

tatachilla NEWS



Term 3 Week 2 | Thursday 29 July 2021



from the
PRINCIPAL

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to all members of the College community for Term 3 2021.

We warmly welcome all new students and the following new members of staff:

- **Ryan Moon** and **Ben Everett** - ICT
- **Zoe Edwards** - Outdoor Education support
- **Susan Chapman** - Student Counsellor

Last year prior to Valedictory I wrote to our community with the prophetic words from Ecclesiastes 8:7

'Since no one knows the future, who can tell someone else what is to come?'

Who could have predicted the second State lockdown and subsequent return to school this term with masks being the 'new uniform' for students in Years 8-12?

What I shared with our 2020 Valedictorians holds firm today:

'In times of great adversity, know that your God will never abandon you. It is, in the toughest moments of your life, that you will know most profoundly of your utter dependence on the grace of the Divine, to guide you through and prevail against adversity. If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it is to be grateful for the simple blessings and opportunities in life. Blessings such as time with family and friends, in person, outdoors and not via a screen.'

During the term break our Property Services team and external contractors have been deep cleaning the College, refurbishing classrooms and ensuring the College is ready for the commencement of studies. I sincerely thank our quiet heroes on staff; Christo Botha - College Business Director, Ron Armstrong - Property Services Manager, and their team for their hard work.

Students enjoying returning to school and meeting Mr Ebert's dog Misty



Also during the term break over 450 members of the community gathered in our Gymnasium together with Leon Bignell MP, Mayor Erin Thompson and I, to discuss the possible threat to McLaren Vale Character Preservation District boundaries. I am pleased to report that the meeting was successful and the motion to change current boundaries will not be pursued in Parliament. I commend Minister Bignell and Mayor Thompson for their support of the College and surrounding environment. I continue to seek their assistance on the College's behalf for our ongoing requests to improve student safety via a bike pathway on Tatachilla Road and the provision of public transport to our College.

The 2021 Tokyo Olympics has captured the hearts and minds of many including our College community. Our very own Year 10 swimming sensation Molly Walker experienced some of the exuberance leading up to the Olympics with her participation in Olympics selection. The Adelaide Advertiser recently reported: *'Despite only being 15, this swimming star is ready to become a household name after rubbing shoulders with some of the world's biggest superstars at a recent trial.'* Congratulations Molly - we are proud of your success and hard work.

from the **PRINCIPAL**

STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR 2022

The College Board and I are collaborating with key stakeholders to launch an exciting strategic direction for 2022.

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) clearly states that successful learning and school educational outcomes are profoundly impacted by quality leadership. We have been blessed to have deeply committed and highly professional leaders over the past 25 years. As we embark on a highly aspirational and audacious vision beyond 2022, we acknowledge leadership and leading for impact matters. AITSL states:

'Strong evidence exists that leadership which focuses on improving teaching and learning has a significant impact on student achievement. This is also the case when leading teaching and learning is widely distributed so there is a shared responsibility for improving the quality of teaching across a school.'

In last Saturday's Adelaide newspaper the College Board and I advertised for the employment of key leadership positions for the College for 2022.

The appointment of new leaders acknowledges the rich legacy of previous leadership and our audacious vision for higher educational outcomes and aspirations. Please keep us in your prayers as we select leaders who will serve your children with audacity for a clear vision for the future.

One author with a clear vision is our very own Board Member Mr Paul Rogers. Congratulations Paul on the release of your new book 'Get off the Tools – The Tradies Guide to More Profit, More Time and Less Stress'. Paul reminds us of an axiom by Steve Jobs (Apple Co-Founder) that "great things in business are never done by one person". How true this is of the Board, whose members are prophets (not profits) giving generously, of their time and wisdom, to improve College operations and culture.

Once again welcome back to the College for Term 3. I reiterate my message to you, of the joy which the presence of children bring to our lives. Our children provide hope for humanity and future beyond our comprehension.

Blessings,

Mr Noel Mifsud
PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL TV

SPECIAL REPORT: COVID FATIGUE AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

The physical impact of the pandemic has mostly spared our young people, however as the nation remains to be on alert and in various stages of lockdown, restrictions continue to be mandated. The pandemic has had a great affect on our young people with many paying a heavy emotional and developmental price. Psychological disorders are on the rise and emergency interventions have skyrocketed.

As hard as it is being a young person today, it's also draining being the parent of one. It has been reported that many parents are struggling to keep their child's mental health afloat, often proving it is difficult to juggle parenting responsibilities whilst at the same time providing much needed emotional support for their children.

Unlike the coronavirus itself, the emotional blowback of the pandemic cannot be vaccinated away. Psychologists are seeing more depression and anxiety across all age groups, but in adolescents it seems to be on steroids, with some choosing to self-medicate using alcohol or other drugs. When they look into the future now, they're looking at one that wasn't what they envisioned before.

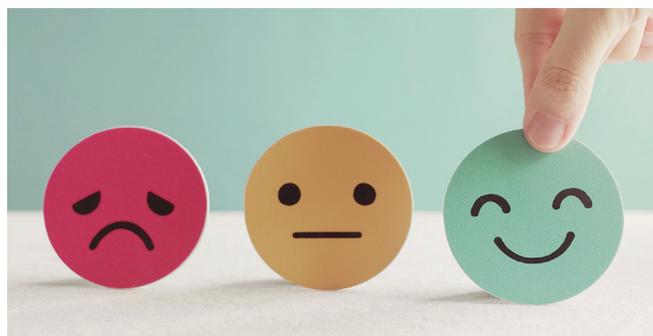
This report explains the current state of youth mental health in a post-COVID era and offers guidance on how best to support young people today.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If this Special Report raises any concerns for you, a loved one or the wellbeing of your child, please seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to this month's edition:
https://tatachilla.sa.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-covid-fatigue-youth-mental-health

Ms Narelle Mlstiades
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRINCIPAL



from the head of **JUNIOR SCHOOL**



For those of us on site at the College during the lockdown period, we had four days quite unlike our usual practice. On Wednesday, with preparations happening at school and online, and about thirty children on site, we set out to walk the boundaries or at least part of it. From the Junior School we headed southeast along the path between the Middle and Senior School. Once off the pavers and onto the dirt, we passed the kitchen garden with the lemon tree full of fruit. A bit further on is the grounds department storage area. A broken toilet on a pile of rubble was a source of amusement. Just before you get to the south east corner, rows and rows of eucalypts of various sizes are reminders of all the children that have come through the College. At this point, we were well beyond where many of the children had been before. Excitement was building. Turning north, we walked parallel to Victor Harbor Road. Children in a house close to the other side of the road ran up to their fence and waved to us. We waved back and wished them 'Happy Lockdown'. We also waved at the few trucks travelling along Tatchilla Road and sometimes were rewarded with a blast from their horn.



Once Remote Learning started, a new routine at school was required. Drop off and pick up were brief and chat limited. A multi-age group took over adjoining Year 3 classrooms. Reception to Year 3 in one room and Year 4 to 6 in the other. With the support of the LSO staff, most children managed to make the adjustment needed. Friends gathered around tables. Some siblings sat together. One student would stand at the bench each morning and get to work with hardly a word. Zoom meetings were held each morning; joyous occasions for both students and teachers. That we were missing each other was clear. Older students naturally sat together in class and at breaks. When learning was over and we went out to play, they were sweetly mindful of the younger students. Shoe laces were done up. 'Red Rover All Over' and 'Rob the Nest' were played vigorously and everyone was included. Connections were made not possible in the normal school day.

There were many other new routines required during lockdown. Most teachers and other College staff were working from home having long days online. Many parents were juggling their busy work life and children at home. Others who live alone might have experienced lonely days. What I experienced, with the children on site, their parents, and staff, most of whom I only saw briefly online each day, was everyone doing their bit to make this time as productive and enjoyable as it could be.

TERM 3 REMINDERS AGAIN

UNIFORM REMINDER

All students need to have their hats washed and ready to be worn during Term 3 when hats are compulsory. Children wearing the old uniform continue to wear the winter uniform. Children in the new uniform can wear whatever the weather of the day requires.

The rugby top is to be worn with the PE uniform only. It should not be worn over shirts or dresses. The jumper, soft-shell jacket or puffer vest are worn with the formal uniform.

JS CHAPEL AND ASSEMBLY

Term 3 Junior School Chapel will be in Week 3 and Junior School Assembly is not until Week 4 at this stage. Updates about parents on site will be communicated as they are known.

TAKE HOME PACKS

Please return your child's take-home pack used during the Remote Learning period. Reception parents, please return the loan iPad and charger. We will keep these items on stand-by for any future school closures.

Mr John Dow
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



from the head of **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

FINDING YOUR OWN VOICE AS ONE GROWS THROUGH CHALLENGE WITH OPTIMISM AND GRIT

What a remarkable journey we have all been on during the last week, as we returned to learning at school and then in Remote Learning mode from home. The lockdown caused us to change; in the way we live, work, and learn. We encountered challenges and overcame these with hope, resilience, and innovation. All of us have had to adapted to a new way of living, working, and learning in a remote and distanced way from those we look to for support every day.

As educators in the Middle School, we have been so proud of how adaptable, creative and resource-filled our young people have become during this time. From learning video conferencing through Zoom, presenting learning in digital forms, collaborating in online forums and e-submission of work; our young people have gained a wonderful amount of digital literacy and skills in such a small period time.

One of the most notable characteristics we have seen in our young people, is that they have found their own voice. This voice has come from a place of how to adapt to change quickly, a place of the fear of the unknown, a place of not sure what to do next, a place of excitement and joy of learning in a different way and a place of accomplishment and purpose. This is what we are most proud of; our young people using their own voice to grow through challenge with optimism and grit.

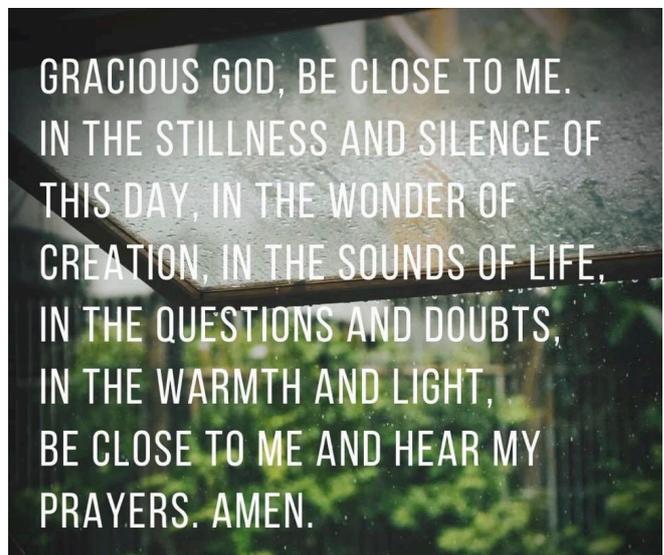


As we transition back to face to face learning we see this time as a consolidation of your child's learning. Time to help them recap, reflect and reconnect with their teachers and their peers face to face, and prioritise what they need to achieve. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Home Class Teacher in the first instance, if you have any questions or concerns, and they will seek further staff support if required from the Wellbeing or Teaching and Learning Team.

I thank each student, parent, and staff member for trusting each other during COVID times. Together we have stayed connected, cared for each other, and shown the Love of Christ which has enriched all of our lives.

My prayers and thoughts are with you all,

Ms Sarah Hoff-Zweck
HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL





from the head of **SENIOR SCHOOL**

“Even if you are falling on your face – it means you are trying something new – that’s why you are still moving forwards.”

These words resonated with me after watching a humbling interview with Georgia Godwin, the only Australian competing in the 2020 Tokyo Artistic Gymnastics over the weekend. There was no other alternative for her.

She had a dream and she was determined to achieve it. She knew she had to get up and keep going to get to where she needed to be. She dusted herself down, picked herself up and gave it another go. Such determination and tenacity is what is needed to achieve true dreams.

As I write this article, I was ‘blown away’ watching our Australian swimmer Ariarne Titmus win the gold medal in the women’s 400m freestyle at the Tokyo Olympics. The 20 year old triumphed at her first Olympic Games, defeating five-time Olympic Champion Katie Ledecky from the United States. The swim was amazing and the response of her coach made headlines.

The response from her father Steve is what hit the mark most with me. *“There is such a great relationship between Dean Boxall and Ariarne. That is what emotion is all about. The past five years have been incredible. But the past two years in particular, every day of training has been worked out to get to the point of where we got to today. Arnie (Titmus) came to me when she was 4min12 swimmer and Ledecky was 3min56 – just a 16 second difference. We just started chipping away and then we started to believe.”* (Steve Titmus, The Australian).

Welcome back everyone, it’s great to remain close and connected as a community, despite the move to Remote Learning during the lockdown. I am sending prayers and love to everyone – especially our Year 12s who had to halt their Trial Examinations to go into lockdown. My special thanks to all our teachers. Learning has continued so smoothly because of the great relationships our teachers have forged with their students. These strong relationships will help all our students stay on track and achieve their dreams. My thoughts also go to those in our Tatachilla community who missed the comradeship and friendship of meeting with others face to face. It is great to see us do so well as South Australians, returning to face-to-face teaching, as we continue to battle this invisible pandemic.

YEAR 12 TRIAL EXAMINATIONS

– WILL GO AHEAD, AT A TIME TO BE ADVISED

Mr Daniel Krieg and I will liaise with our team and get back to families as to when the remainder examinations will run. We wish our Year 12s every best wish as they prepare for these trial examinations and assessments. Students are reminded that trial examinations play a critical role in determining the predicted mark of students that needs to be sent to the SACE Board by Year 12 teachers through consultation with their Learning Leaders.

This mark is not released (SACE requirement) to students or families. Student predicted marks are used by the SACE Board to determine the final results of students who are sick during November final SACE examinations or due to any other examination misadventure due to electronic examinations or COVID-19 as occurred last year. It is the ranking position in the class that is the key aspect of predicted marks used by the SACE Board. This is why these trial examinations must be rescheduled. Thanking everyone for your valued support as always.

SUBJECT SELECTION 2022

– KEEP THESE DATES FREE

Plans have well and truly commenced to design classes and Teaching and Learning for 2022.

- **Online Curriculum Guide**

Our Online Curriculum Guide is currently being updated and will be available on the College website at the end of Week 4. Those wanting an electronic pdf version will be able to download one. Those wanting a hard-copy will be able to request one from Main Reception.

- **Parent Information Evening**

Thursday 12 August, 6:00pm (Week 4)

– for current Year 7-11 families

Invitations will go out to families shortly, about this Parent Information Evening and we will advise whether we run this onsite in our Gym as originally planned or make other COVID-19 appropriate plans. Please keep the date free if you can. It will be an opportunity to hear about 2022 subjects, our plans for curriculum growth under the new strategic plan and will provide time to talk with Learning Leaders about subjects best suited to your child to achieve their career pathway.

- **Family Subject Selection Interviews**

Monday 30 August - Thursday 2 September (Week 7)

Family Subject Selection Interviews will be conducted from Monday 30 August to Thursday 2 September either onsite or remotely. Gina Kadis will lead an expert Middle Years and Senior Years team to support your child to confirm their choice subjects. Further information and booking details will be sent to families.

In closing, I’d like to leave you with this final quote from Mr Noel Mifsud’s briefing this week;

“May God bless us; guide us; still us”.

Thinking of all, around the world, who are suffering and need our love and prayers,

Mrs Gina Kadis

DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY, TEACHING & LEARNING AND
HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL



Rec & Year 7 2022

Enrol now

 **TATACHILLA**
lutheran college

RECEPTION - YEAR 12
tatachilla.sa.edu.au

Class of 2001 20 year reunion

 **TATACHILLA**
lutheran college

Tatachilla Lutheran College warmly invites the Class of 2001 to attend the Tatachilla Lutheran College Old Scholars 20 Year Reunion.

Saturday 9 October 2021 | 5.00pm - 8.30pm | College Gymnasium

\$30 per ticket | champagne on arrival | gourmet cocktail food
College tour | alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages

Bookings essential by Friday 1 October: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSBJX>

Further information: Ms Sally Moran: sally.moran@tatachilla.sa.edu.au | 8323 9588

calendar
DATES

Due to the ever-changing situation, please refer to the calendar on our website for information regarding upcoming events and excursions:

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



Students enjoying returning to school and meeting Mr Ebert's dog Misty