

Allendale East Area School Newsletter

Courage Excellence Respect



To build strong, diverse futures for all of our young people by providing quality education driven by needs, skill and aspirations.

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT SCHOOL?

Term 1 Week 2

Brianna Thomson - A Star on the Rise

Following on from an outstanding scholastic performance during 2023, including receiving four key School and four Academic subject awards, former Year 12 student **Brianna Thomson** has achieved an **ATAR of 93.3**, one of the highest ATAR's achieved by an AEAS student. With a passion for art and the goal to undertake university study in Criminology and Cybersecurity in Adelaide, Brianna is another step closer to her two courses of preference, Bachelor of Criminology (Cybersecurity) - Flinders University and Bachelor of Information Technology (Networking and Cyber Security) - University of South Australia. Studying a combination of Sciences, Technology and Arts, a part of Brianna's accomplishments was the successful navigation and management of the remote online platform, to enable her to study Psychology through Millicent High School with the kind assistance of teacher, Ms Stephanie Gilbert. In further recognition of Brianna's fine study efforts, the **Stand Like Stone Foundation** have awarded Brianna with the **Lorry Humphrey Memorial Scholarship**, which is intended for students seeking to pursue a career in trade or the arts. Brianna is a fine example of what is able to be achieved by setting goals and working hard to achieve them. We congratulate Brianna on all of her achievements during her final year with AEAS and we wish her all the very best for the next stage of her educational journey.



Brianna Thomson - Year 12 Graduation



Brianna pictured with Suzie Mitchell (Ass.Principal & Kylie Smith (Principal)

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 2024

- 14 Governing Council AGM
- 27 Road Awareness Program - Year 10-12

MARCH 2024

- 1 School Sports Day
- 11 Public Holiday - Adelaide Cup

MARCH 2024

- 13-25 Naplan
- 22 Inter-School Sports Day
- 29 Good Friday

APRIL 2024

- 1 Easter

Allendale Contact Information

Principal - Ms Kylie Smith

Assistant Principal - Ms Suzie Mitchell

Governing Council Chairperson - Mr Rodney Virgo

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District Council of Grant -Australia Day Awards



The positive news for AEAS students continues, with Year 12 student **Angus Millard** (pictured left) the recipient of the **District Council of Grant Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year 2024**. The Young Citizen of the Year Award is presented to a person aged 16-30 years, residing within the District Council of Grant area and who has made a valuable contribution to the community. Angus is currently a SA Rural Youth Ambassador, working within a team to advocate for improved educational support programs and networks for students living in regional areas, in addition to mental health support in rural and remote locations. Angus sets a great example for his peers and we wish to congratulate him on winning this prestigious award.

Angus' award was not the only AEAS link to this year's DCG Australia Day awards, with Principal Kylie Smith on behalf of the School, nominating winners **Mark Smith** and **Zack Williams** for the **District Council of Grant Active Citizenship Award** for their organisation and fundraising efforts of the 'Bay to Bellum' running event. The purpose of this event was to raise mental health awareness and funds for mental health organisations within the community. Congratulations and well done to Mark, Zack and the team of supporters behind them!

SCHOOL FEES

As students make their way back into the classroom, the invoices for School fees were sent out in student packs last Thursday. Fees for 2024 are as follows: **Foundation - Year 6 \$230*** and **Year 7 - 12 \$310***, with fees covering all printed and electronic materials, stationery items, student consumables, use of materials whereby the student takes ownership of final product and library use. Please note: excursion costs are not included in fee payment. Fees are able to be paid via instalments (ie: weekly/fortnightly) and direct credits can be set up for payment into the School account. School Cards** need to be applied for each year, with paper application forms available from the School Front Office. For those who prefer to apply electronically, the following website is where you need to go to apply <https://www.sa.gov.a> If you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Finance Officer Mel Reed for a confidential chat.



*Amount payable once government rebate applied, excl. School Card
**School Card - conditions apply

SCHOOL CANTEEN

Ange will again be offering some great **lunch specials during each term**, so please keep an eye out on Facebook, Skoolbag and flyers sent home. A reminder in relation to Canteen payment: as we become more of a "cashless" society and the Canteen being unable to offer accounts, any purchases requiring EFT payment will need the amount paid into the School Canteen account prior to the lunch order day. If transferring funds for student credit, please be sure to use the **Canteen account (BSB:105-002 Acc: 134787940)**. As funds generally take two business days to appear in the account, please email payment confirmation to Mel.Reed889@schools.sa.edu.au. Unfortunately, credit cannot be extended until the transferred funds appear. **The School Canteen provides a valuable resource, which needs the School community's support to ensure it is here to serve students and staff in years to come. All support for the Canteen is very much appreciated.**

VAPING - HEALTH WARNING



You may have noticed a recent increase in reporting on the health risks associated with e-cigarettes and 'vaping'. In support of wellbeing and health awareness within School and the School community, a letter from Professor Nicola Spurrier (Chief Public Health Officer of South Australia) was sent home via all Year 7 to Year 12 students, regarding vaping in schools. A Tobacco in Australia survey (2023) has alarmingly reported 20.5% of children having tried vaping, which is an increase of 4.75% from 2023. While many may believe vaping is a less risky or less dangerous form of smoking, most vapes contain nicotine which is both toxic and highly addictive. We would like to reiterate the importance of health awareness messages and the promotion of healthy lifestyles for the School and the community in general.

SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDERS

As we head into Week 2 of the School term, we would like to remind all students, parents/caregivers of several of the School safety messages. **Sun Safety**-We are experiencing regular visits of students to the Front Office, requesting to borrow a hat to enable them to partake in outside activities in break times. **Please ensure your student has a clearly labelled hat packed each day** as there are a limited number of spares and considering hygiene, it is preferable that hats are not shared. **Devices with Wheels** - A reminder that any device with wheels (ie:bikes,scooters, skateboards) are not to be used at School at any time. **School Drop Off/Pickup** - While reminders have been included in previous newsletters/Facebook posts, unsafe driver behaviour is still occurring. **Restricted speed limits do apply to school zones and in the interest of safety for all, please use an alternative to U-turns within 50m of any drop off zones.**



Don't forget to pack a hat!
(purple, orange or lime)



No bikes, scooters or skateboards please



Remember no U-turns within 50 metres of drop zones & speed restrictions apply

SCHOOL SWIMMING - DECEMBER 2023

The School swimming program took place in the first two weeks of December, with the Foundation to Year 6 classes making the journey to the Wulanda Recreation Centre. Fine weather prevailed, with warm temperatures and blue skies, with the students partaking in swimming lessons and fun activities with the aim to ensure all students receive 'age appropriate' swimming skills, water safety knowledge and a general awareness around water. With 281 lives lost to drowning incidents in 2023, swimming lessons remain a vital part of the School curriculum, and we encourage all parents/caregivers to support the swimming program when it is offered.



Swimming program action - December 2023

FROM NEW BEGINNINGS TO THE FINAL JOURNEY

As the educational journey for thirteen reception students commences, six Year 12 students now embark on their final year with AEAS. A blank canvas awaits the final year students, for each to make their own individual mark and work towards their chosen goals for life following secondary education. We wish all students from Foundation right through to Year 12, a year full of learning, friendship, fun and the creation of many happy memories. Go well!



Foundation students - February 2024



Year 12 cohort - February 2024 Absent Michael MacKenzie

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES



Ashlee Barrett

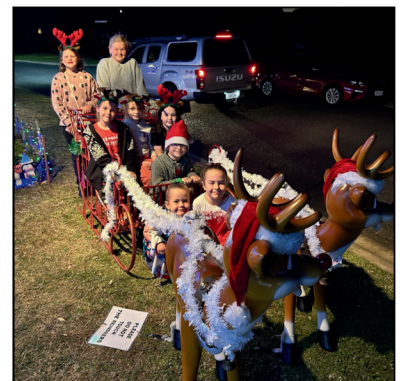


Caroline Scerri

We would like to welcome **new staff arrivals** to AEAS, **Ashlee Barrett** (secondary teacher and **Caroline Scerri** Intervention and Support Teacher and wish them all the best for the year ahead. The School community also said farewell to departing staff members **Morgan Cooper** (teacher - Foundation) who has accepted a position at the neighbouring Kongorong Primary School and Sue Despea (Front Office) resigning to transition back into the private sector. Thank you to both Morgan and Sue for their time with the School.

XMAS LIGHT TOURS - DECEMBER 2023

Christmas 2023 suddenly became a little more festive, with what could be described as a Christmas 'light-s bulb' moment, leading to a Christmas Lights Tour. Over three evenings in the lead up to Christmas, it was all aboard the fully laden Community Bus express, with the passengers taking in the festive lighting of Mt Gambier, and for one tour - Port MacDonnell. A special stop at the golden arches of McDonald's for a soft serve treat, was also very well received. Given the popularity of the tours with relatively short notice, this may become an annual event. A big thank you to all who supported, particularly the generous donors that enabled some extra, very keen students to attend.



All aboard Santa's express!

FRIDAY FAIRY IS BACK!



Friday's at School would not be the same without an appearance from the very popular 'Friday Fairy'. Friday Fairy made her first appearance for 2024 last Friday, taking the time and some magical fairy music to visit the Reception class (pictured left). Friday Fairy introduced herself to the students, while sprinkling some fun and joy, to set the tone for the school year.