

tatachilla NEWS



Term 3 Week 8 | Thursday 14 September 2023

from the head of

MIDDLE AND SENIOR YEARS



In an age where screens and gadgets often dominate our lives, the value of outdoor experiences cannot be overstated. Our Year 8 students are currently immersing themselves in an interdisciplinary unit called "Sustainaville," where students blend their studies in Humanities, Science and English to craft a sustainable community.

This approach bridges the gaps between subjects, fostering a holistic understanding of how various disciplines intersect and contributing to real-world problem solving.

To put this theory into practice, our Year 8s ventured into the great outdoors at the The Forktree Project, a conservation initiative founded by the renowned environmentalist, Tim Jarvis. Here they discovered the many ways in which active outdoor engagement can profoundly impact their lives as well as positively impact our environment:

Connection with nature: Spending time outdoors encourages a deep connection with the natural world. Students learn to appreciate the beauty of their environment, fostering a sense of responsibility towards its protection.

Wellbeing: Exposure to green spaces has been proven to reduce stress and anxiety, and improve mood. By stepping outside the classroom, students reap the benefits of improved mental and physical health.

Hands-on learning: The outdoor environment becomes an expansive classroom. Instead of reading about sustainability in textbooks, students can actively engage with the concepts they are learning. For example, our students witnessed first-hand the importance of biodiversity at The Forktree Project.

Problem solving: The real world does not always fit neatly into subject-specific categories. By working on projects like Sustainaville and visiting places like The Forktree Project, students learn to think critically and solve complex, interdisciplinary problems - a skill they will carry with them throughout their lives.

Empathy and stewardship: Seeing the impact of climate change and conservation efforts in action fosters empathy and a sense of responsibility. Students understand that their actions matter and that they can be part of the solution.

Teamwork and communication: Outdoor experiences often require collaboration and effective communication. Whether it is building a sustainable model community or conducting environmental research, these skills are honed while in the field.

Inspiration for the future: Experiencing the wonders of nature first-hand can ignite a lifelong passion for environmental stewardship and sustainability, inspiring students to be change-makers in their communities.

Sustainaville is just one part of our commitment to fostering a deep understanding of our environment at Tatachilla. Our EcoClassroom Sanctuary is a living testament to our commitment to conservation and biodiversity. We empower our middle school students through the after-school EcoRanger's Program, teaching them hands-on skills in environmental stewardship. For those with a passion for ecological preservation, we offer a Dual Certificate II in Conservation Ecosystem Management and Horticulture, providing students with the tools they need to make a real difference in the world. Our expanded Agricultural Science program delves into sustainable agriculture practices, emphasising the importance of responsible land management.

And let us not forget our critically important brush-tailed bettong breeding program—an endeavour that is helping repopulate this critically endangered species in Australia.



Year 8 students at The Forktree Project

from the head of

MIDDLE AND SENIOR YEARS

But rather than just taking my word for it, let us allow the Year 8s themselves to share their perspectives, offering the final word on the profound benefits of our holistic environmental education approach:

I was sceptical at first and didn't think I would enjoy it, but when we arrived and began our work, it quickly became such a gratifying experience! I especially enjoyed planting at the windbreak, as we were talking with friends and making a difference for the planet. I also had an excellent sleep that night!

Clara Millin

Our excursion to The Forktree Project was a great and very muddy experience, with all of the students and teachers contributing to a number of different jobs around the property. We learnt about circular economy and all the ways The Forktree Project is working to prevent waste going to landfill, particularly building waste. I felt very accomplished due to the fact that I had helped them make a difference. I want to help the environment as a job when I'm older so this was a great thing to be a part of. I really enjoyed this excursion. **Marlee Macrow**

I learnt a lot from The Forktree Project excursion; such as sustainable living and how we can help the earth. I felt really good after the excursion knowing that I did something to help the earth. **Ebby Burt**

Our year level went to The Forktree Project for the day to learn about sustainable ways to re-purpose, grow, and work hard for a better future. We participated in a variety of activities such as planting a windbreak, weeding, re-purposing old materials and learning a lot about plants and natural habitats. After the experience, I felt productive and proud of making a difference. It made me appreciate what others are doing already to really take action towards climate change and our planet's future. **Gracie Summer**

I really enjoyed The Forktree Project, because, at the end of the day, I felt great knowing that I had helped the environment. Throughout the day, I learnt all about sustainable plants, and construction processes to use in my HASS and Science projects. Overall I really enjoyed it.

Oscar Pritchard

Mr Chris McElligott

HEAD OF MIDDLE & SENIOR YEARS



Year 8 students at The Forktree Project



from the acting head of **JUNIOR YEARS**

SCHOOL CAMPS

This week has seen our Year 2s enjoy their extended stay in the EcoClassroom and our Year 4s return from their school camp at Mylor. Next week, our Year 3s will head off to Wellington to their camp at El Shaddai.

Camps are an exciting aspect of our children's education. These immersive experiences offer numerous benefits beyond the classroom and leave a lasting impact on our student's personal growth and development.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

School camps provide a unique opportunity for children to connect with nature. They step away from screens and experience the beauty of the great outdoors, fostering an appreciation for the environment. Activities like hiking, camping, and nature exploration help build environmental awareness and a sense of stewardship.

TEAM BUILDING

Camps encourage teamwork and cooperation. Students learn to work together, communicate effectively, and develop leadership skills through challenges, games, and group activities. These experiences are invaluable for building positive relationships and a sense of unity within the school community.

RESILIENCE AND INDEPENDENCE

Being away from home in a new environment fosters independence. Campers learn to manage their belongings, make decisions, and solve problems independently. This new-found independence boosts confidence and resilience, equipping them to face life's challenges with a sense of self-assuredness.

PERSONAL GROWTH

School camps push students out of their comfort zones. They confront fears, overcome obstacles, and discover hidden talents. These experiences help students build self-esteem and develop a growth mindset, encouraging them to embrace challenges and pursue their goals.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Camps often incorporate elements of the curriculum in a fun and engaging way. Students can apply what they've learned in the classroom to real-life situations, making learning more meaningful.

LIFELONG MEMORIES

School camps create lasting memories and friendships that students cherish throughout their lives. These experiences often become the highlight of their school years, reinforcing a sense of belonging to the school community.

DIGITAL DETOX

In today's digital age, students spend a lot of time in front of screens. School camps provide a welcome break from technology, allowing children to reconnect with the real world and develop social and interpersonal skills.

School camps offer many benefits that contribute significantly to a child's holistic development. We believe these experiences are enjoyable and essential in shaping well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the challenges and adventures life has to offer.



Year 4s enjoying challenges at their camp in Mylor

EXCELLENCE AWARD



Congratulations to **Charlotte Mann**, Reception student for being awarded an Excellence Award. Charlotte was presented with her award at this week's assembly. Well done Charlotte!

Ms Lindee Hopkins
ACTING HEAD OF JUNIOR YEARS

from the **JUNIOR YEARS**

YEAR 5 CAMP

This term in Week 2 the Year 5s went to Glenhaven Camp for two nights and three days and had a lot of fun. We did all sorts of activities such as the giant swing, high ropes, archery, and lots more! When we left for our camp, we travelled two hours to Stockport where our camp was located, and the weather was on our side for most of the camp. The first two days reached 24C and then on the last day it rained a bit, but that was ok because we had such an amazing time. **Maison Hunt**

On camp we got told that we should step out of our comfort zone. This helped me because the giant swing was scary, especially because I hadn't been able to go up there because of my fear of heights from the El Shaddai and Mylor camps. If it wasn't for the instructors, the teachers, the students in my group and my father who helped changed my mind, then I wouldn't have had a go. But I got on it and I loved it! On camp we were placed in groups with people we weren't necessarily friends with so we could expand our friendship groups. **Yanni Kondylas**

I enjoyed the tower challenge because I managed to collect boxes from people, and I went 11 crates high which was fun for me. (I love heights). I also loved the giant swing because it was 12.5 metres high and it was so scary pulling the trigger. I wished we could have done the leap of faith for high ropes; it is a different activity that looks really fun.

Lani Holmes

Year 5 camp at Glenhaven was a great experience for all of the Year 5s. It was full of amazing, challenging and fun activities. Many people's favourite activities were the giant swing, the high ropes and archery but we also got to try bush skills, camp cooking and more. We had an excellent three days, made lots of new friends from our dorms and day groups and faced many challenges. We thank all the helpers and Glenhaven Camp instructors for their time with making our delicious food and setting up the activities. We are very excited for next year's camp and hope it will be just as good an experience as this one. **Chloe Hammerstein**

I enjoyed the activity; initiatives, because we all got to say our ideas. In the last challenge we got to use this swing, it was really fun because I made it across the 'river'. **Finn Ellis**

My favourite thing about camp was how the staff helped to push us to go above and beyond even if we were scared to do something. When we didn't want to do something, they wouldn't force us to do it, they would just encourage us to try and to do what we could. I also liked how the staff made sure that no one was left out and that everyone had a go.

Something that was challenging for me was high ropes. I was quite nervous while doing high ropes, but the camp staff and my friends encouraged me to keep on going and to do what I can. All together high ropes were definitely something that challenged me. **Isabella Evans**

Mrs Stacey Thompson and Mr Tommy Scott
YEAR 5 TEACHERS



Year 5 camp

COLLEGE NEWS

ABC ADELAIDE VISITS TATACHILLA

On Monday this week the college was delighted to welcome ABC Adelaide to its outdoor agricultural science hub to visit the college's new iFarm. Regional reporter Caroline Horn interviewed agricultural science students **Casey Holata, Jakayla Loza, Charlie Atherton** and **Flynn Edwards** about the power of the iFarm in scientific discovery and the research opportunities it would afford them as part of their agricultural science studies.

Our students spoke eloquently and passionately about their career aspirations in agricultural science - from agronomy to genetics - and the passion projects they would be able to undertake using iFarm technology. At the time of printing, the interview was due to air on the ABC Radio's South Australian Country Hour later this week.

Miss Jane Clayton

HEAD OF MARKETING AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS



Student Jakayla Loza being interviewed by ABC Adelaide reporter



Agricultural Science teacher Isabelle Linde, Principal Noel Mifsud, with Agricultural Science students at the college iFarm

from the **ECO AND FIRST NATIONS TEAM**

CEM RIDE ON MOWER

The Cert II Conservation Ecosystem Management and Horticulture students have been working on integrated pest and weed management through their units; treat weeds and treat plant pests, disease and disorders. This covers management strategies such as physical, cultural, chemical and biological control strategies. The students have been using a variety of tools to achieve these methods and reviewing the pros and cons of different scales - from hand weeding to the ride-on mower.

DUCKLINGS NEAR ENTRANCE

It's Spring (coming into the Kurna season of Wirltuti). This means there are lots of new animals in our world. We have several families of birds nesting at Tatachilla this spring. By the main entrance off Tatachilla Road we have a family of Masked Lapwings and Australian Wood Ducks with their young. They are all very cute, but still learning a lot about the world. The chicks have been seen swimming in puddles on our driveway and on Tatachilla Road. Please be careful of our new friends here at the College and remember to drive slowly and be vigilant of feathered friends when entering and exiting the campus. Thank you.



CEM and Horticulture students operating the ride-on mower

NATURE FESTIVAL AT THE ECOCLASSROOM SANCTUARY

In the October school holidays we are hosting an exciting native garden design workshop for the Nature Festival.

Parents, caregivers, grandparents, or any community connections may be keen to learn about designing with gorgeous native gardens.

DESIGNING EPIC NATIVE GARDENS

Saturday 14 October, 10.00am - 3.00pm, \$50 (subsidised), <https://www.naturefestival.org.au/event/designing-epic-native-gardens>.

Ms Dani Austin, Ms Katie Hollis and Mr Tim Leggatt
ECO AND FIRST NATIONS TEAM



Australian Wood Ducks and their ducklings nesting at Tatachilla



from the **MUSIC TEAM**

A DAY AT THE CON

Our senior students were recently given the opportunity to attend A Day at the Con, an event held at Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide. Students were able to explore their creativity through improvisation workshops and enhance their listening skills. Students took part in a range of workshop in small ensembles, Latin styles, rhythm sections and vocal workshops.

Student reflections:

I attended A Day at the Con because I wanted to experience what it might be like at the university and meet the staff. We were allocated into small ensembles and had the opportunity to learn a new repertoire and perform the songs we learned throughout the day in a mini concert. In between playing, we split up into sections and attended a lecture and demonstration from some of the lecturers and university students. I enjoyed listening to the students and lecturers play, but the most enjoyable part was when we got to perform because we all got to take solos and have fun playing. **Lucas Tortorelli**

I decided to attend the jazz workshop, as I have been thoroughly enjoying it at school. I wanted to broaden my knowledge within this field and also to get out of my comfort zone.

We practiced improvising solos - this was something I hadn't done much of before, so it was a very rewarding experience for me to learn. Throughout the day I met lots of new people, who all came from different music backgrounds. At the end of the day, we got to perform what we practised, this meant no sheet music and it was all memorised or improvised.

I feel much more confident playing now that I have talked and worked with different people, to get their perspectives on the different ways they learned how to play. The thing I enjoyed the most was that I got to do something different, such as improvised music and trying to learn a song by ear. I have learned how much I love playing jazz, and I would love to continue it. **Isabelle Kendrick**



BAND PROGRAMME

Our Year 4 Band Programme is going from strength to strength, and we are now pleased to be able to tailor each group to best meet the needs of each student. Some students have now decided to have instrumental lessons to further enhance their skill set and some students have already progressed into the concert band, a result of a huge effort on their own part to learn the instrument. I am immensely proud of every student and their endeavour in the programme.

SAVE THE DATE

Music Showcase – 'A Night at the Movies'
Wednesday 1 November, Hopgood Theatre
Jazz Band, Orchestra, Chapel Bands and Senior Soloists

More details to follow soon.

YEAR 10 AND YEAR 1 MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER

Year 10 Music students recently invited Year 1 students into the classroom for a special performance. Year 10 musicians have been working in self-directed ensembles to produce a number of pieces for performance, and wowed their young audience with their playing (and dancing!) plus demonstrations of their instruments and a Q&A opportunity.

A big thank you to Year 1s for being an excellent audience, and for demonstrating fantastic listening skills and outstanding behaviour in their visit to the Music Department. Congratulations to Year 10 Music students on their skilful ensemble work, and on entertaining a very discerning crowd!

Mr Peter Jewitt
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs Maxine Lee-Morath
MUSIC TEACHER



Year 10 students playing to our Year 1s

SPORTS NEWS

SAPSASA ATHLETICS DAY

Congratulations to our amazing athletes who worked together as a united team to take out the runners-up trophy for the District Athletics Carnival held on the Tatachilla oval on Thursday 6 September. The team comprised of 27 athletes, representing their age group and individual events. Our students not only produced excellent personal results, but collectively were a force to be reckoned with by their sportsmanship and united front.

Throughout the day students came back with stories of encouraging other athletes from neighbouring schools, such as encouraging students who were struggling on the track to give them the motivation to keep going. When confronted with an error in marshalling resulting in a ribbon loss, the students affected accepted the human error and moved on with grace. Although our team result was an awesome achievement to be proud of, I was most impressed with the character traits we displayed and the way the students all upheld our Tatachilla values.

Further, the students from the Year 9 Advanced Athlete Program were all outstanding in responsibly carrying out their duties, and in the way they conducted themselves as leaders. They were all a pleasure to work with and the younger students really valued their support. Solid connections and bonds were visibly being made, creating an enriched united school across the year levels. A huge thank you to Tonia Fielke for organising the event and to Scott Wendelborn for all he has done behind the scenes nurturing these students to their full potential.

Thank you to Ally Moore, Tonia Fielke, Zoe Edwards and all the ground staff for the huge support on the day and in the lead up and pack down. Despite the gale force winds the day was a huge success for all involved.

Special congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent the Onkaparinga South District at the Metro Track and Field SAPSASA State Championships on Tuesday 19 September held at Athletics SA Stadium:

- **Harper Greer** – 10 year boys' 800m
- **Jayden Smith** – 10 year boys' 1500m and 10 year boys' 4 x 100m relay (2nd runner)
- **Tess Davidson** – 11 year girls' 4 x 100m relay (3rd runner)
- **Charlotte Prestwood** – 12 year girls' 100m, 12 year girls' 200m and 12 year girls' 4 x 100m relay (4th runner)
- **Penny Douglass** – 12 year girls' 1500m and 12 year girls' shot put
- **Declan Maasdorp** – 12 year boys' 1500m
- **Patrick Cameron** – 12 year boys' shot put

We wish these students all the best as they compete against the best primary school athletes in South Australia.

Mrs Fiona Gore
R-6 SPORTS COORDINATOR



Tatachilla students at the SAPSASA Athletics Day

SPORTS NEWS

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to **Jack Walker** and **Toby Murphy**, a Tatchilla duo representing South Australia in swimming. They have recently returned from nationals held at Sydney Olympic Park. Jack won a bronze medal for his 400m freestyle and placed top ten in every other event. Toby won a bronze medal in 4 x 50 freestyle relay.

Toby also recently represented South Australia in the Surf Life Saving State Team and attended the Australian Pool Rescue Championships in the Gold Coast. Toby won a silver medal in the 100m manikin tow, narrowly missing out on a gold medal by 0.01 of a second, a silver medal in the line throw and a bronze medal for South Australia for coming third in the whole competition.

The boys enjoyed their time away getting to know the other SA team members who they would usually compete against in state competitions and both are excited to continue training hard in the pool for future competitions.

Congratulations **Penny Douglass** who has just returned from playing in the South Australian 12 and under basketball team. The nationals were held in Perth this year and the girls placed 4th, unfortunately losing to Western Australia by four points in the bronze medal match. Well done Penny!

Congratulations to **Callum Robertson** who travelled to Sydney Olympic Park to represent South Australian in the National Table Tennis Championships held in the July school holidays. It was a week full of tough matches for Callum, where he was able to continue working on his game as he played the very best competitors from each state. The time away has enabled Callum to further develop his understanding and skills of the game and he is now beating more opponents than ever back here at home.



Toby Murphy and Jack Walker



Callum Robertson

NOT RETURNING IN 2024?

A reminder to families who intend to leave the College at the end of 2023 (excluding current Year 12 students), it is a requirement of the College that written notification of students leaving, must be given one term in advance.

This notification allows the College to fill any vacancies for next year and also fulfils your financial obligations. Failure to notify in the stated time-frame results in loss of fees.

For further information please contact Mrs Christine Martin, Enrolment Officer

christine.martin@tatchilla.sa.edu.au | 8323 9588

calendar DATES

Term 3 Week 9

Monday 18 September

Excursion: Year 11 rock climbing/hiking

Incursion: Years 5/6 ALWS presentation

Tuesday 19 September

Excursion: Year 1 cubby building

Year 10 mock interviews

Year 7/8 student-led conferences

Wednesday 20 September

Excursion: Year 6 Hiragana Challenge

Excursion: Year 7/8 boys AFL state final

Excursion: Year 11 RAA Street Smart

7-12 Chapel, 9am

Instrumental soirée (vocal), 4.30pm

Thursday 21 September

Careers Expo: agricultural, animal
and vet sciences

Thursday 21 - Friday 22 September

Year 3 camp

Friday 22 September

Year 12 Photography Exhibition,
opening night, 6.30pm

Friday 22 September - Saturday 7 October

Japan Tour

Term 3 Week 10

Tuesday 26 September

JS Assembly, 2.35pm

Wednesday 27 September

7-12 Chapel, 9am

Friday 29 September

Blessing of the Animals, 8.45am

Challenge for Charity, R-12

R-12 final assembly, 2.35pm

Final day of Term 3, 3.20pm dismissal

Term 4 Week 1

Monday 16 October

Term 4 commences for all students

TERM DATES >

<https://www.tatachilla.sa.edu.au/news/term-dates>

COLLEGE CALENDAR >

<https://www.tatachilla.sa.edu.au/news/college-calendar>



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Blessing of the Animals

A celebration of our love
and gratitude for the
animals in our lives

All pets welcome

**Friday 29
September
2023**

Junior School
oval, 8.45am

Challenge for Charity fundraiser

**Dress up theme: 'a day on the farm' (animal, person or thing!)
Come in farmyard costume or come as yourself (casual clothes)**

Food stalls | games and activities | Battle of the Bands

Our Challenge for Charity fundraiser will support Krus Village in Cambodia, Ampilatawja in the Northern Territory and East African refugee camps via the Australian Lutheran World Service.

Each of these communities are embedded in our service learning program at the college.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

15-21 SEPT



OPENING NIGHT
6:30 PM FRIDAY 15 SEPT 2023
TATACHILLA LUTHERAN COLLEGE
GYM FOYER

IMAGE BY ELIZA JOHNSTON

EcoClassroom Sanctuary

2023 Program: Kudlila and Wirltuti

Kudlila (approximately July, August, September) and Wirltuti (approximately October, November, December) are Kurna seasonal names (use of Kurna seasonal names approved by Kurna Warra Pintyanthi)

Join us for our community nature craft and connection workshops at the sanctuary.



Growing Native Plants from Seeds and Cuttings

Sunday 10 September | 3.00pm - 5.30pm | \$7.50 (subsidised)

<https://events.humanitix.com/growing-native-plants-sep-2023>

You'll be guided through the process of growing local native plants from both seed and cuttings, plus meet the bettongs and potoroos at the end of the workshop.



Bettongs at Dusk

Wednesday 11 October | 6.45pm - 8.00pm | \$9-15 (subsidised)

<https://www.naturefestival.org.au/event/bettongs-at-dusk>

You'll explore the EcoClassroom Sanctuary learning about the local native plants and animals, meeting the bettongs and potoroos, and connecting with nature.



Designing Epic Native Gardens

Saturday 14 October | 10.00am - 3.00pm | \$50 (subsidised)

<https://www.naturefestival.org.au/event/designing-epic-native-gardens>

Want to incorporate lovely local native plants into spaces around you? This workshop with Steve from *Endemic Environments* will support you in native garden design.



Botanical Drawing

Saturday 28 October | 10.00am - 3.00pm | \$40 (subsidised)

<https://events.humanitix.com/botanical-drawing-2023>

You'll be introduced to the art and science of botanical drawing. Get hands on and work on your own piece under the guidance and support of Gilbert Dashorst.



Spoon Carving

Saturday 11 November | 10.00am - 3.00pm | \$90

<https://events.humanitix.com/spoon-carving-2023>

Carve your own large serving spoon from fresh green timber. You'll learn how to design a functional spoon, use an axe to remove bulk material, and carve complex shapes in three dimensions using a straight knife and hook knife.



Lino Printing Nature Gift Cards

Saturday 18 November | 1.00pm - 4.00pm | \$30 (subsidised)

<https://events.humanitix.com/lino-print-gift-cards-2023>

Create and carve your own set of six nature inspired gift cards for the festive season or any time.