

Hearts and Minds

Newsletter for Encounter Lutheran College

Christmas is Coming!

KELVIN GRIVELL | PRINCIPAL

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

Although it's not quite time to focus on end of year festivities, I know the recent Adelaide Christmas Pageant is often a signal for many families to get Christmas trees in place, decorated and setting the tone for the weeks ahead. Even in The Nest our enormous tree has taken pride of place and was there to greet guests to our Junior School Instrumental Evening on Wednesday.

Christmas is one of the events each year where traditions and rituals, often unique to each family, are anticipated and enjoyed with much fondness and feeling. In our home, my grandmother's pudding recipe is still followed each year. Once upon a time old coins were stirred into the mixture, creating a competition amongst all around the table to see who would walk away with the most currency on the edge of their plate.

Two generations later, the tradition of pudding preparation has been handed to me, where I have the joy of preparing the pudding and including my kids in the ritual, but also in reconnecting with the love, memories and celebration that surrounds us when we think of Christmas. For the self-appointed master chef, surely it also means I get the biggest serve of pudding too?

As Christmas approaches I invite you to take time to make moments as a family to recall or create those traditions that have meaning for you and your loved ones. Although the central message of Christ's birth and his promises of love, peace and joy are well-known, we also recognise that it can be a time of chaos and distraction. With Christmas only one precious time each year, I encourage you to explore the meaning of Christmas and the memories your family can make as you seek to set and reinforce your own traditions that will last for a lifetime.



What's On!

TERM 4 | WEEK 4

Saturday 11 November

- Remembrance Day

TERM 4 | WEEK 5

Monday 13 November

- Year 5 & 6 Money Talks Session

Wednesday 15 November

- Year 5 Goolwa Excursion

Thursday 16 November

- Year 3 Camp (until 17/11)
- Year 5/6 Netball Carnival
- Year 9/10 3x3 Basketball
- Year 12 Gratitude Dinner

Friday 17 November

- Foundation Excursion
- House Meeting

TERM 4 | WEEK 6

Monday 20 November

- Year 5 & 6 Money Talks Session

Tuesday 21 November

- Prayer Breakfast, 8.45am

Wednesday 22 November

- Year 5/6 Cricket

Thursday 23 November

- Year 11 Exams
- Foundation Transition
- Year 4 Student Led Conference

Friday 24 November

- All library books to be returned

More at: www.encounter.sa.edu.au/calendar

DEVOTION

“So long as they are happy, right?”

MARTEN JAK | LABORATORY MANAGER

That was the catch phrase of an insurance TV ad not too long ago about purchasing life insurance to “do something for your kids today”. You may or may not agree, but after having raised 5 kids, I'd say it is not about just making sure they are happy. There are so many other factors in raising a family, to ensure that our kids become responsible contributors to future society. Sometimes (more often than they would have liked) my kids were not happy at all with the decisions we made as parents, but now with children of their own, they have a greater appreciation of the choices we made when they were younger. “I hear my mum/dad's voice whenever I speak to my kids” might be a common cliché but rings true more often than not. They now have to make choices that are for the good of their own kids, but it's not always for their happiness.

For those who celebrate Christmas as a time to reflect on what God has done for all of mankind by taking on human form in the person of Jesus, living amongst us, and suffering the penalty of our sin when he died on the cross, we are not always happy with the decisions that God makes, and sometimes His choices for us are just downright difficult and painful. Many times we can't even make sense of them at the time, because He doesn't subscribe to “just so long as they are happy, right?” He often allows tough circumstances into our lives to bring us back to himself, to take us home from our wanderings, to



restore the relationship with him that was broken by sin and to make us more like the kind of people we need to be that reflect his character.

As Christmas draws close and we come to the end of another year, can I encourage you to spend the energy to protect and nurture the relationships with those close to you. Don't waste it all on just making your kids happy by treating them as the centre of the universe at the cost of yourself and those around you. Show them some tough love at times, and I'm sure they will thank you for it when their turn comes to raise their own family. There can't be love much tougher than God the father sacrificing his son Jesus to a cruel death on that Roman cross..... for us. Enjoy the festive season with each other and thank God for ALL the relationships you are part of, and I pray that he will bless you in those relationships as you celebrate together the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ.

Marten Jak

Term 4 Prayer Breakfast

Families, friends and supporters of the College are invited to our Term 4 Prayer Breakfast as we pray for our College community.

**Tuesday 21st November,
8.45am until 9.45am in the Staff Lounge.**



RSVP to www.trybooking.com/CJIMV

Refreshments available upon arrival,
concluding with tea and coffee.



STAFF NEWS



INTRODUCING... **Lyndsey Spiers**

Hi, my name is Lyndsey Spiers and I am the Finance Officer (Payroll & Debtor) at Encounter.

What do you love most about working at Encounter Lutheran College? Not only do I thoroughly enjoy the work itself, I am lucky enough to work where my children go to school, which is such a privilege. Although, they may not feel the same in years to come!

What is the favourite thing about your job?

The people. From the staff to all the students, everyone creates such a happy environment, and no two days are ever the same.

What are you most excited about for this year?

Travelling around Tasmania for a month over Christmas with my husband and two daughters.

What are you most passionate about?

My family. It doesn't matter what we are doing, but spending time together is the most important thing to me.

What do you do for fun or relaxation? Off grid camping is my happy place. I would live like this full time if we could.

What is your favourite place that you have ever lived or visited and why? I island-hopped throughout the Whitsunday Islands for two years when I was young. It was always warm and unbelievably beautiful.

What is your favourite animal and why? Dogs. Hands down, dogs are the superior beings. My two year old black lab brings me so much happiness, even if she does hate my cuddles and pulls the washing off the line.



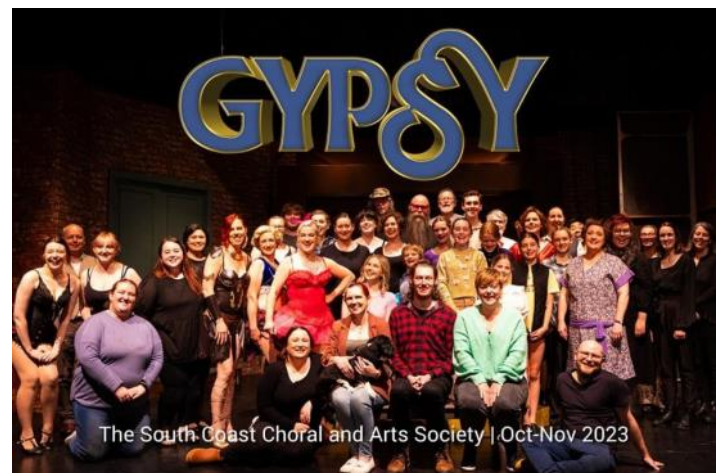
Star Performers

Congratulations to our Encounter staff and students who recently performed in the SCCAS production of Gypsy at the Victor Harbor Town Hall!

Elizabeth Bentley undertook the massive lead role of 'Rose', as well as Jon Grear and Georgia Martin.

Encounter's new dance teacher for 2024, Ally Miller, also featured, and Tim Wormald expertly took on the role of musical director, supported by Susie Lush, and Ali Dunbar as vocal coach.

The production also features Encounter students, Alice Riggs, Jasmine Walter and Robbie Walter.



Well done to all nine Encounter staff and students involved in this magnificent production!

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Outdoor Learning

TORI WEISS | HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last Friday, students in the Junior School participated in Outdoor Classroom Day. While we take many opportunities to take learning outdoors at Encounter, there was something pretty special about celebrating getting out of the classroom with 3 million other children around the world, who also took part in this international event.

The Outdoor Classroom Day campaign (formerly named Empty Classroom Day) began back in 2011 and over the span of more than a decade, has become the global movement it is today. It has continued to gain momentum as more and more families understand that spending time outdoors is as important for children's development as learning to read and write. It is key to improving children's health, wellbeing and happiness.

It is not just nice to have – it is essential for children's development.



According to Australian Health Guidelines, children require approximately 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity each day. Alarming, current data from the Australian Institute of Health and Wellbeing shows that by the age of 10 (Year 5/6) only 15% of children meet this standard!

So whether it is our littlest learners at Bush Kindy and Early Learning or our oldest Junior School students in Year 6, outdoor learning is a fundamental part of their experience in the Junior School at Encounter and is here to stay.

Tori



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

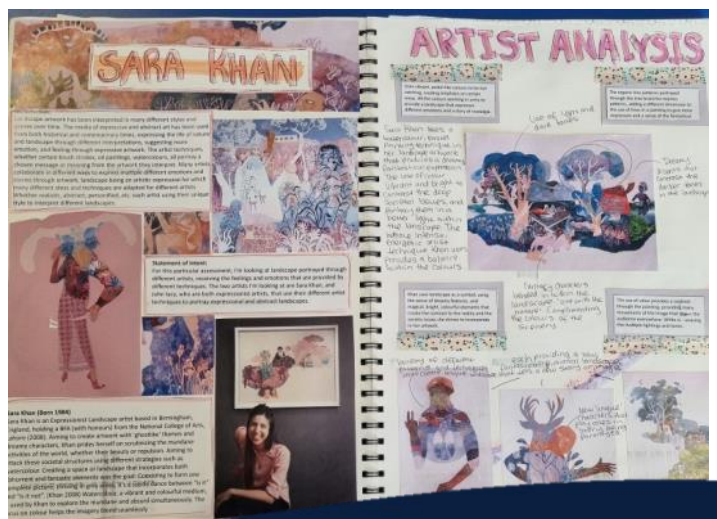


MIDDLE & SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Visual Art Happenings

HARRY GEATER-JOHNSON | ART TEACHER

There are some exciting works underway in the Middle and Senior School! Students in Year 8 have been completing painting workshops exploring the landscape and are about to commence final works. Year 11 have been lucky enough to work with visiting artist Morwena Rettalick on the pottery wheel and have produced some impressive works in a short time. Finally, some wonderful entries have been coming in for the Intergenerational Portrait Competition. This is open to students in Years 5-12 and interested students should check information sent to them or visit Mrs Geater-Johnson in the art room.



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



A Christmas Encounter

JUNIOR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER | 2.00PM

KONDOLE CENTRE



ENCOUNTER
LUTHERAN COLLEGE

SAPSASA Southern Fleurieu Cricket

Six Encounter Lutheran College students have made the 2023 SAPSASA Southern Fleurieu Cricket team; Zac Stringer (Year 5) Samuel Eves, Milan Ferraro, Louis McCartney, Joe Scanlon and Jasper Wegener (Year 6).

Held on November 7-9 at West Beach, the teams played 20 over games against Onkaparinga South (D), North Eastern (L), Salisbury East (L), and West Eyre Peninsula (W).

The final (36 over match) was played against Onkaparinga North, with an incredible win by 3 wickets. Southern Fleurieu finished 5th overall.



COMING EVENTS

End of Year Key Dates

Thursday 16th November

- Class of 2023 Gratitude Dinner, 6.00pm

Friday 1st December

- Year 10 & 11 Awards Ceremony, 10.45am
- A Christmas Encounter (Junior School Concert), 2.00pm
- Casual Day—Christmas theme

Thursday 7th December

- Foundation to Year 7 Transition Day

Friday 8th December

- Middle School Awards & Year 6 Transition Ceremony, 9.00am
- Year 6 Graduation & Morning Tea, 9.45am
- Closing Shine, 2.30pm
- **Last Day of Term, Dismissal at 3.15pm**
- Encounter Hoops Classic, 4.00pm



Encounter Hoops Classic

The 7th Annual Encounter Hoops Classic returns on **Friday 8th December** from 4.00pm until 8.00pm in the Kondole which sees Staff and Old Scholars form teams and play against each other for the prestigious Hoops Classic Cup.

The Encounter Hoops Classics is a Basketball event held each year to celebrate the strong basketball history at Encounter and to welcome back some old scholars!

If you're an Old Scholar and would like to join the game, contact Sam Dunbar at sam.dunbar@encounter.sa.edu.au

Early Learning Date Claimers

Wednesday 29th November

- Early Learning Information night for new families in 2024.



Wednesday 6th December

- Early Learning Graduation & End of Year Party

Friday 15th December

- Early Learning Last Day

Early Learning Enrolments 2024

If you are intending to enrol your child in Early Learning, now is this time as we are finalising bookings for next year and transition visits have been scheduled for later this term. Please contact claire.mckenzie@encounter.sa.edu.au to enrol.

A Parent Information Night is being held for new families on Wednesday 29th November from 5.00pm-6.00pm.

Join us for Week 6 Junior School Shine Outdoors on The Block

All families from across the College are invited to join our Junior School students for a special Christmas Nativity themed Shine, outdoors down on The Block.

Date: Friday 24th November (Week 6)

Time: 9.00am start (concluding by approx 9.45am)

Where: Block 69 near the Prayer Labyrinth.

What to bring: Fold up chair or picnic rug.

COLLEGE NEWS

NEWS FROM THE NEST

Readers Rap

Over the past few months, 15 Encounter students have been reading the same texts as other students across the Fleurieu Peninsula.

These students were placed in four teams to represent Encounter at the annual Fleurieu Readers Rap held this year at Port Elliot Primary school where they were excited to share their knowledge and creative ideas about the books they have read.

The students were lucky to meet and hear from Mandy Foot, an award-winning illustrator from the Adelaide Hills.

Library Borrowing

A reminder that the last week for borrowing in the Nest is Week 5 (13th -17th November).

All library books are to be returned by the end of Week 6 (Friday 24th November).



COLLEGE NEWS



ENCOUNTER LUTHERAN COLLEGE

New College Dress

NOW AVAILABLE online or instore

MONDAY, TUESDAY THURSDAY
8.30am–9.30am
TUESDAY & THURSDAY
2.30pm–3.30pm

www.encounter.sa.edu.au/product/girls-dress

Grab your Coffee @ GPS Café

Encounter's GPS Café is open before every Junior School Shine from 8.40am until 9.00pm. If you're heading in to join us at Shine, why not grab a great coffee before-hand! The Café is located near the entrance of the Kondole, closest to the rear car park.


FROM THE PARENT HANDBOOK

Lost Property

Un-named items found around the College will be placed into the Lost Property basket which is located at Student Services. If your child has lost something, please remember to come and check this basket at the Front Office.

Visitors to the College

All visitors/volunteers of the College who are staying to assist in the class room must sign in and register with the Front Office first.



SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL SHOP

Recycle It's Easy
Buy and Save
Advertise and Sell

Buy and Sell second-hand textbooks

Sustainability, Value & Community

BUY and SELL second hand textbooks, second hand school uniforms, calculators, musical instruments, sporting gear, electronics, dance; University & TAFE textbooks etc; anything students use can be sold. Items sell all year. Sell yours too. It works!

Sustainable School Shop SECOND-HAND UNIFORM TRADING

We are delighted to inform you of the College's new initiative to provide parents with the ability to trade these second-hand items via the Sustainable School Shop website:

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

The College is providing this service to our community; when registering on the Sustainable School Shop you need to nominate Encounter Lutheran College to receive your subscription.

All enquiries should be directed to the Sustainable School Shop on: 0438 743 444 or help is also available through 'Contact Us' on their website at

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au.

For easy reference, the Sustainable School Shop links are also listed on our College Shop website at: www.encounter.sa.edu.au/college-shop

Student Banking

Lutheran Layperson Banking is available each Tuesday. Accounts may be opened anytime by completing the appropriate forms which are available from Student Services and online at

www.llb.org.au/savings/childrens-savings



Finance with a mission

MIDDLE & SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

School Uniform Reminders

PENNY MCKENZIE | HEAD OF MIDDLE & SENIOR SCHOOL

As we approach the end of year, it is important that our College uniform guidelines and expectations are adhered to. Please find below some common clarifications for our Middle and Senior School students.

- There is no 'summer' or 'winter' uniform – it is now tran seasonal but must be College approved (ie: no long sleeve white t-shirts underneath short sleeve shirts). The formal uniform is either the skirt or shorts/pants with a shirt (with the addition of either jacket or blazer). The red dress is being discontinued at the end of this year, with a new *optional* new dress now available to purchase.
- For formal College occasions (e.g. photo days, Gratitude Dinner, etc), boys in Years 10-12 must wear long pants/trousers (and not shorts).
- The Blue shirts will also be discontinued at the end of this year, and must be worn tucked in.
- Only one earring may be worn in each ear (stud/sleeper) and no clear piercings are allowed. No facial piercings, nor facial hair is allowed.

- Hair **must not be touching** the collar. If it touches the collar it must be tied up.
- Black leather school shoes must be worn with the uniform. Sneakers are only acceptable with the PE uniform, which is only to be worn on PE/Dance days (or Sport Science theory lessons)
- **Navy** socks/stockings are to be worn with the formal uniform. White socks (without logos) are only to be worn with PE uniform.
- Skirts/dresses should be **knee length**. (A 5cm variable will allow for seasonal growth.)
- Hats are required for Term 1 & 4 and must not be worn in classrooms.

The uniform guidelines are clear and have not changed since the start of last year. If you need to purchase a new uniform or need any guidance please see your Home Class teacher. Thank you so much for those of you who are leading by example in wearing the uniform correctly. You are a wonderful representation of the Encounter spirit.

As always, if you have any questions please let me know.


Download a copy of the current [Uniform Guidelines here](#)

or go to: www.encounter.sa.edu.au/college-shop



COMMUNITY NEWS

**COME & JOIN
NIPPERS
@ CHITON ROCKS**



★ Starfish - U6 and U7
🐬 Dolphins - U8 and U9
🐠 Stingrays - U10 and U11
🦈 Sharks - U12 to U14

**2ND
NIPPER'S SESSION
ENCOUNTER LAKES**

**11 NOVEMBER 2023
2pm - 4pm**

Come & Try 11th November
Contact Kym Pedler
Email: nippers@chitonrocks.com

Tabernacle Road,
Encounter Bay SA 5211

VACSWIM is South Australia's most renowned summer holiday program giving your kids confidence in and around water!



VACSWIM
WATER AWARENESS • WATER SAFETY • WATER CONFIDENCE • WATER SKILLS • WATER FUN!

SKILLS FOR ANY SEASON!

Enrol from Friday September 1st 2023



December and January • 5 day blocks • Ages 3 – 12 years • Beach, lake, river and pool locations

vacswimsa.com.au

Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

LIFE SAVING SA

facebook.com/vacswimsa
instagram.com/vacswimsa



Preparing for Christmas

Sunday 3 December @ 3.30pm



Victor Harbor

**A fun, family friendly church for all
ages valuing hospitality, creativity
and celebration.**

3.30pm-5.30pm with meal provided at the
Lutheran Church Centre, 21a Adelaide Road

For further info: 08 8552 5380 or
messychurch@victorlutheran.org

Follow us at: [www.facebook.com/
victorharbormessychurch](https://www.facebook.com/victorharbormessychurch)

Little Chess Mates

Little Chess Mates is a friendly gathering
inviting school age children to participate
in friendly chess games.

Our volunteer organiser has a current
working with children police check.

We meet on the first Saturday of each
month at the Victor Harbor Library in the
Youth Section.

For further information, visit their Facebook
page at: [Little Chess Mates](https://www.facebook.com/LittleChessMates)