

# tatachilla NEWS



Term 1 Week 2 | Tuesday 8 February 2022



## from the **PRINCIPAL**

I offer a warm welcome and God's abundant blessing to all members of the Tatachilla Lutheran College Community who return to the College in 2022. A special welcome to our new families.

My colleagues and I have missed the chatter of students in the yard and the excitement of learning in the classrooms. Whether engaged in face to face or online learning, it is a joy and privilege to welcome or welcome back your child.

Onsite students will notice the new and improved landscape with renovations to ovals, play areas, classrooms and technology over the Christmas break. I sincerely thank our Business Director Mr Christo Botha, Property Services Manager Mr Ron Armstrong, their teams and College contractors for outstanding work over the holidays.

The Uniform Shop reopened on Monday 7 February and staff will be lenient on students unable to be in full attire for the first few weeks of term due to their unforeseen closure.

It is my pleasure to welcome the following new staff for 2022:

**Ashley Coats**  
**Martin Morgan**  
**Kerri Middleton**  
**Peter Jewitt**  
**Matthew Butler**  
**Jamie Davidson**  
**Tracey Alderman**  
**Sarah Whiteley**  
**Raquel Chester**  
**Kevin John**  
**Courtney Orrin**

Deputy Principal  
Property Services Manager  
ICT Services  
Director of Music  
Year 6 Teacher  
Year 6 Teacher  
Year 2 Teacher  
Junior Years Arts  
Senior Technology Teacher  
Senior Science Teacher  
Reception Teacher

### New staff 2022



Ashley Coats



Martin Morgan



Matthew Butler



Jamie Davidson



Sarah Whiteley



Raquel Chester



Courtney Orrin



Kevin John



Peter Jewitt



Tracey Alderman

# from the **PRINCIPAL**

The College is faithfully served by the College Board, consisting of the following:

<b>Sarah Anthony</b>	Chair
<b>Phil Auricht</b>	Vice Chair
<b>Paul Rogers</b>	Member
<b>Noel Mifsud</b>	Member
<b>Pastor Jon Goessling</b>	Member
<b>Christo Botha</b>	Member
<b>Pastor Mike Pietsch</b>	Member
<b>Bruce Thompson</b>	Member
<b>Hayley Smith</b>	Member
<b>Rosalie Eckert</b>	Member

Members also serve on College subcommittees which include Audit and Compliance, Policies, Procedures and Development and Master Planning. It is reassuring to have all members of the 2021 College Board returning in 2022.

We welcome the 2022 Leadership team who will serve the College. I congratulate the team who were appointed late in 2021 and especially welcome Ashley Coats as the inaugural Deputy Principal to the College.



The 2022 College Executive Team includes:

<b>Noel Mifsud</b>	Principal
<b>Ashley Coats</b>	Deputy Principal
<b>Pastor Jon Goessling</b>	College Pastor
<b>Christo Botha</b>	Business Director
<b>Abby Drew</b>	Director of People and Culture
<b>Alison Thacker</b>	R-12 Director of Teaching and Learning
<b>Chris McElligott</b>	Head Middle and Senior Years
<b>John Dow</b>	Head Junior Years

A full list of names and positions of all staff leadership positions are available via the following link:

[https://www.tatachilla.sa.edu.au/\\_\\_files/f/9805009/PAR\\_and\\_Homeclass\\_Staff\\_EMAILS\\_R-12\\_2022\\_PDF.pdf](https://www.tatachilla.sa.edu.au/__files/f/9805009/PAR_and_Homeclass_Staff_EMAILS_R-12_2022_PDF.pdf)

I conclude with the wisdom of Tony Blair former UK Prime Minister's speaking on education in 2001:

*'There is nothing more important to making (our country) a fairer and stronger country. Our top priority was, is and always will be education, education, education...developing the talents and raising the ambitions of all our young people. At a good school children gain the basic tools for life and work. But they ought also to learn the joy of life: the exhilaration of music, the excitement of sport, the beauty of art, the magic of science. And they learn the value of life: what it is to be responsible citizens who give something back to their community. So a good school for every child is our mission.'*

Please join me in praying that Tatachilla Lutheran College will be a fairer and stronger College in 2022.

**Mr Noel Mifsud**  
PRINCIPAL



The 2022 Executive Team

from the head of  
**JUNIOR YEARS**



Despite the unexpected need for many Junior School children to learn at home, 2022 has got off to a good start. In particular, the Junior School has undergone significant improvements over the holidays, with the Property Services team working through the break to complete various projects.

Reception and Year 1 children are using the new R/1 playground and already the children have given it the thumbs up. The new Year 2 – 6 playground is also complete and along with the adjacent sandpit, is shaded by a new shade structure, which looks dynamic.

Less exciting, but certainly very functional, is the new toilet block to service Years 1 – 3. With these classes collocated once again, the need for toilets has been met with six new cubicles each for both the boys and girls, and a disability toilet. This setup has been replicated in the Year 5 and 6 area as well.

The 5 and 6 area is one of the original parts of the school, and guided by the vision of Principal Noel Mifsud and Christo Botha, Business Director, it has undergone a radical makeover. It has been reclad externally to match the rest of the Junior School and painted inside and out. New carpet and classroom furniture has been installed in all the classrooms. The Activity Centre will be recarpeted soon, and a large new LCD screen has been installed.

A fantastic start to the new year. When you can, please come and have a look at what has been achieved. In the meantime, Sally Moran has taken photographs to give you a taste of the new look Junior School.



The new 2-6 playground with new shade structure



Reception students on their first day of school



Newly renovated Year 5 and 6 area



The new R/1 playground



New furniture in Year 5 and 6 classrooms

# from the head of **JUNIOR YEARS**

## **PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

Under the current COVID-19 restrictions, the Parent Information Night will not be held until later in the term. Each teacher will send out an information booklet in the meantime, giving you an insight into the year ahead.

Likewise, Chapels and Assemblies will not be conducted face-to-face yet. This year, they will be held on Thursday mornings at 9:00am in the Gym. The only exception to this is if we have a whole College Chapel or Assembly during the week when we will not have a Junior School event.

Each class or year level presents their learning at Assembly or participates in a Chapel, once during the year. Parents, grandparents, and friends are welcome to attend on that occasion, or as often as you wish. Socially distanced seating will be set out for parents and visitors at the back of the student seating arrangements.

We will let you know when Chapels and Assemblies resume on site and welcome your presence.

## **HATS**

Please ensure your child has their school hat with them every day so that they can take full advantage of the opportunities the College grounds, playgrounds and oval provide for imaginative and structured play. The College policy is 'no hat; play in the shade' in designated shady play spaces. Hats are compulsory in Terms 1, 3 and Term 4.

**Mr John Dow**  
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



**Enrol now**

# Reception Mid-Year Intake

2022

A Tatchilla world class education, at an unbeatable price.

**TATCHILLA**  
lutheran college

RECEPTION - YEAR 12  
[tatchilla.sa.edu.au](http://tatchilla.sa.edu.au)





# from the director of **TEACHING & LEARNING**

## **ENVIRONMENT AS THE THIRD TEACHER**

Environment plays a crucial part in supporting learning. Numerous studies have demonstrated that *'a well-designed learning environment supplements evidence-based pedagogy and curriculum design.'* (Uncapher, M.

The Science of Effective Learning Spaces.  
October 14, 2016)

Interaction with the natural environment is good for learning. Research has demonstrated the positive impact of the natural environment, as well as the introduction of leafy plants into the classroom, on students' well-being and behaviour; fewer sick days was also noted. Another study of 10,000 Year 5 students showed that students in schools with unrestricted views of nature tested higher in reading, maths, and language arts than students in schools with urban views (or no views at all).

With this in mind, students currently at the College, and those returning soon, are blessed to learn and grow in the beautiful environment that is Tatachilla Lutheran College. Students in Years R-6 will notice the refurbished R-1 and 2-6 playgrounds with additional new shade cloth protection, as well as new landscaping along The Ridge.



The Senior Study Centre

Our Senior Study Centre is another new learning area developed over the holidays to create a study-specific space for Senior School Students to focus on a culture of individual endeavour and collaborative enterprise. It features new carpet, individual and collaborative seating arrangements and a range of indoor plants to bring aspects of the environment inside. Further developments to this space will include new furniture designed to complement the senior study environment.

Taking learning outside where possible is one layer of COVID-19 protection, however its benefits are clearly broader. For students who are accessing their learning remotely, it is important to build some time outside into their daily routines too, enhancing their wellbeing and cognitive function.

We are certainly looking forward to having all our students back at College in the coming weeks, as we continue to grow as a learning community surrounded by our beautiful College grounds and EcoClassroom.

**Mrs Ali Thacker**

R-12 DIRECTOR OF TEACHING & LEARNING



The new 2-6 playground



The new 2-6 playground



Middle and Senior School students being greeted back to school



## from the head of **MIDDLE & SENIOR YEARS**

This is my tenth year at Tatchilla, but my first year in the new role as Head of Middle and Senior Years. Being able to support more than 60 staff in the Middle and Senior School in the weeks leading up to students joining us for 2022 has been both a joy and a seamless process. We really do have creative, adaptable and passionate staff. Considering the news feed of my social media citing so much teacher burn out and fatigue, I count it a blessing to work with colleagues who help each other out to make sure the service we deliver is one of excellence.

I will be sharing more information via our online Parent Information Night on Tuesday 22 February (Week 4) but I wanted to highlight our commitment to embedding, teaching and practicing the domain of positive psychology here at Tatchilla.

As a part of the timetable we have sequestered 30 minutes each morning to start the day as a Home Class in order to deliver a world-class wellbeing curriculum written by the Institute of Positive Education. We have tailored this to our specific context and embedded this across all years, Reception through to Year 12.

In Years 7-12 we are calling this time Flourish and we will be exploring a range of topics such as; Mindfulness, Empathy and Compassion, Forgiveness, Self-Knowledge, Flow, Motivation, Curiosity and Interest, a Sense of Meaning and many more.

If mental illness and languishing is one end of the wellbeing spectrum, then flourishing is the other end. Our time in Flourish will also encompass Chapels, Assemblies and House on a regular basis. They form an integral part of our school environment that sees students develop as connected and valuable contributors to our school, their communities and the world more generally.

**Mr Chris McElligott**  
HEAD OF MIDDLE & SENIOR YEARS

## from the **WELLBEING TEAM**

The Counselling team welcome you back to school and welcome new families and students to Tatchilla. We are sure that with Remote Learning and the hybrid start, many students and families have some mixed feelings as they start a new school year.

We suggest that despite the unusual start; schools, classes, homework and friendships can help provide protective factors for your children's mental health. Yes it can be stressful, but as parents and educators, it's up to us to let students know that we are all learning together during this time, and that schools are about learning and growing, and not about being perfect, or getting things right all the time.

Returning to school at the start of the year can be tough or challenging for many students, and for the parents who support them. Please find below a link to a Headspace article giving practical tips for parents to support their young people as they return to school: <https://headspace.org.au/explore-topics/supporting-a-young-person/back-to-school/>

Our Counselling team is available for student and parent support five days a week. We can be contacted by email or directly by phone on 7333 4781

**Sue Chapman** [sue.chapman@tatchilla.sa.edu.au](mailto:sue.chapman@tatchilla.sa.edu.au)  
**Mike Ebert** [michael.ebert@tatchilla.sa.edu.au](mailto:michael.ebert@tatchilla.sa.edu.au)  
**Misty** Misty would prefer not to be contacted by email!

**Mrs Sue Chapman and Mr Mike Ebert**  
COUNSELLING TEAM



# from the **ECO & FIRST NATIONS TEAM**

## **ECO IN 2022 - WE NEED YOU!**

We're looking forward to another beautiful year in our special natural spaces and exploring our connection to the planet here at Tatchilla Lutheran College. Please remember students, parents, and caregivers can always reach out to the EcoEducation team at [eco@tatchilla.sa.edu.au](mailto:eco@tatchilla.sa.edu.au)

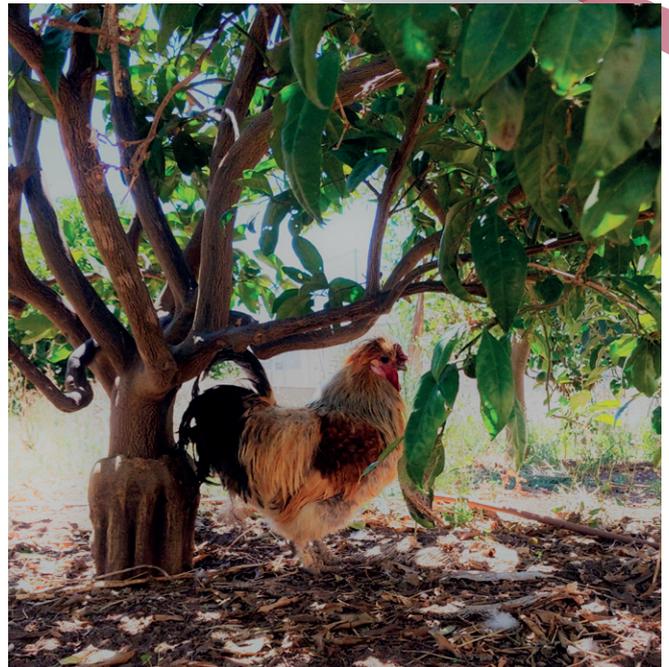
Please let us know if you have any feedback or ideas around nature, food growing, waste and recycling, climate change or more. We look forward to providing stories through this Newsletter and on social media.

## **MARSUPIALS OVER THE HOLIDAYS**

Over the summer holidays our brush-tailed bettongs, long-nosed potoroos and tamar wallabies were lovingly fed by a team of wonderful staff volunteers.

As students are returning, the animals are excited to return to their varied feasts of fruit and vegetable scraps from the Junior School. Our so-called 'Bettong Buckets' are around the Junior School for collecting the fruit and veg, including peels and unfinished fruit. Our Year 4 classes will help bring the buckets to the EcoTeam. The Bettong Bucket system saves food from being wasted, saves money on animal feed, and the animals love it! Thank you.

If you know of any local fruit or vegetable growers or sellers who often have surplus fruit or vegetables please contact us at [eco@tatchilla.sa.edu.au](mailto:eco@tatchilla.sa.edu.au)



## **FOOD GARDEN AND ROOSTERS OVER THE HOLIDAYS**

At the end of last year two roosters moved to our Food and Chook Garden. They are settling in well and looking forward to being joined by some hens later this year. We may be looking for extra egg incubators if you happen to have one the school could borrow for students to hatch their own eggs.

**Ms Dani Austin**  
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR

# from the **CAREERS CORNER**

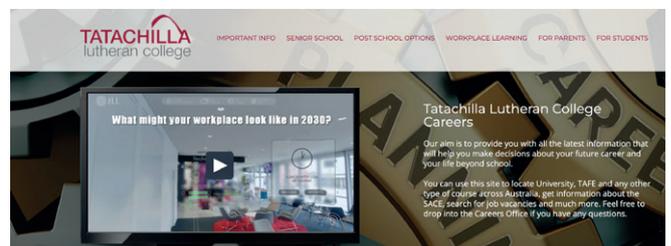
Have you seen our school's career website? It is full of information and links to anything to do with post-school options, apprenticeships and traineeships, and Vocational Education (VET). You can subscribe to the newsletter which is updated regularly.

Please go to the Tatchilla website [www.tatchilla.sa.edu.au](http://www.tatchilla.sa.edu.au) and click on 'Learning' then click on 'Careers website' in the second column.

I am available Mondays - Thursdays for appointments to discuss career pathway options, VET courses and the footy!

Please email me: [linda.wright@tatchilla.sa.edu.au](mailto:linda.wright@tatchilla.sa.edu.au)

**Ms Linda Wright**  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT & VET COORDINATOR



# calendar DATES

## Term 1 Week 3

### Monday 14 February

Face to face learning resumes for all students, R-12

### Tuesday 15 February

Years 7-12 Video Assembly

### Thursday 17 February

SRC Voting

### Friday 18 February

Years 7-12 House

## Term 1 Week 4

### Monday 21 - Thursday 24 February

VET Interviews (current students)

### Tuesday 22 February

Years 7-12 Video Chapel

Years 7-12 Parent Information Night (online) 6:00pm - 7:00pm

### Thursday 24 February

JS Video Assembly

### Friday 25 February

Years 7-12 Video House

## Term 1 Week 5

### Tuesday 1 March

R-12 Assembly, 8:40am (TBC)

### Wednesday 2 March

Yr 7 Standards Day (L1-5)

### Thursday 3 March

Yr 8 Standards Day (L1-4)  
JS Chapel, 8:40am

### Friday 4 March

Years 7-12 House

## ABSENTEES/LATE ARRIVALS

In the event your child is absent or arriving late to school, please notify the College using one of the following:

- Skoolbag App complete the Absentee Form in EForms
- Phone 8329 4444
- E-mail [absentees@tatachilla.sa.edu.au](mailto:absentees@tatachilla.sa.edu.au)

Should your child test positive to COVID-19, please complete the form on our website as a matter of urgency: <https://www.tatachilla.sa.edu.au/news/coronavirus-covid-19-news>



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