



Term 2 Week 8, 2026

Important Dates

**Start of
Australian
Business
Week**

Monday 22 June

**Arrival of
Toryo High
School
students**

Sunday 2 August

Upcoming Events

**Wind in the
Willows the
musical**

Venue: Tatachilla
Lutheran College -
McLaren Vale

Date: Thursday 25
June - Friday 26
June

**Whole-of-
college photo
days**

Venue: Tatachilla
Lutheran College -
McLaren Vale

Date: Thursday 30
July - Friday 31 July

**College tour
of the junior
years**

Venue: Tatachilla
Lutheran College -
McLaren Vale

Date: Tuesday 4
August

Time: 9:30am -
11:00am

11 June 2026

Old Scholar Molly Walker headed for Commonwealth Games



The Tatachilla community is thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievement of alumna **Molly Walker** (Class of 2023), who has earned selection on the Australian Dolphins Team for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Competing at the Australian Swimming Trials in Sydney, Molly delivered a standout performance in the 800m Freestyle, finishing second in the final to secure her place on one of the sport's biggest international stages. Her results have also earned her selection for the Pan Pacific Championships in the United States.

Molly is one of four South Australian Sports Institute (SASI) swimmers named in the 60-strong Australian Dolphins squad bound for Glasgow. A talented distance freestyle swimmer, she will make her Commonwealth Games debut after years of dedication, discipline and hard work in the pool.

As an inaugural graduate of Tatachilla's [Advanced Athlete Development Program](#), Molly's success is a testament to her perseverance, commitment and pursuit of excellence both in and out of the sporting arena. Her journey continues to inspire current students and reflects the opportunities available through the College's specialist athlete pathway.

We couldn't be prouder of all that Molly has achieved and look forward to cheering her on as she represents Australia in the green and gold.

Congratulations, Molly — your Tatachilla family is behind you every stroke of the way!

Photo: Molly Walker competes in the Women's 800 LC Metre Freestyle during the 2026 Australian Swimming Commonwealth Games, Pan Pacific Championships and Para Pan Pacific Championships Trials at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre on June 11, 2026 in Sydney, Australia (photo by Andy Cheung/Getty Images).

Recent News

18 June 2026

Emma Charlton to captain South Australia



Year 12 student and Advanced Athlete Development Program alumna **Emma Charlton** has achieved a remarkable honour, being named captain of South Australia's Under 18 Girls team for the 2026 AFLW National Championships.

Emma has quickly established herself as one of the most exciting young talents in Australian football. The dynamic midfielder was named South Australia's Most Valuable Player at the 2025 AFL Under 18 Championships and earned selection in the AFL Under 18 All-Australian Team. She also played a pivotal role in South Adelaide Football Club's premiership success, claiming Best on Ground honours in the 2025 SANFLW Grand Final.

Now, her leadership, work ethic and commitment have been recognised with the honour of captaining her state on the national stage.

Emma's journey is a testament to what can be achieved through dedication, perseverance and a passion for excellence. As a valued member of our Tatachilla community, she continues to inspire younger students while pursuing her football dreams at the highest level.

Congratulations, Emma, on this incredible achievement. We are immensely proud of you and look forward to cheering you on as you lead South Australia throughout the 2026 AFLW Under 18 National Championships.

Clockwork Theatre delivers a performance to remember



Our Stage 1 and 2 Drama students have captivated audiences with their moving production of *Be My Baby* by Amanda Whittington.

Performed across two evenings in the drama studio, the production has formed a major assessment task for both Year 11 and Year 12 students and marked the final performance season for our talented Year 12 Drama class.

The performance journey began well before opening night. At the start of the semester, students formed their own theatre company, collaborating to create a name, mission statement and logo that reflected their collective values and aspirations. Following a thoughtful and creative process, they established 'Clockwork Theatre', guided by the mission: "To create timeless experiences through authentic, inclusive creativity—where people feel a true sense of belonging."

This commitment to belonging, authenticity and connection became the heartbeat of *Be My Baby*.

Set in 1960s Britain, *Be My Baby* followed a group of young women whose lives were shaped by the social expectations and limitations of the era. While exploring challenging themes, the play was also rich with humour, friendship, resilience and music, offering audiences a deeply human story that continues to resonate today.

Senior Drama Teacher and Director Rachel Overstreet reflected on the experience:

"Working on this production has been a deeply rewarding experience for our cast and crew."

At its heart, this play is about belonging: the friendships forged through adversity, the identities we struggle to define and the courage it takes to make decisions about our own futures.

Our students have approached this material with great maturity, empathy and generosity. They have embraced both the emotional honesty and joyful energy of the piece, bringing these characters vividly to life, while designing sound and lighting that enhanced the audience experience. I am enormously proud of the commitment, courage, creativity and sense of ensemble shown throughout the rehearsal process."

The impact of the production was evident in the responses from staff who attended.

Coral Winterbourn, Arts Learning Leader, praised the emotional depth of the performance:

"Beyond the outstanding performances, I was struck by the production's emotional honesty. The cast approached the material with sensitivity and maturity, creating a performance that was both thought-provoking and deeply moving. It is rare to see a school production resonate so strongly with an audience and stay with them long after the performance ends."

Year 12 Flourish Leader Jordan Allen described the powerful connection forged between the cast and audience:

"The cast were able to portray powerful, heartbreaking circumstances with genuine warmth and subtle nuance. We genuinely laughed and cried together as an audience, and that kind of impact is something we don't always see from school productions; a testament to the talents of the cast, crew and director."

The success of *Be My Baby* is a testament to the dedication, creativity and courage of our students, who embraced every aspect of the production process both on and off the stage.

Congratulations to the members of Clockwork Theatre: **Billie Liapis, Charlotte Curgenvin, Tia Anderson, Hayley Wingrave, Ashlyn Horn, Charli Rowley, Amelia Baragwanath, Myles Newbold, Jacob Mashford, Jackson Roach, Layla Tyler-Zilm, Anna Wright, Bec Evans and Chase Branford.**

The delivery of *Be My Baby* was not only an outstanding theatrical achievement, but also a powerful demonstration of the empathy, collaboration and artistry that define Drama at Tatachilla.

Open Girls Basketball team advances to Round 2



Our Open Girls Basketball team showed outstanding resilience and determination when they travelled to Cardijn College on 2 June for two challenging fixtures against Cardijn and Unity.

The girls faced a formidable opponent in their opening match against Cardijn. Coming up against an experienced and highly skilled side, Tatachilla found themselves challenged by Cardijn's physicality, composure and ability to control the tempo of the game. Despite working hard throughout the contest and refusing to back down, the team was unable to match Cardijn's strength across the court.

Rather than letting the opening result define their day, the girls responded in exactly the right way.

Taking on Unity in their second match, Tatachilla came out with renewed energy and purpose, quickly establishing an early lead through strong defensive pressure and excellent teamwork. While Unity managed to close the gap during the middle stages of the game, Tatachilla lifted when it mattered most, producing an impressive run of consecutive baskets to pull away and secure a convincing 27-point victory.

Finishing the day in second position, the team has now successfully progressed through to Round 2 – a fantastic reward for their perseverance and team-first attitude.

Congratulations to Grace McDonald (Year 11), Milly McCool (Year 10), Eva Aldridge (Year 12), Nara Webber (Year 10), Isobel Barolio (Year 10), Isabelle Cameron (Year 11), Romy Matthews (Year 9), Abigail Styles (Year 11) and Alanna Munzberg (Year 9), who all demonstrated great

determination, resilience and teamwork throughout the day.

3 June 2026

Years 7–12 team celebrates historic running success



Tatachilla Lutheran College has achieved its most successful result ever at the South Australian State Cross Country Championships, cementing its place among the state's elite running schools.

Competing as Tatachilla Lutheran College in the secondary school division against more than 1,800 runners from schools across South Australia at Oakbank Racecourse on 3 June, our Years 7–12 athletes delivered an extraordinary performance that saw Tatachilla finish third overall in the combined team and individual medal tally—behind only St Peter's Boys and St Peter's Girls.

In a landmark achievement, our 16 Years Girls team claimed back-to-back state championship titles, successfully defending the crown they won in 2025 and reinforcing their status as the best in South Australia.

Adding to the celebrations, Shay Barker won individual gold in the Para/Multiclass division, while several Tatachilla teams secured podium finishes against some of the state's strongest sporting schools.

The 15 Years Boys team earned silver, improving on last year's bronze medal performance, while the 16 Years Boys team captured bronze, securing their first-ever state championship team medal.

Perhaps most impressively, Tatachilla finished ahead of several long-established cross country powerhouses, including Westminster School, highlighting the strength, depth and determination of our running program.

Team medal results

Gold – 16 Years Girls (State Champions)☐

Aylish Bradley, Annie Hockey and Katie Morris-Fenna

Silver – 15 Years Boys☐

Declan Maasdorp, Tommy Aldridge, Xavier Lucas and George Pritchard

Bronze – 16 Years Boys☐

Ernest Neville, Brennan Carter, Thomas Hargreaves and Lachlan Fanning

Fifth place – 13 Years Girls☐

Milla Mansell, Ruby Wilde, Zara Galley, Hazel Rose, Hayley Morris-Fenna and Lola Whitfield

State team trial qualifiers

The following students have qualified to trial for the South Australian state team:

Year 7: Milla Mansell☐

Year 8: Katie Morris-Fenna☐

Year 9: Aylish Bradley, Annie Hockey, Declan Maasdorp, Tommy Aldridge, Xavier Lucas and Shay Barker☐

Year 10: Ernest Neville☐

Year 12: Maya Fisher

These outstanding results are a testament to the dedication, perseverance and commitment of our student athletes, as well as the expertise and support of our PE and Sports Faculty staff.

Congratulations to all students and staff involved in this remarkable achievement for Tatachilla.

3 June 2026

Eli Simpson earns national cross country selection



Year 5 student **Eli Simpson** has earned selection to represent South Australia at the 2026 Australian Cross Country Championships after an outstanding performance at the SA Cross Country State Championships held at Oakbank Racecourse on 3 June.

Competing in challenging wet and muddy conditions, Eli finished second overall in the 10-Year-Old Boys division, placing among the state's best young runners in a field of 186 competitors. His remarkable result has secured him a place at his first national championship.

Eli was one of eight Tatachilla junior school students selected to represent the Onkaparinga South District team at the state championships. His fellow team-mates included **Isla Mason** (Year 6), **Noveau Drew** (Year 6), **Lily Smith** (Year 6), **Indiana Millard** (Year 4), **Harvey McDonald** (Year 4), **Jack Blackwood** (Year 4) and **Jarrad Ellis** (Year 4). The college is deeply proud of this exceptional cohort.

A special mention also goes to the 10-Year-Old Boys team, which placed fifth overall out of 32 districts. Remarkably, four of the six Onkaparinga South team members were Tatachilla students—**Eli Simpson**, **Harvey McDonald**, **Jack Blackwood** and **Jarrad Ellis**—highlighting the strength of cross country running within our junior school.

Congratulations to all students on their outstanding achievements and for representing both their district and college with pride.

3 June 2026

Inside the world of video game music



The college recently had the privilege of hosting local composer Chris Norton for a pioneering workshop exploring the world of video game music composition.

This marks a first for the college, with students gaining rare insight into the creative processes behind music written for visual media and interactive gaming experiences.

Chris Norton, who lives locally, is an accomplished composer and musician with an extensive international performance background, including touring with Zappa Plays Zappa and Cirque du Soleil. Today, his work is primarily focused on composing for film, television and video games, bringing a wealth of real-world industry experience to students.

More than 60 Year 7 Music students took part in the workshop, where Chris guided them through how musical themes are created, developed and adapted for different narrative and gameplay contexts. Students were fascinated by the creative and technical decisions involved in composing for interactive media, including how music must respond to player actions and shifting storylines.

A particular highlight was a behind-the-scenes exploration of the score for the popular Adelaide-developed mobile game *Super Bawk Bawk Chicken*, offering students a tangible example of how local creativity can reach global audiences.

The workshop provided students with valuable insight into contemporary composition techniques and the evolving role of music in digital media. It also aligned closely with the college's ongoing curriculum development in Years 7 and 8 Music, where composition and creative experimentation are being further strengthened.

Music teacher Dr Barnabas Smith noted that Chris' visit not only inspired students, but also

opened new pathways for thinking about music-making beyond traditional performance contexts, particularly in areas of composition, technology and storytelling.

As part of his ongoing connection with the college, Chris Norton is also available locally for instrumental lessons and composition tutoring. College families or students interested in exploring these opportunities are welcome to make contact via www.therealchrisnorton.com.

This exciting visit signals the beginning of what the college hopes will be an ongoing partnership, further enriching music learning opportunities and strengthening links between classroom study and the professional creative industries.

12 June 2026

Bronze breakthrough for Tatachilla surfers



Five Tatachilla surfers have etched their names into the college's sporting history, securing a bronze medal at the School Sport SA Team Surfing Championships Finals held at Middleton Point on 12 June.

The result marks the first time Tatachilla has earned a medal in the South Australian Schools Surfing Tag Team Finals, making it a milestone achievement for the college's surfing program.

Competing against some of the state's strongest school surfing teams, the Tatachilla surfers rose to the occasion in challenging and ever-changing conditions. The opening heat was contested in clean surf, allowing the team to showcase their talent, confidence and wave-riding ability. Tatachilla finished the heat in third place behind Encounter Lutheran



College and Sacred Heart College.

Year 7 student **Leo Wilson** impressed judges with a standout 6.5-point ride, taking off deep on a solid right-hander before unleashing a powerful top turn and stylish cutback. Year 9 student **Magnus Thomson** also delivered a strong performance, scoring 4.0 points with a series of smooth turns and a well-executed floater on a clean left-hander.




Fellow team members **Jesse Ellis** (Year 11), **Tommy Aldridge** (Year 9) and **Bernard Forbes** (Year 7) also surfed exceptionally well, demonstrating excellent wave selection, confident take-offs and a range of impressive manoeuvres throughout the competition.


As the day progressed, strengthening offshore winds made conditions increasingly difficult, demanding greater commitment, paddling strength and technical skill from every competitor.

Despite the tougher surf, each Tatachilla surfer secured a high-scoring wave, helping the team finish second in the final heat and remain firmly in medal contention.


When the final scores were announced, Tatachilla had secured an outstanding third-place finish overall, claiming the bronze medal and narrowly missing second place by just 0.87 points. Encounter Lutheran College took out the championship, with Sacred Heart College finishing second.




While the podium finish was a remarkable achievement, the team's sportsmanship and camaraderie were equally impressive. Throughout the competition, the boys constantly encouraged one another, analysed changing conditions, shared tactical advice and worked together to identify the best opportunities in the surf.



This success is also a reflection of the unwavering support provided by families. Surfing is a sport that requires countless hours in the water, early starts and regular travel to beaches across the state. The commitment of parents and caregivers plays an invaluable role in helping young surfers develop their skills and confidence across a wide variety of conditions.



Congratulations to **Bernard, Leo, Magnus, Tommy and Jesse** on this historic achievement. Their talent, determination and teamwork were on full display, and this bronze medal performance is a fitting reward for their hard work and dedication.



With such a promising group of surfers coming through the college, the future of Tatachilla surfing looks exceptionally bright.

Division 1 netballers make their mark



Tatachilla's Year 7/8 netball team (Division 1) has made a commanding start to the 2026 Netball Knockout Competition, securing a place in Round 2 after two impressive victories at Brighton Secondary School on 15 June.

Competing in Division 1 against some of the state's strongest school netball programs, the team showcased the skill, determination and teamwork that continue to drive sporting excellence at Tatachilla.

The girls opened the day with a dominant 35–14 win over Brighton Secondary School, setting the tone with disciplined play, strong defensive pressure and effective ball movement throughout the court.

Their second match against Concordia College proved to be a tougher contest, but the team rose to the challenge, displaying composure and resilience to secure a well-earned 27–21 victory and secure their place in the next round of the competition.

Across both games, the team demonstrated outstanding teamwork, communication and sportsmanship. Their ability to work together under pressure, adapt to different challenges and support one another on court was a credit to both the players and the college.

The result reflects the strong sporting culture at Tatachilla, where students are encouraged to pursue excellence, embrace competition and represent the college with pride. Competing successfully at Division 1 level is a significant achievement and highlights the commitment these students have shown to developing their skills and performing at a high standard.

Congratulations to Airlie McCade, Indie Vaninetti, Isla Griffiths, Isla Robinson, Lola Saunders, Lily Schulz, Payton Cutler, Portia Rhodes, Savannah Clarke and Willow Waters on their outstanding performances and successful progression to Round 2.

A special thank you also goes to our Year 10 coaches from the Advanced Athlete Development Program - Asher Vaninetti and Kirra True - for their leadership, encouragement and support throughout the day. Their guidance helped create a positive and focused team environment and contributed significantly to the team's success.

We look forward to following the girls' journey when they return to competition in the early weeks of Term 3. Congratulations on a fantastic start to the knockout campaign and best wishes for the next round.

16 June 2026

Year 7 students wear their values with pride



Our Year 7 students have captured their personal values and understanding of citizenship in a collection of powerful, wearable artworks.

What makes a hero? Is it courage? Kindness? Leadership? The ability to make a positive difference in the lives of others?

Throughout Term 1, our Year 7 Visual Arts students explored these questions through the creation of their own 'Super Citizen Capes' — vibrant wearable artworks inspired by acclaimed Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay artist Dennis Golding and his exploration of identity, belonging, resilience and heroism.

Beginning with the investigation of symbols found in everyday life, students reflected on the personal values they believed contributed positively to their communities.

Kindness, fairness, inclusion, environmental responsibility, courage and leadership became the foundation for a series of bold visual identities, transformed into painted fabric capes bursting with colour, symbolism and imagination.

Drawing inspiration from Golding's contemporary cape artworks, students explored how artists communicate powerful social messages through visual language.



Through painted imagery, decorative techniques and mixed-media embellishments, students created wearable artworks that celebrated both individuality and community connection.

More than simply an art project, 'Super Citizen Capes' invited students to think deeply about citizenship – exploring what it meant to contribute positively to their school, local community and wider world.

By combining Visual Arts with Civics and Citizenship learning, students discovered how creativity can become a powerful platform for expressing ideas about identity, responsibility and belonging.

The result is a spectacular collection of capes that asks us all an important question: what kind of hero do you want to be?

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