Courier

Spring 2025



AREYOU AN OLD SCHOLAR?

If you need to update your details or would like to provide an update on life after Woodcroft College we'd love to hear from you.

Please visit our website: woodcroft.sa.edu.au/our-community/old-scholars/

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES

Rhiannon Dodd Events and Marketing Coordinator T: +61 8 8322 2333 E: dodd_r@woodcroft.sa.edu.au

Published by Woodcroft College Inc Approved for Print Post 100005301

Professional Photography Acknowledgements

Brad Griffin Photography Festival Photography James Baker Photography Andrew Kuhl

Woodcroft College

Bains Road (PO Box 48) Morphett Vale SA 5162 T: +61 8 8322 2333 E: reception@woodcroft.sa.edu.au W: woodcroft.sa.edu.au

CRICOS No: 01645K



facebook.com/woodcroftcollege



instagram.com/woodcroft_college

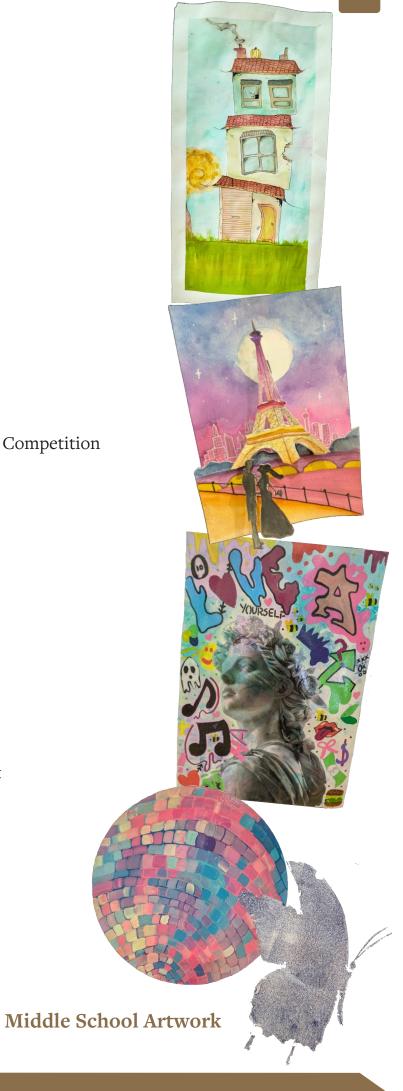


We acknowledge the Kaurna people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather, honouring their deep, enduring connection to Country.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, whose wisdom guides us in caring for this land. Committed to walking gently, we pledge to listen, learn, and grow together, fostering respect for the spiritual significance of this place.

INTHIS EDITION

4	From the Principal
8	Supporter Spotlight
10	Celebrating the Journey of our College Captains
12	ELC Sports Day
14	Junior School SRC Leads with Generous Spirit
16	Junior School Sports Day
18	Thriving in Year 7
21	Woodcroft Hosts VEX IQ Robotics Comp
22	First Nations Immersion Trip
26	Faculty Spotlight: English
28	College Musical: Disney's Newsies
30	Showcase
32	Swimming Carnival
34	Wanderers go Wandering into the Next Division
36	Wanderers Inaugural Awards Night
37	5 Year Old Scholar Reunion
38	Generational Old Scholars
42	Parents and Friends



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Shannon Warren

OUR JOURNEY TO SOMETHING REMARKABLE

As I reflect on where we are as a College community, I feel genuinely excited about the future we're building together.

Our new Strategic Plan captures something I see and experience every day at Woodcroft College - a community where remarkable things happen because remarkable people make them happen.

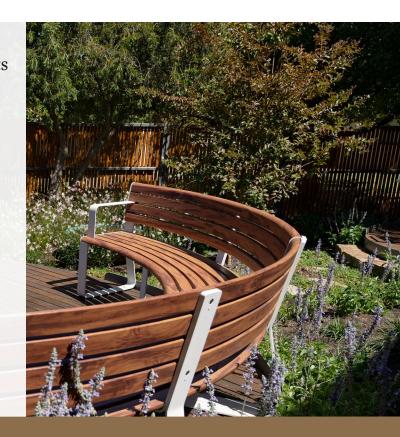
This is my second Strategic Plan as Principal, and developing it has been profoundly different from my first. When I arrived at Woodcroft College, I had the privilege of following Mark Porter, who had led this community with distinction for 28 years. My first Strategic Plan was about understanding and honouring that incredible legacy while establishing my own foundations as the College's second Principal.



This plan emerges from a different place - one of confidence in our shared direction and clarity about how we can build upon the strong traditions Mark Porter established while embracing new possibilities. Rather than feeling like a formal exercise, this planning process has been an opportunity for genuine conversation with representatives from accross our community. Conversations that have been enriched by the trust and relationships we've built over recent years. What has emerged is truly our collective vision based in Strategic Priorities for what Woodcroft College can become as we move towards our 40th year.

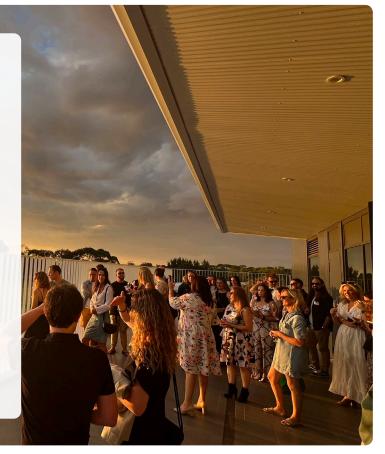


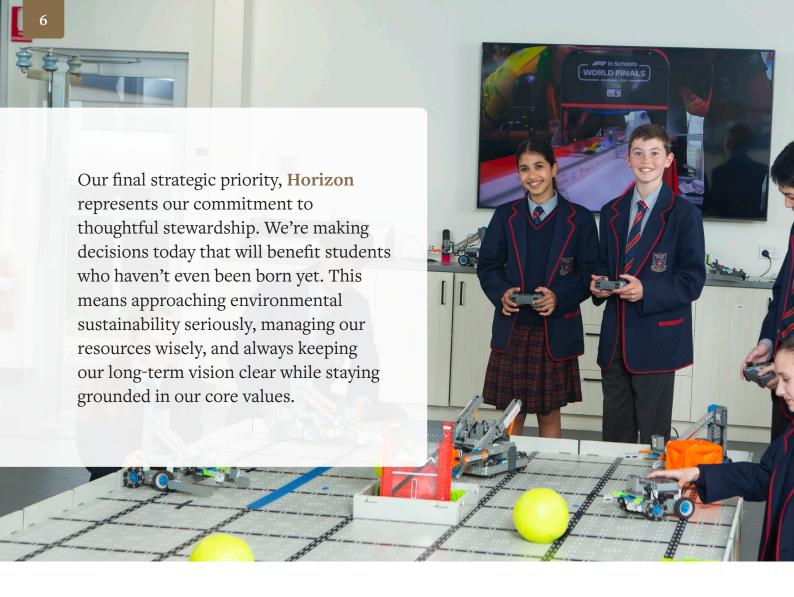
Our **Heart** strategic priority represents the foundation of everything we do. I've come to understand deeply that meaningful learning cannot happen without genuine care and connection. When I see our teachers taking time to really understand each student, or when I observe our children naturally including others who might feel uncertain, I'm witnessing our Heart in action. This pillar is about creating an environment where everyone students, staff and families - feels genuinely valued and supported.





Our Home strategic priority reflects something fundamental about our identity. Woodcroft College truly operates like an extended family. Our Old Scholars maintain connections years after graduation, our parents often become lifelong friends, and our community partnerships feel like genuine neighbourly relationships. When you build authentic connections like these, you create something that enriches lives well beyond the school years.





Living Our Values Daily

What I hope everyone understands is that this Strategic Plan represents the natural evolution of our journey together. While my first plan was about learning from our past and establishing my leadership foundations, this plan allows us to be more ambitious in our goals while building thoughtfully upon both the legacy I inherited and the new traditions we've begun to create together. We have such strength in our community already; this plan ensures we continue to nurture and grow that strength.

Our Anglican heritage provides us with a beautiful framework of service, integrity and care for others. We express these values in ways that welcome every family who chooses to join our community. I'm particularly proud that we can honour our traditions while embracing the diversity that makes our school so vibrant.

Finding the Remarkable in Everyday Moments

The remarkable future we're working towards isn't some distant destination - it's happening in countless small moments every day. It's in our Early Learning Centre children learning to share and care for one another. It's in our senior students mentoring younger children and taking leadership seriously. It's in our teachers staying after hours to support a struggling student, and our parents volunteering their time and talents for school events.

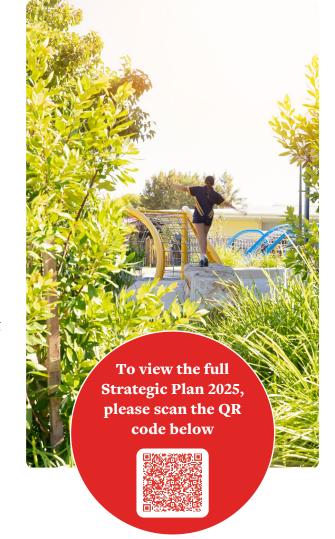
My role as Principal isn't to create something remarkable here - it's to help our community recognise and nurture the remarkable things that are already happening. This strategic plan represents our commitment to being more deliberate about supporting these moments and creating conditions for even more of them to flourish.

Moving Forward Together

As we implement this plan, I want every member of our community to understand that they have an important role to play. Whether you're a student discovering your passions, a teacher inspiring young minds, a parent supporting from home, or a community partner enriching our programs - your contribution matters and makes a real difference.

The future we're building isn't just about academic achievement or beautiful facilities, though both have their place. It's about nurturing young people who develop confidence in themselves, resilience for life's challenges, and compassion for making their world better.

This is what "Finding Your Remarkable" truly means - and I'm genuinely excited to see where this journey takes us all.





FROM THE CHAIR, JO O'CONNOR

As the Chair of the Woodcroft College Council I commend the 2025 - 2030 Woodcroft College Strategic Plan to you.

Over its 36-year history the College has continued to promote a sense of community: staff, parents and caregivers, and students working together to achieve our purpose of shaping well-balanced, successful young people.

As we move towards our 40th birthday in 2029 this Strategic Plan is looking to the future with an ambitious program built around our core values, holding firm to our Anglican tradition.

On behalf of the members of Council I would like to acknowledge and thank the Principal, Shannon Warren, the College Leadership Team and all the staff for their ongoing fantastic work, and commitment to the Woodcroft College community and I thank you as students, parents and caregivers, and old scholars for your engagement and support within this community.

It gives us great pleasure to launch the 2025 - 2030 Strategic Plan and I encourage you all to review our plans for the future.

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

MAGAIN



Mike and Amanda Dobbin have been wonderful supporters of the College both as current and now past parents. Mike is the CEO of Magain Real Estate and we asked him why they choose to make a difference at Woodcroft.

"I still remember watching Woodcroft College being built back in the late 1980s. I always thought to myself, if I ever have kids, that's the school I'd love for them to attend one day. When the time came, my wife Amanda and I spoke to several teacher friends, and they all said the same thing - get your kids into Woodcroft College as it consistently had an outstanding reputation.

Once our kids began attending, we experienced firsthand how professional, dedicated and caring the teachers and staff were. That really cemented our decision to give back in any way we could, so that other families could have the same amazing opportunities that ours did.

Over the years, we've supported a range of school initiatives - from music and drama programs (which our kids loved) to a variety of other projects. For us, it's not just about supporting what we like, but making sure all students have the resources they need to thrive, no matter their passion or interest.

I understand that it's tough at the moment for families to raise money and we just wanted to make sure that all students at Woodcroft College get the same opportunities that our kids have received. So, if it's just our little contribution to help the students have an enjoyable and fruitful time at the College, then that's what makes me most happy.

At Magain, we live by the saying: "Our success is not defined by commission, but by contribution." That's why I personally got into real estate and business in the first place – to create a business that could give back to the community in a meaningful way. Today, we proudly support over 60 sporting clubs, dozens of charities, and many local schools – and as our company has grown, so has our ability to give.

Magain is a proudly South Australian owned business with 13 offices, more than 100 staff members, and a team passionate about supporting their community. Each staff member donates to charity through their pay, and together we sell over 1,200 properties a year, manage almost 5,000 rental properties, and now also provide commercial property services. While we have a special connection to Adelaide's south, we now service clients across the entire metropolitan area.

I encourage anyone who hasn't used our Sales, Property Management or Commercial services to give us a go - because when you work with Magain, you're not just helping your own family; you're helping support your local community as well.

Lastly, I would say to other small business owners: if you have the ability, whether with dollars or with your time, get involved with the Woodcroft College community. The satisfaction you'll receive from helping nurture the next generation is worth far more than any financial contribution."

Woodcroft College is very grateful for the ongoing support from Magain and we acknowledge the following current support:

- Magain Performing Arts Studio Room Sponsor (Junior School)
- 2025 Pedal Prix Platinum Sponsor
- Woodcroft College Wanderers in the Collegiate Soccer League (first ever Old Scholar team)
- 2025 USA Music Tour Gold Sponsor

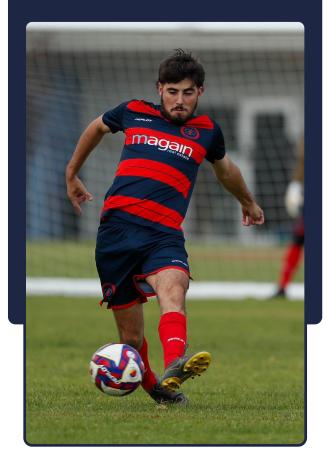
If you would like to speak to someone about sponsorships, scholarships, in-kind or other financial support, please contact:

Cathy Stewart

Director of Marketing and Advancement Phone: 8322 2333

Email: stewart_ca@woodcroft.sa.edu.au

You can visit Supporting the College under our Community page on our website to see how other businesses are involved in creating more remarkable opportunities for our students.





After 13 years of study, personal growth and memorable experiences, our 129 Year 12 students will mark the end of their Woodcroft College journey in November.

For our College Captains, this milestone also signifies the conclusion of their leadership roles which they have embraced with dedication and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Our College Captains - Tyler Atkinson,
Adria Burden, Archie Kutchsbach and Isobel
Thornton - have all valued the opportunity to
collaborate with senior staff and contribute
to the College community. Adria reflected
"being a leader at Woodcroft is not just about
one's own specific role, but it's about working
together within the Woodcroft College
student leadership team, which I think is
really unique and special."

Archie echoed this sentiment, highlighting the importance of the support and guidance provided throughout the year, "the opportunities provided to you to develop your leadership skills at events and frequent meetings with other leaders and staff such as Mrs Voyzey or Mr Griffiths".

Student leadership at Woodcroft is more than a title - it's a chance for students to develop a variety of skills and knowledge for future job opportunities. Isobel hopes it will make her a stronger leader who has initiative and confidence in her own ability as she goes into the adult working world. Tyler, while still exploring his future career path, hopes that by being a Captain this year, he will be more confident in stepping outside his comfort zone and be able to lead others towards a common objective.







At Woodcroft we encourage students to Find Their Remarkable, whether through academics, extracurricular pursuits (such as sports, music and the arts) or by discovering their remarkable through personal growth. All four Captains shared that the opportunities offered by the College have helped them discover more about themselves and their passions.

Archie said his experience of being a student leader at the College has provided him with a new understanding of himself and what he is capable of. "I have certainly found my remarkable since being at Woodcroft, the personal growth from 2016 as the quiet kid to now being more outgoing and happy to deliver a speech to a crowd and meet with people from other schools is as a result of Woodcroft. Last year when I was preparing to give my College Captain speech I couldn't have been more nervous, now I would be excited at the prospect of delivering a speech."

Adria, Archie and Isobel all began their Woodcroft journey in Junior School, have witnessed many exciting changes over the years. From facilities to leadership transitions - including the appointment of a new Principal in 2018 and a new Head of Senior School in 2024 - these changes have brought a renewed focus on student voice.

Adria believes "this has been beneficial in creating a supportive and inspiring College community". While Archie commended the proactive leadership of Principal, Mrs Warren and the staff around her, which is a testament to the school's recent growth and success.

Isobel has seen the most changes to the College, having commenced as part of our Transition Program (TPs) before Reception. This initiative, now known as the Reception Ready Program, continues to support ELC students as they move into Junior School.

Although Tyler only joined the College in Year 10, he has also seen significant changes, particularly in the College's facilities. He believes these improvements will "make the College a greater place to learn and grow from ELC to Senior School." He also appreciates the efforts made to increase student participation through more fun and engaging activities.

With the launch of our 2025 - 2030 Strategic Plan, the future of Woodcroft College is brighter than ever. As we celebrate the achievements of our Year 12 students and reflect on the leadership journey of our Captains, we look forward to continuing to nurture the remarkable in every student.







ELC SPORTS DAY



















































JUNIOR SCHOOL SRC LEADS WITH GENEROUS SPIRIT







Under the guidance of Junior School teacher Lynn Lee, 18 passionate student leaders from Year 4 to Year 6 have been making a meaningful impact through the Student Representative Council (SRC) program.

The SRC journey began in Term 1 with a rigorous application process, involving 90 interested students, who submitted letters of application and participated in interviews. Two students per class were selected for the SRC and from Term 2 onwards they have met weekly to develop their skills in leadership and work collaboratively on Junior School initiatives.

One of their first major projects was the introduction of an 'Ideas Box' in every classroom, inviting students to contribute suggestions for improving the school. The SRCs collected and collated the ideas, presenting the top suggestions to the Leadership Team. They then led an Assembly to share the findings, reinforcing the message that every student's voice matters.

In addition to leading two class meetings to discuss ideas and provide updates, the SRCs have taken action on several initiatives. Their first event was a PJ Day fundraiser in support of the RSPCA, chosen by students as the charity of choice. Posters were created and communication sent home to families, showcasing the SRCs' initiative and organisational skills. The event was a huge success raising \$698 for the RSPCA. Well done to all involved.

Looking ahead, the SRC is exploring ways to improve recycling in the Junior School. Plans include ordering food waste bins for every classroom and educating students on proper waste disposal, with the goal of reinstating the use of yellow recycling bins in outdoor play areas.







Another exciting idea under consideration is replacing school bells with music played through the speakers, adding a creative and uplifting touch to the school day.

These student-led initiatives are living examples of our school's commitment to nurturing confident, connected and compassionate learners. It has been wonderful to see our students demonstrate our College Values in the following ways:



Inspire Confidence

Through public speaking, leading meetings and taking initiative, they have grown in self-belief and courage.

Real Connection

The Idea Boxes and class meetings have created meaningful dialogue between students and the Junior School Leadership Team. They have become a bridge between peers and staff, ensuring every voice is heard and valued.





Generous Spirit

Choosing to support the RSPCA through their PJ Day fundraiser reflects their compassion and care for others. Their commitment to improving recycling also shows a deep sense of responsibility for the environment and wellbeing of others.

Keep Growing

By embracing challenges, they have learned new skills and grown as learners and leaders. Whether it's organising events, presenting ideas or exploring new possibilities such as music instead of bells.









JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS DAY











































RESULTS

House Shield

Spirit Cup

1st



5,819

2nd

5,583

3rd

4th



5,146



5,123



THRIVING INYEAR 7

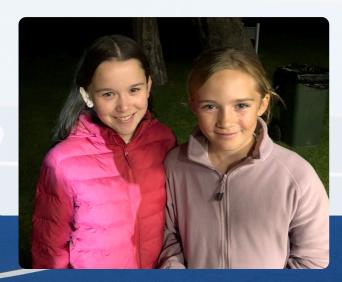
As we approach the end of another school year, Year 7 students and their parents reflect on their remarkable start to their time at Woodcroft.

We spoke with Arabella Shrimpton and her parents, who are new to the College this year, as well as Lachlan Keller (new to Year 7) and his parents, who joined us in 2023 when their eldest son, Jacob started in Year 7. From exciting opportunities to a strong sense of community and support, both students and parents are celebrating a successful transition into high school.

STUDENT REFLECTION

Arabella and Lachlan shared how their first year has been filled with memorable experiences and personal growth – highlighting their favourite subjects, some of the challenges and what they like most about their teachers.

Year 7 camp was a standout moment for Arabella, helping her build confidence and deepen friendships. She has enjoyed Food Technology, Textiles and Innovative Technology, and valued the extra academic support available when needed. Her involvement extended beyond the classroom, with participation in lunchtime sports, where she was able to manage the teams she played in. She has also participated in Run Club, yoga and tennis.





Lachlan found becoming a Student Leader to be the highlight of his year, giving him the chance to participate in a range of activities with his peers, teachers and other Student Leaders. As far as subjects, Lachlan has especially enjoyed Music, giving him the chance to lean into his musical background and get involved with our Music program. His extracurricular involvement included Run Club, cross country, cycling and volleyball. Lachlan also enjoyed the Swimming Carnival and the chance to test his skills in the pool.

Both students praised the welcoming environment at Woodcroft, which allowed them to venture outside their familiar friend groups and expand their social circles. Their teachers have played an important role in helping them feel like they belong. Arabella appreciated how her teachers made learning fun and inclusive, while Lachlan noted how approachable and helpful staff were during his transition.

They reflected that their initial nerves, such as getting lost or worrying about friendships, were quickly eased by our supportive teachers and students who had come from our Junior School into Year 7.

When asked what they would share with others about Year 7 at Woodcroft, both Arabella and Lachlan talked about the many different opportunities that students have and their appreciation for such a welcoming culture, as it made their transition to a new school easy and fun.



PARENT PERSPECTIVES: A SCHOOL THAT SEES THE WHOLE CHILD

Arabella's parents, Michael and Elizabeth, chose Woodcroft for its focus on nurturing each child's individuality. They were impressed by how the school recognises students not just for academic or sporting achievements, but for who they are as people. The transition process was smooth, and Arabella's involvement in sports, clubs and leadership roles has been well supported. They are impressed by the recognition Arabella receives for who she is, not just her achievements. They emphasised Woodcroft as a community that encourages involvement and values kindness.





Lachlan's parents, Justin and Sarah, echoed this sentiment. They were drawn to Woodcroft by its mission to prepare students to contribute meaningfully to society. Their decision was reinforced by Jacob's positive experience, particularly the Tutor Group sports program, which helped foster a sense of belonging.

They noted that Lachlan's transition was smoother thanks to Jacob's insights, and they were thrilled to see Lachlan selected as a Student Leader. He has participated in a range of activities, including a team-building day at Belair National Park, the Combined Anglican Schools Service and various sports. They also praised the annual Showcase, which has inspired Lachlan to get involved next year.

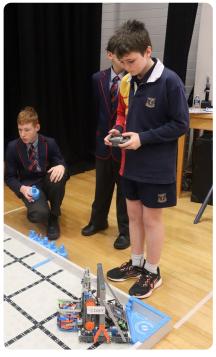
Arabella's and Lachlan's parents both said that their experiences at Woodcroft so far have exceeded their expectations, making them very happy with their decision to enrol their children here. They emphasised the approachability of staff and the school's commitment to community values.

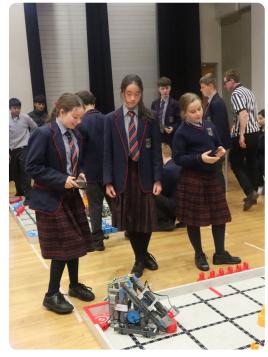
Justin and Sarah are grateful for having such amazing staff, who really want to see your child succeed. They also highlighted the school's involvement in broader community initiatives and the extensive range of extracurricular activities available to students. Justin and Sarah are excited about the future, particularly Jacob's upcoming Year 9 Quest camp, and are looking forward to seeing both of their boys continue to grow, explore new interests and make the most of every opportunity.

Michael and Elizabeth feel that Woodcroft College strikes a real balance, focusing on the child and nurturing them as a person. They are grateful for the supportive community and the opportunities provided to Arabella. Sharing that it has been the best decision for her and that they are excited to see her keep growing in such a loving and caring environment.











WOODCROFT HOSTS VEX IQ ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Woodcroft College recently hosted an exciting VEX IQ Robotics competition, bringing together students for a day of problem solving, creativity and teamwork.

The event provided a fantastic opportunity for students to put their design, coding and collaboration skills to the test in a supportive and fun environment. The competition showcased some impressive performances, with Invictus from Investigator College and Boom Box from St John's Grammar taking out first place. In the final round, the two teams joined forces and achieved an outstanding combined score of 203 - an incredible result that highlighted the power of collaboration and strategic thinking.

Whilst the Woodcroft College teams finished outside of the top 10, they learnt a lot and are continuing to work hard and prepare for future competions. We hope this experience will build on their skills over the years.

It was a memorable day of innovation, teamwork and celebration of STEM learning. Congratulations to all teams involved!



Students in Year 10 and Year 11 had the opportunity to visit Cape York as part of our inaugural First Nations Immersion Trip.

Students travelled to the remote First Nations homelands of Cape York, ready to learn from the land and its people, as well as contribute to their community.

Cape York is a sacred place where the Daintree embraces the Great Barrier Reef, providing breathtaking views and awe-inspiring experiences. Activities included a reef cruise and snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef, a Cascade Falls and rainforest tour, exploring the GudjuGudju Boori Guman Story Trail and a visit to Mossman Gorge.

Students met and learnt from the Guugu Yimithirr and Kuku Yalanji clan groups, experiencing the rich diversity of their community. They visited local schools, youth groups, art centres, hiking trails and the local church where stories, culture and creativity are deeply woven into the fabric of everyday life.

The Cape York community embraced the opportunity to welcome our students and teach them about reef conservation and climate awareness - a unique hands on experience that deepened their connection to the land, its stories and their role in preserving its future.

Two students, Jack Green and Lucy Stevens provided a reflection on their experience in Cape York.







I was interested in attending the First Nations trip to Cape York as I wanted to gain further knowledge and understanding about Indigenous cultures and practices, along with travelling to a different place in Australia that I have never been to.

Although I did expect to spend more time in the community of Hope Vale, the day spent with the school kids gave me an insight into how different our schools are, and it made me appreciate all the opportunities and resources made available to us at Woodcroft. We had the chance to help in the canteen and spent lunchtime together playing with the kids.

Going into Hope Vale and visting the Art and Culture Centre was a significant part of the trip. We had a chance to meet two Elders at the Centre who create pieces of Indigenous art that are highly sought after. This was the best day of the trip. Although it was jam-packed, we had the chance to go for a swim and cool down in a beautiful waterfall.

We learnt about native bush tucker and how leaves and roots can be used for medicines. Even things I didn't expect to learn about, like getting to visit and understand where Captain Cook first landed in Australia, and how he was greeted by the First Nations people. When visiting the Great Barrier Reef, we learnt about how Indigenous people fished there and how they used sea pickles for sunscreen when they were on the water for days at a time.

Every night we would sit in a circle and discuss that day and the next day, having a chance to be genuine and to share something you were grateful for and what you really enjoyed about the day. Having this real connection every evening highlighted all the amazing experiences. At the end of the final night, we came together to discuss how we could take what we have learnt home, and to share what we have learnt to change opinions and create a greater appreciation for Australia's Indigenous history and way of life.



Attending the First Nations Immersion trip allowed me to step outside my comfort zone, listen to the stories of Elders and community members, and experience firsthand the traditions and knowledge. I wanted an opportunity where I could experience and see the stories and space we were taught about at school, and also seeing and hearing from the Elders. I hoped to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of First Nations culture, history and connection to Country. I hoped the trip would challenge my perspectives and help me grow both personally and culturally.

We learnt more about culture and heard stories that we hadn't previously been exposed to. One of the most powerful lessons was understanding the deep spiritual connection First Nations people have with the land not just as a place to live, but as part of their identity and their ancestors. This included gaining an insight into traditional practices like bush medicine, hunting techniques and storytelling, which are passed down through generations.

A highlight for me was the experience of going to Hope Vale and visiting the local school. We sat in on a lesson and played with the students at break time. This was a time of reflecting on the things we take for granted and things they don't have.

The students have little compared to us but still live life to the fullest. The emotions on their face truly lit up your heart, non stop smiling and laughing.

At the end of the day we sat around the fire listening and reflecting on that day and what had happened, and listening to stories about the culture.

Visiting the Great Barrier Reef and being able to go snorkelling was a great highlight. I took this time to truly immerse myself in a whole other world, I was able to connect with a student from Kardinia College, another school who went with us. We were able to see a sea turtle which was amazing. It was an amazing experience to connect with new people, Elders and the land. It was a truly moving and memorable trip and reminded me of the importance of listening deeply.

I approached this trip with an open mind, the willingness to learn, and wanting to challenge myself and grow from the experiences and stories shared with us. I supported my peers, shared tasks and responsibilities during the trip, and showed gratitude and respect to the communities who welcomed us. A conscious effort was made to build genuine connections with both the First Nations community members and my fellow students through active listening and participation.

WOODCROFT COLLEGE JUNIOR SCHOOL PRESENTS



ON THE DREAMWORKS ANIMATION MOTION PICTURE AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG

BOOK AND LYRICS BY DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE

MUSIC BY Jeanine Tesori

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY DREAMWORKS THEATRICALS AND NEAL STREET PRODUCTIONS

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY JASON MOORE AND ROB ASHFORD.
"I'M A BELIEVER" BY NEIL DIAMOND

LICENSED EXCLUSIVELY BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA).

Coming in Term 3, 2026



An English spotlight is a lovely opportunity to reflect on what we have achieved with our students as an English and Drama team.

Since I began leading our team at the beginning of 2021, our main goal has been to help students forge their individual path towards academic excellence. We continue to achieve success in this pursuit by aligning our curriculum to ensure each student receives the same learning opportunities.

We have also looked at how we develop skills across the year levels, considering what is expected of students in Year 12, including comparative analysis, critical perspective interpretations and transformative writing in English and production, creative and evaluative skills in Drama. Through this, we have been able to ensure all students find their remarkable in our subjects.

As students move through the years at Woodcroft, they experience texts of increasing complexity and nuance through analysis and creativity. We want to expose our students to multiple perspectives from a range of cultures and voices, and we continue to work towards a diverse curriculum. At each year level – in both English and Drama – we encourage students to explore First Nations texts and perspectives, illustrating the diversity of the Indigenous Australian experience, and how we can learn and grow together with this knowledge.

Drama continues to grow at Woodcroft since its inclusion as a Year 7 and 8 subject in 2022. After all students experience Drama in Year 7, they can continue to select Drama to pursue their passion for the performing arts. Each year, Drama students perform to audiences of increasing age and size, culminating in their Year 12 performance for an audience of family, friends and teachers.









Drama is also an enriching experience outside of the classroom as we continue the tradition of Drama Club after school, which includes a performance at the end of the year, and our new annual interstate excursion to Sydney or Melbourne to attend NIDA and Bell Shakespeare workshops and theatre performances.

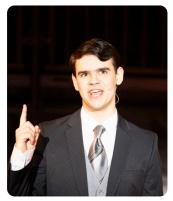


Students often ask why they should study English. To me, the answer is simple: it helps you to understand, interpret and engage with the world around you. In a time when truth is pushed further and further below bias and falsehoods, we want our students to be able to reflect critically on what they hear, see and read. Through literature, they build empathy through stories of hardship and joy. Through creativity, they express their own narrative. I became a teacher because I see potential in all children, and I am passionate about helping them achieve this. I became an English teacher because I love these stories.

As I prepare to move back into the classroom full time in 2026 and look back on the last five years, my proudest moments have been watching Year 12 students graduate after years of hard work, support and dedication from their teachers. The most rewarding part of this role has been supporting and caring for our team, so they have more time and energy to explore their own passion: educating our students.









COLLEGE MUSICAL: *DISNEY'S NEWSIES*













































SHOWCASE















































SWIMMING CARNIVAL







































SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS

Middle School Trophy			Senior School Trophy			Overall House Shield			Spirit Cup	
1st	S. E. S.	568	1st		409	1st	per set //	980	1st	De garet
= 2nd		528	2nd	actiff	356	2nd	\$ 10 pt	925	2nd	
= 2nd	S.C. See //	528	3rd	De de la	332	3rd	De de la	921	3rd	in the second second
4th	De de la	478	4th	is self	324	4th	Section 1	841	4th	actiff



WANDERERS GO WANDERING INTO THE NEXT DIVISION

Harry Jones, Old Scholar (Class of 2018)















Woodcroft Wanderers inaugural season has been a major success in so many ways for all involved.

We have developed an amazing community in such a short space of time, which has been absolutely brilliant to see, whilst also achieving many of our on-field goals too.

The team finished the season CSL Division 3C Champions!

After 21 games, we finished the year with 19 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. We had a difficult start to the season, with many players receiving long term injuries, but credit to all involved who played so many games in a row to get us through that patch. Over time, our numbers have grown immensely, and we now have a large, tight-knit, fantastic squad of players. Throughout the course of the year, 24 players have registered and played for Woodcroft Wanderers, 13 who are Old Scholars.

We have secured promotion into the league above for 2026. To confirm our promotion next season, we must grow our club, by adding another team to our ranks, and expanding our volunteer and committee set-up. Therefore, we are on the lookout for new players or members to join our club! Anyone from graduating Year 12s this year, Old Scholars from any previous years, friends or family of current players, other club's football players looking for a change, or anyone just looking to be involved in a warm, social community are welcome. There are playing, coaching, match-day volunteer and committee member roles all up for grabs! Get in touch soon, exciting times are ahead. Be party of this awesome community!

> Harry Jones 0423 132 521 harrywjones1004@gmail.com

WANDERERS INAUGURAL AWARDS NIGHT

To cap off an amazing first season, the Woodcroft Wanderers held their inaugural Awards Night on Friday 3 October.

Congratulations to our thoroughly deserving award winners.

Magain Real Estate Player of the Year *Aeddan Turner*

CGA Player's Player Aeddan Turner

Emu Hotel Top Goalscorer Aeddan Turner Club Person of the Year George Hughes

Goal of the Year Josh Kuhl











SEASON 2025 SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

MAGAIN









5 YEAR OLD SCHOLAR REUNION

On Friday 16 May, the Class of 2020 came together at the Marion Hotel to catch up and reminisce about their time at Woodcroft College – especially their final year of schooling which was of course, the 'Covid Year'.

Plenty of laughs were had as the Old Scholars looked at the Yearbook and photos from their time at the College. It was also great to see some teachers in attendance catching up on what their former students are doing now.







To ensure you receive your invitation to your Old Scholar Reunion or if you wish to update your details, please visit:

woodcroft.sa.edu.au/our-community/old-scholars/old-scholar-updates/

GENERATIONAL OLD SCHOLARS

At Woodcroft College, our Old Scholars form an important part of our community. We always love to hear what our Old Scholars are doing in their lives and celebrate their achievements.

We have many Old Scholars who are still involved in College life through sport, music, the College musical and more, who Inspire Confidence in our current students.

Here are some fun facts about Old Scholars at Woodcroft College (according to our records):

- There are currently 10 'second generation' Old Scholars, meaning one of their parents is also an Old Scholar.
- We have 86 Old Scholars whose children are attending Woodcroft College from ELC through to Year 12 (of the 86, there are eight married couples!).
- Currently 69 Old Scholars are employed as staff at the College in a range of roles from Head of Year Level, ELC Educators, Faculty Assistants, teachers and sport coaches.

We caught up with two pairs of our 'second generation' Old Scholars to find out what they have been up to since leaving the College and ask how they feel about being part of Woodcroft's legacy.

Tanya McCloud (Class of 1995) and Shea Blasdale (Class of 2020)

What did you do or study after leaving Woodcroft College?

Tanya: I completed a Bachelor of Science: Conservation and Park Management but chose to work in the Disability Sector for 11 years before completing a Bachelor of Nursing.

Shea: Since graduating from Woodcroft, I have worked in the wine industry in cellar doors and event management roles.

What is your current job?

Tanya: I am an Associate Nurse Unit Manager at Murray Bridge Hospital. I like working in a busy regional hospital where I am challenged to use all of my clinical skills.

Shea: I am currently working in the snow season in Falls Creek, Victoria as a Sommelier. I love being able to taste wines from all around the world while working in the beautiful Alpine region.

What hobbies do you have? Did you have these hobbies while you were at school or did you take them up as an adult?

Tanya and Shea: We both enjoyed playing netball for Woodcroft College and continued to play as seniors after finishing school.

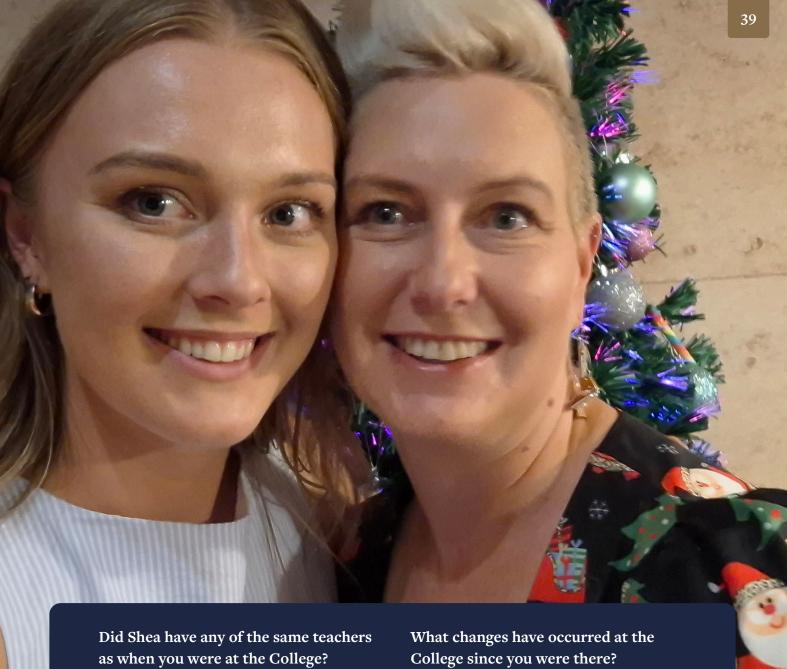
What are your favourite memories of your time at Woodcroft College?

Tanya: The Outdoor Education camps, the ski trip in Year 9 and a German exchange in Year 11.

Shea: Friendships I made that are still strong to this day.

Tanya, did the fact that you are an Old Scholar influence your decision to send Shea to Woodcroft College?

Tanya: Yes. It gave me a sense of pride knowing Shea was attending the same school as myself even though Woodcroft had grown so much in that 25 years. We requested that Shea be in the Hardy house as I was a House Captain in Year 12. My other son Heath is currently in Year 7 at Woodcroft and in Hardy too.



Tanya: Shea didn't directly have any of the same teachers but there are still teachers who were thre in my time such as Mrs Camens, Miss Daniels, Mr Griffiths and Mr Eacott.

Shea, how did you feel about attending the same school as your mum?

Shea: It was good that Mum had experienced the school but I was happy to walk my own path.

Did you and your mum share any of the same experiences while you were at Woodcroft College?

Shea: As mentioned, we both played netball for the school. We were both sporty and social but did different academic subjects.

Tanya: A lot has changed, especially with the infrastructure. I was in the third class through Woodcroft. There were only 90 students in total when I started. The building and infrastructure has improved so much. We did Math in the Agriculture Shed. We took the bus to Noarlunga Library once a week before the College built a library. There wasn't an oval so we did aquatics for PE lessons for two full terms each year.

Amy Gill (Class of 1996) and Ella Gill (Class of 2023)



What did you do or study after leaving Woodcroft College?

Amy: When I left school, I missed out on getting straight into the University degree I wanted. I went to TAFE first to complete my Diploma in Children's Services and then went onto University to complete my Bachelor of Early Childhood Education. I've always wanted to be a preschool teacher.

Ella: I'm currently studying Occupational Therapy at Uni SA and was accepted into this course straight from leaving school.

What is your current role and what do you love most about it?

Amy: I'm a preschool teacher at a school-based preschool in the southern suburbs. I am very passionate about working with young children. It's something I always wanted to do since my own kindy days and I have never strayed from that.

Ella: I'm currently in my second year of my university degree and have just started my first placement for this course. I'm really enjoying it so far and can't wait to see where it takes me. When I'm not at uni, I'm working. I have a job at a local swimming centre, teaching babies and young children to swim as well as teaching aqua classes.

How did Woodcroft College set you up for success in your current career or other parts of your life?

Amy: The importance of strong core values is something that has put me in good stead in life. Working hard to get what you want but also taking the time to enjoy the moment, as well as being a good person are some of the ways Woodcroft College has helped me to achieve success in my life.

What hobbies do you have? Did you have these hobbies while you were at school or did you take them up as an adult?

Amy: I like to keep active in my spare time and love to go walking. Sport has been a huge part of my life and we now share that with our children. Our whole family is very involved with our local football club, so winter is always a busy time. We love to go and watch the Crows and have been loyal members for a very long time. We enjoy spending time with our family and friends, and love to go waterskiing in the summer months and have experienced a range of camping holidays and travelling within Australia and overseas.

Ella: Woodcroft is where my football journey started in the inaugural girls football team when I was in Year 8. I loved it so much that I then went on to play club football for the Cove Cobras and have played some games for Glenelg in the SANFLW Development League. I participated in as many different sports at the College that I could.

Do you have any advice for current Woodcroft College students?

Amy: You get the most out of something with what you are prepared to put into it. At the time you may not think it, but your school days can be some of the best of your life.

Ella: Make the most of every opportunity. Prioritise your work but also enjoy the fun moments like camps and sports events – balance is great!

Any favourite memories of your time at Woodcroft College?

Amy: I love that back in the day the school was so small that everyone knew each other and that the teachers knew every child by name. Even now I still see past students (from ranging year levels) around the place and we still acknowledge each other. The Deep Creek camp was a highlight, especially with torrential rain and leaky tent, as well as being one of the students to go on the first German Exchange trip.

Ella: The school camps were always a highlight, particularly Quest, Future Leaders and the Melbourne netball trips. They provided so many opportunities to explore and make connections.

Amy, what made you choose Woodcroft for Ella and was being an Old Scholar part of your decision?

Amy: Due to my experiences at Woodcroft, I had always hoped to send our children to the College if we were able to. Staying in the southern area made it a very easy choice and to be honest we didn't look anywhere else.

We wanted our children to be valued for who they are and not just another number. Woodcroft offers a caring, nurturing environment with many opportunities for children to be their very best, as well as encouraging good core values.

Amy, did Ella have any of the same teachers as when you were at the College?

Amy: Yes, Mr Cross was my home group teacher in Year 11 and Ella had him for Design and Technology. Ms Daniels was both mine and Ella's Year 8 Art teacher. Mr Porter was Head of College when I was as student and he was still there for Ella's first year. He interviewed Ella for her enrolment meeting so that was a very special and full circle moment.

Mrs Camens taught me and she is our son Tom's Tutor Group teacher this year.

Amy, what changes have occurred at the College since you were here?

Amy: The changes to the College are phenomenal. When I first started in Year 8, the school was very primitive. We had what felt like a lot of land and only a few buildings, some of which are still there and some not. It's amazing to see the progress and the transformation the school has made. It makes me feel proud. Proud to have been a part of it all from the beginning and proud that my children have been able to be a part of it too.

Ella, how did you feel about attending the same school as your mum?

Ella: It was pretty special to know that we both did our high school years at the same place. I think Mum was more excited to begin with but now I understand why. It's a great community.

Ella, did you and your mum share any of the same experiences while you were at school?

Ella: We shared some of the same teachers, however I think the school has changed a lot since my mum attended. I think we both had positive experiences and a strong connection to the school community.



KheShan Gronow, Community Engagement Coordinator Karen Stott, Parents and Friends Chairperson

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the fundraising efforts of our Woodcroft College Parents and Friends.

The Committee has been busy over the past few months organising and running multiple activities to raise funds for projects and initiatives that positively impact our students at Woodcroft College. The Quiz Night in August was once again a huge success, selling out in less than 36 hours and raising an amazing \$6,734! Thank you to all who attended – the room looked fantastic thanks to all the teams who dressed up and decorated their tables with their chosen colour. Special thanks to the Event Sponsor, Pete Fallon from Ray White Woodcroft, all of the businesses who donated vouchers and products and our Quizmaster, James Marchington.

















Other Parents and Friends events held in Term 3 included our annual Father's Day Stall and Breakfast – we hope the Junior School and ELC Dads had a great time and enjoyed their gift chosen lovingly by their child.

The Parents and Friends Volunteers finished up
Term 3 by running BBQs for the Junior School and
ELC Sports Days – thank you everyone who bought a
sausage or drink!

Other fundraisers included the Sports Day Essentials online fundraiser and two Schnitzel Nights at the Victoria Hotel – thanks for all your support with these activities. It's always great to be able to try new ways of raising funds.

In Term 4, Woodcroft College staff will be applying for grants from the funds raised by our community's support for the Parents and Friends fundraising. The grants may be to buy equipment or run programs to enhance the learning experience of students. Once the grants have been awarded, we will be sure to update the College community.



Interested in volunteering for the Parents and Friends?

We are always looking for more volunteers to help us out at events and with fundraising activities. Please scan the QR code if you are interested in being a Parents and Friends volunteer.





Woodcroft College Bains Road, Morphett Vale 5162

Ph: 8322 2333

W: woodcroft.sa.edu.au