistic approach to the wellbeing of students in a safe and inclusive environment, allowing each student to flourish, while building their resilience and confidence to seek help.

The Wellbeing and Inclusiveness team at ABHS works closely with members of the Student Achievement and Success team to improve levels of engagement among students and enhance students' feelings of connection within the school community. These teams communicate with each other regularly on a daily basis which helps them identify any students who may be in need of additional support.

The Engagement and Wellbeing, Inclusive Education, and Student Achievement and Success teams are available to support students in their classrooms, throughout the building and in the yard at break times.

Students seeking more private and confidential discussions are able to make appointments with members of the Wellbeing team in the Community Hub located in the Student Services area. The community hub consists of smaller rooms that are well suited to small group and individual counselling sessions, in a quiet space that facilitates safety and security. For additional levels of support, referrals can be arranged via our Wellbeing team for students to see our in-school psychologist, Mandy Pickering, who visits the school every Thursday.

Students are encouraged to talk to our student services staff about making an appointment with members of the Engagement, Wellbeing, and Inclusive Education teams.



Accessing ABHS applications

Year 8 parents were sent an EdSmart email this week with instructions about how to start accessing the Frog and Daymap applications. If the link in the email has expired please [fill in this form](#).

Year 9-11 parents should stay posted for a reminder on how to connect to Frog and Daymap. Alternatively, parents can contact the ICT Team by emailing dl.1919.ictadmin@schools.sa.edu.au or [filling in this form](#) and asking ICT to reset their Daymap password.

Frog

Frog Parent Portal contains the following information for parents:

- daily notices
- learning areas - teaching and learning materials which the students access during lesson time and outside lesson time
- information for families, including a link to the ABHS Updates



Daymap

Daymap Parent Portal contains the following information:

- timetable information, student records and attendance rates
- assessment dates, task details, continuous feedback and assessment grades for completed tasks as well as end of semester reports
- sends SMS messages to families seeking a reason for daily absences or late arrivals to school.



Both of these applications may be quite new to you, but we encourage all parents to take the time to explore their potential and reach out for help through our ICT team if needed.

The QR code and this link will take you to a parent support Frog page where there are a series of three videos which share with parents more about the school's philosophy of assessment, continuous feedback, as well as some videos which showcase how to navigate both Frog and Daymap.

- *Kirsty Gebert, Assistant Principal, Innovation in Teaching and Learning, Education Systems and Inclusive Education*



Introducing our new staff

We'd like to take this opportunity to start introducing our newest team members to you via our Updates. We hope you enjoy learning a bit more about our team.

Ben Dening

Futures Ready Student Pathways Leader

Ben joined ABHS this year, having previously worked at Blackwood High School in Senior School Leadership for nine years. While at Blackwood High, he worked with Year 10, 11 and 12 cohorts and oversaw SACE and VET. After becoming an accredited Career Practitioner, Ben worked at Northern Adelaide Senior College as a Careers Counsellor prior to starting at ABHS. Ben has a background in Music, graduating with Honours from the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Ben is married with a young son which leaves him with little time for the hobbies he used to enjoy, like music, sim racing and restoring his 1986 Holden Commodore.

Ben is looking forward to building on the culture at ABHS and embracing the opportunities within the SACE, Vocational Education and more. He finds it exciting and rewarding to support students in developing skills and capabilities which will guide them towards a rewarding future.

Ben's favourite quote: *"Don't be afraid of mistakes, there are none."* – Miles Davis



Imogen Knight

Year 11 Teacher – Global Perspectives & Senior Years SAS Leader

Imogen has been teaching for almost ten years, starting her career in Whyalla before moving to Christies Beach High School where she worked as a year level leader and PLP coordinator. She is passionate about History, Classical Studies and Gender Studies.

Imogen was born in Switzerland and lived in the USA as a child. She has a large family, which includes three dogs and a cat, and she loves singing and musical theatre, as well reading fantasy books and learning about classical history.

Imogen is excited about working with such an enthusiastic team of people at ABHS and taking advantage of the many opportunities for collaboration and innovation. She loves watching young people develop skills and capabilities and being a part of their journey through high school.

Imogen's favourite quote: *"Everything will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end."* – Unknown



Introducing our new staff

Alastair Lupton

Year 11 Teacher - STEM

Alastair came to ABHS from Le Fevre High School where he was the Coordinator of Sciences for eight years, along with stints as a Numeracy Coach and Assistant Principal. Within the STEM field he is a Mathematics specialist, having taught a broad range of Year 11 and 12 Mathematics courses throughout his career.

Alastair is looking forward to collaborating with an amazingly talented and motivated staff, having his ideas challenged and getting extra fit climbing all the stairs.

He loves to tell stories that make maths come alive, sparking curiosity and wonder in students, and he especially loves being a part of their “aha” moments.

Alastair’s favourite quote: *“There are no stupid questions.”* – Unknown



Amy Gray

Year 11 Teacher – Global Perspectives

Amy comes to ABHS this year from Open Access College where she taught Year 11 English, French, and Research Project. As a French teacher, she loves anything to do with languages and different cultures, especially anything French.

Amy has a passion for travelling and experiencing new places and she loves to cook and try different cuisines (her favourite is Mexican). As an adventurer and thrill-seeker, she has also been skiing and snowboarding since she was five years old.

Amy is most looking forward to building rapport with the staff and students at ABHS and being a part of an exciting and innovative school. She loves getting to know students and building positive relationships, while watching them flourish and grow!



Introducing our new staff

Jack Stewart
Year 11 Teacher - STEM

Jack joined the ABHS team this year after having taught Biology and Mathematics at Heathfield High School last year. He teaches up to Stage 2 Specialist Mathematics and Stage 2 Biology.

Jack is an avid music fan, enjoying a range of musical genres and artists from 'Spacey Jane' to 'Flume'. He is also an AFL fan, but we'll let you ask him which team he follows.

Jack's major area of teaching is Biology and he loves teaching the subject at a senior level. With a minor in Senior Mathematics, he's qualified to teach Mathematics up to Year 12.

Jack is looking forward to meeting and getting to know the students and staff as well as progressing his own teaching skills and implementing the most effective practice. He is committed to making General Mathematics as engaging as possible and he feels rewarded when he sees students progress in their understanding.



Jim De Gregorio
Year 11 Teacher - The Arts

Before embarking on a career in teaching, Jim was a professional photographer for ten years. Prior to starting at ABHS this year, he spent five years at Unley High School teaching Visual Art and Stage 2 Design as well as setting up the Stage 2 Photography course and pilot program for Year 8 STEM Design Technology/Science.

Jim has a wife and daughter who are also teachers, and two sons who have chosen other career paths. Now that Jim's three children are grown up, he has more time to binge watch in the holidays and to enjoy his gardening, photography and visual art.

Jim is looking forward to engaging with the students and exploring the technologies on offer at the school. More specifically, he is excited about setting up the studio lighting space at ABHS. He is driven by seeing students grow to their full potential, becoming learners for life.





Campbelltown City Soccer Club currently has the following vacancies for 2021

Girls born between 2006 and 2007 (Under 15s)

Senior Women Division 1 and 2

Register your interest by emailing
ccsc.juniors@live.com.au



INTERESTED IN PLAYING AUSSIE RULES ?

Join Goodwood Saints' **NEW** under 17.5 team

(Boys born July 1 2003 to December 31 2004)



Training
Tuesdays & Thursdays 6pm



For further details contact
Darren Loffler
U17.5 Coach
0416 241 050
darren.loffler@goodwoodsaints.com.au

WWW.GOODWOODSAINTS.COM.AU

Players Wanted

Players Wanted

Fulham United is seeking a few boys (born 2006 or 07) for our Under 15 JPL team immediately. If you are interested please contact the club via juniors@fulhamunited.com.au. Coaching will include FSA licensed coaches and the Technical Team.

