



Adelaide  
Christian  
Schools

# Annual Report

2024



# MISSION STATEMENT

## Changing Nations Through Christian Education

(Our mission is not what we do it is who we are)

# VISION STATEMENT

## Equipping Students For Life By Providing Christ-Centred Quality Education

# STRATEGIC DIRECTIVES

## GOAL 1: GOVERNING BODY

- Establish ACS as a sustainable stand-alone entity
- Provide governance and strategic directions for each school and ELC
- Provide professional corporate services to schools and ELCs
- Provide policies and procedural framework for schools and ELCs
- Governance training for the Board

## GOAL 2: ESTABLISH NEW SCHOOLS AND ELCS IN AUSTRALIA

- Prioritising new opportunities

## GOAL 3: CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES FOR SCHOOLS AND ELCS

- Provide a framework for the Christian distinctives of the schools and ELCs
- Approve the curriculum for each school and ELC

# CONTENTS

Vision and Mission .....2

Message from the Chairman.....4

Association & Governors.....5

Message from the CEO ..... 6

ACS Leadership TEAM.....7

Sunrise Christian School, Fullarton..... 8

Sunrise Christian School, Morphett Vale .....11

Sunrise Christian School, Paradise.....13

Sunrise Christian School, Marion .....16

Sunrise Christian School, Naracoorte .....20

Sunrise Christian School, Whyalla.....24

Adelaide Christian Schools Early Learning Centres .....28

Temple Christian College.....31

Discovery Christian College.....34

PNG, Sunrise Bethel & Edai Christian School.....36

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



2024 has been another rewarding year for Adelaide Christian Schools, marked by continued growth, dedication, and unwavering commitment from our staff and volunteers. Across each of our campuses and Early Learning Centres, we are truly blessed with passionate, capable individuals who serve wholeheartedly, giving their best each day to support and nurture the children in their care.

Our team remains committed to providing a strong Christian foundation and being positive role models—enabling students to flourish academically, socially, and spiritually. Their influence is felt across every aspect of school life, creating an environment where students are encouraged to thrive.

I would like to acknowledge our CEO, Kym Golding, and his leadership team. Their tireless efforts, vision, and enthusiasm continue to steer Adelaide Christian Schools forward. The impact of their work is seen and appreciated by all who are part of our school community.

While we celebrate our rich heritage, our focus remains firmly on the future. With God's guidance, we move confidently toward what lies ahead, committed to our shared mission and values. These guiding objectives remain at the heart of everything we do:

1. To provide an education of academic and practical excellence, grounded in biblical truth and aimed at developing the whole person—body, soul, and spirit.
2. To instil in students a deep sense of self-worth, knowing they are created in the image of God.
3. To encourage students to pursue personal excellence in learning, in line with their individual God-given abilities.

I want to sincerely thank our staff and volunteers for your dedication and service throughout 2024. Your contribution to the life and success of our schools is deeply valued and appreciated.

The Adelaide Christian Schools Board has continued to work faithfully behind the scenes, offering strong support to our leadership team. Their ongoing commitment ensures our schools are well-positioned to meet the needs of both staff and families within our wider school community.

To our parents and carers—thank you for your partnership and trust. Your children remain at the centre of all we do, and it is a privilege to walk alongside you in nurturing their growth into the people God has called them to be.

Finally, I extend my gratitude to the Board and Association Members of Adelaide Christian Schools. Your time, wisdom, and willingness to serve provide the foundation that supports all we seek to achieve.

Blessings,

**Mike Groom**

Chairman

ACS Board, ACS Association



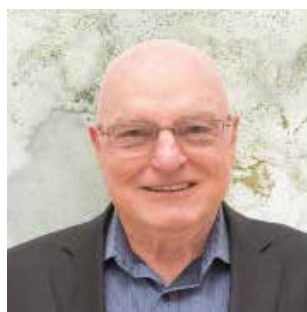
# ASSOCIATION & GOVERNORS



**MIKE GROOM**  
Association and  
Board Chair



**Carina Andrews**  
Association and Board  
Deputy Chair



**Lin Andrews**  
Association Member



**Hew Barnard-Brown**  
Association and  
Board Member



**Josie Cajipe**  
Association and  
Board Member



**Greg Crome**  
Association Member



**Kym Golding**  
Association and  
Board Member



**Paul Joyce**  
Board Member



**Gregg Manego**  
Association Member



**Neil Milne**  
Association and  
Board Member



**Jeremy Nilo**  
Association and  
Board Member



**Zoe Steele**  
Board Member



**Jeffery Tan**  
Board Member



**Rommel Verain**  
Association Member



**Ian Wood**  
Association Member

# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



**Students: 3378 total**

**Staff: 744 total**

In his book 'The Weight of Glory', CS Lewis states, 'Good philosophy must exit if for no other reason than because bad philosophy needs to be answered. The learned life then, is, for some, a duty.'

This 'learned life' is indeed a duty for us at ACS. We must understand our worldview and bring it in line with Scripture.

Understanding the 'whys' is essential to the 'learned life' here at ACS. A foundational principle in our schools is to support and encourage parents in their responsibility to raise Godly children and help them shape the future leaders in our culture. More than ever, our society needs Godly men and women to stand up and bring light and hope to the darkest corners of our world.

George Fife Angus (1789-1879), a member of the South Australian Company, believed that God had called him to found the state of South Australia: *"My great object was, in the first instance, to provide a place of refuge for pious Dissenters of Great Britain, who could in their new home discharge their consciences before God in civil and religious duties without any disabilities that South Australia will become the headquarters for the diffusion of Christianity in the Southern Hemisphere. It was claimed that in fifty years he circulated over one million copies of scriptures, many millions of tracts and two million copies of devotional books such as Spurgeon's Morning by Morning and Evening by Evening."*

George Angus started banks and companies, supported schools, and was a leading figure in the fight to protect the rights of Indigenous people in Australia and New Zealand.

Adelaide Christian Schools has embraced this 'learned life'. We have adopted the above statement and George Angus' 'heart', wanting to influence the culture through quality Christian education in the state and beyond.

Maturity is the word that frames 2024. Our less experienced leaders have

matured and have 5+ years of leadership experience, while the more experienced leaders continue to gather valuable insights and take on extra responsibility.

The schools generally had a good year, with a few challenges being carefully managed. I thank the Principals who have done a fantastic job, often under immense pressure and the tyranny of limited time.

Most schools are at or near capacity, and the budgets are stable, with staff turnover minimal. I am incredibly grateful for the leaders and staff God has brought into the organisation.

I would like to thank the Board for their wisdom, advice, and commitment to the schools, which have been sitting in numerous meetings and committees. I particularly thank the Board Chair, Mike Groom, for his wisdom, stability and friendship. His low-key leadership has allowed the leadership to flourish and thrive.

I would also like to thank my wife, Jan, who has willingly supported and released me to do what God has set before me. I also want to thank my children, Elissa, Peter, Chloe, and Josiah for their support.

**Kym Golding**

CEO

Adelaide Christian Schools



# LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Kym Golding**  
CEO



**Mark Nokes**  
Manager of Corporate  
Services



**Toshi Umehara**  
Manager of Corporate  
Finances



**Jane Broadbent**  
Executive Director,  
Early Learning Centre



**Kylie Clark**  
Principal, Sunrise Christian  
School Fullarton



**Josh Counsel**  
Principal, Discovery  
Christian College



**Henry Engelbrecht**  
Principal, Sunrise Christian  
School Marion



**Aaron Haines**  
Principal, Sunrise Christian  
School Naracoorte



**Daniel Hamilton**  
Principal, Sunrise Christian  
School Morphett Vale



**Lucy Kula**  
Executive Principal,  
Sunrise Bethel & Edai  
Christian Schools, PNG



**Cindy Millwood**  
Principal, Sunrise Christian  
School Whyalla



**Marcel Rijken**  
Principal, Temple  
Christian College



**Matthew Steadman**  
Principal, Sunrise Christian  
School Paradise



# SUNRISE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FULLARTON

165 STUDENTS | 23 STAFF | PRINCIPAL: KYLIE CLARK

Sunrise Christian School Fullarton continues to be a place where students and families grow in faith, character, and community. Our shared mission of glorifying God through Christ-centred education has shaped a year marked by growth, joy, and purpose.

As I reflect on 2024, I do so with deep gratitude—for the unity of our team, the support of our families, and the many moments where God’s hand was evident. This report offers a glimpse into the key highlights of the year and the heart behind all we do at Sunrise.

## LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

### Student Development and Achievement

In 2024, Sunrise Christian School Fullarton has continued to see encouraging growth in student development and academic achievement. As noted on the My School website, 22% of our students had English as an additional

language. That number has risen to 29% in 2025, highlighting the increasing cultural diversity within our community.

To support this growth, we have implemented targeted educational programs and classroom support for our EAL students. These initiatives have led to significant improvements not only in academic progress but also in student wellbeing and peer connection. We have observed stronger engagement, improved communication, and increased confidence in social and learning environments.

Our commitment to strengthening core learning areas has also resulted in a 9.7% improvement in literacy and numeracy outcomes, reflecting the dedication of our teaching staff and the impact of our whole-school approach to academic excellence.

We give thanks to God for the way He continues to grow each student in wisdom, character, and understanding.



### Impact on the community and Our Heart

At the heart of all we do is our desire to be a Christ-centred community that nurtures love, character, and purpose in every child and family we serve. Scripture continues to guide our focus toward cultivating moral excellence and spiritual formation. The words of the Apostle Paul in Philippians 2:15 inspire our posture:

*“...so that you may become blameless and pure, ‘children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.’ Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.”*

We are called to shine—bringing light, love, and truth into the lives of others. Through scripture, we instil in our students the importance of kindness, empathy, honesty, and respect—values that not only shape their personal character but also position them to serve others well.





Our goal is to partner with families to raise young people who grow in faith, strive for academic excellence, and actively contribute to their communities with a servant heart.

In 2024, our commitment to loving God and loving others was expressed in a variety of community-building opportunities. These included:

- New Families Evening – Beginning the year with a BBQ and warm welcome, creating early connections that support families on their education journey.
- Festival of Arts – Celebrating the God-given gifts and creative talents of our students with families and friends.
- Walk a Mile in Our Boots – Standing in solidarity with those experiencing homelessness in our city, raising funds and awareness as a school community.
- Grandparents and Significant Persons Day – A beautiful occasion of gratitude and honour, celebrating legacy and the invaluable contribution of those who support and guide the next generation.
- School Musical at the Capri Theatre – Sharing the gospel through the creative story of Ants'hilvanvia, a joyful and hope-filled presentation that inspired not only our own community but also those in the wider community. The Capri staff shared heartfelt feedback, touched by the love and joy expressed through our students.
- Fundraising Events – Giving generously to causes that matter, modelling stewardship and compassion in action.

We also embraced countless opportunities to deepen connection, joy, and shared purpose across the school year through:

- Excursions and camps, including the memorable Grade 6 Canberra trip where a public commendation praised our students' outstanding character.
- Grade 6 Stewardship Program – Forming responsible leaders who contribute through service.
- Book Week, Aquatics, and African Beat music incursion – Offering diverse and enriching experiences.
- Friday Fun Days for Reception to Grade 3 – A blend of laughter, creativity, and relational joy.



- Assemblies, Sports Days, and Graduation events – Celebrating achievement and community spirit.
- Parent-Teacher Interviews, Parent Morning Teas, and Prayer Groups – Strengthening the vital partnership between home and school.
- ELC to Reception Transition Program – Ensuring every child and family feels known, welcomed, and supported as they take the next step.

In everything, we give glory to God. It has been our joy to witness the faithfulness of His hand across every corner of school life. Whether through an encouraging email from a member of the public, the smiles on Grandparents' Day, or the laughter from children in their classrooms, we see evidence that we are indeed shining like stars—bringing light, love, and legacy to those around us.

### **Our People and Their Heart for Christian Education**

The heartbeat of Sunrise Christian School Fullarton continues to be our extraordinary staff—faithful men and women who serve with dedication, passion, and purpose. Their unwavering commitment to nurturing the minds, hearts, and spirits of our students is grounded in a deep belief in the life-changing power of Christ-centred education.

Each day, our staff model the values of compassion, integrity, and excellence—not only within the classroom but across all aspects of school life. Their work is more than a vocation; it is a ministry of service that creates an environment where children are encouraged to thrive academically, grow spiritually, and develop emotional resilience.

***“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.”***  
– Colossians 3:23

Throughout 2024, we have continued to invest in the growth and support of our staff. This includes increasing the number of educational support staff, which has significantly enhanced both student learning and teacher capacity. Our whole team has actively engaged in high-quality professional learning, including the Christian Schools Australia (CSA) Mid-Year Conference—an important time of collaboration and encouragement alongside fellow Christian educators from across South Australia.

Staff collaboration remains central to our practice. We meet regularly—both within the Fullarton site and across the broader Sunrise network—to align strategies, share insights, and ensure every student is known, supported, and given opportunities to flourish. We have been intentional in reviewing and refining our teaching approaches considering current social and cultural challenges, all while remaining firmly grounded in a biblical understanding of children and learning.

***“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.”***  
– Proverbs 22:6

Our focus on educational excellence has borne fruit. In 2024, many of our students achieved top results across a range of academic and extracurricular pursuits, including

music and sport—some progressing to state and national levels. These achievements reflect the strength of our teaching and learning program and our data-informed approach to improving practice. We use rigorous assessment and long-term data tracking to ensure every learner receives the support they need to grow and succeed.

As we look to the future, we remain grateful for our team—a group of passionate, prayerful educators who give their all, working as unto the Lord, to shape young lives and raise a generation of courageous, Christ-centred leaders.

### School Development

In 2024, Sunrise Christian School Fullarton continued to grow in ways that reflect both vision and faithfulness. A significant milestone was the completion of our Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)—a transformative space now used daily for learning, play, and community gathering. More than just a structure, the COLA provides flexibility in all weather and stands as a reminder of God's provision and our commitment to nurture students academically, socially, and spiritually.

We're grateful for the dedicated leadership of Mr. Mark Nokes and Mr. Anthony Bennett from our Property Maintenance Team, who led the project with excellence. Thank you also to our staff and families for their patience and positivity during the construction.

Looking ahead, we're excited that all preparations for our new playgrounds are complete, with construction to begin in early 2025. These developments form part of a wider strategic plan across the Sunrise Schools Group, guided by the Sunrise Executive Team and supported by the faithful leadership of those who have gone before us—including Mr. Kym Golding and early visionaries like Leo Harris.

Yet, when we reflect on school development, we cannot leave out the most important foundation: our calling to educate hearts and minds in Christ-centred wisdom and understanding. This year, we have seen this vision come to life in the choices our students are making, the depth of their conversations, and their growing desire to know God more. These are the moments that remind us why we do what we do.



***“Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain.”***  
– Psalm 127:1

With gratitude, we celebrate what God has built in 2024 and look forward with faith to all He will continue to do.

### Workplace Health and Safety

At Sunrise Christian School Fullarton, the safety and well-being of our students and staff remains a central priority. Throughout 2024, we have continued to strengthen our culture of safety, recognising that a secure environment is foundational for effective learning and Christ-centred community life.

This year, we placed particular focus on enhancing our Work Health and Safety (WHS) practices, beginning right at the point of induction. All new staff now receive a more thorough and structured WHS onboarding, ensuring a clear understanding of their role in upholding a safe environment from the very beginning of their journey with us.

We have also maintained our commitment to the consistent implementation of:

- Updated fire safety protocols
- Regular first aid training
- Mandatory reporting compliance and refreshers
- Ongoing site inspections and hazard management processes

These improvements reflect our intentional efforts to create a workplace and learning space where every individual feels confident, supported, and safe. Our staff continue to lead by example, embedding safety practices into daily routines and modelling proactive care for the well-being of others.

We are grateful for the collaborative efforts across our school, and especially for the diligence and

integrity shown by our team in maintaining high standards of WHS. Together, we remain committed to stewarding our environment in a way that reflects our calling to love, protect, and nurture each person in our care.

### Appreciation and Gratitude

As we come to the end of 2024, we pause to give thanks for all that God has done in and through our school community. We are deeply grateful for the faithful leadership of Mr. Kym Golding, our CEO, and the Board of Adelaide Christian Schools, whose prayerful guidance and steadfast support have shaped and sustained our mission of Christ-centred education.

This past year, we sensed a clear call to put on a new coat—a fresh season where God led us into new growth, new opportunities, and new ways of serving Him together. For some, this meant stepping into new roles or rhythms. For others, it involved stretching and growing into the shape God was forming. And for a few, it meant embracing something unfamiliar and trusting God's timing and grace. Whatever the journey, we witnessed God's faithfulness at every turn.

***“You were taught... to put off your old self... and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”***  
– Ephesians 4:22-24

As we now look ahead to 2025, we believe the season before us will be marked by a sharpening of unity and a deeper call to be fully present with God in each moment He brings. We step forward not with haste, but with attentiveness—listening, discerning, and walking in step with His Spirit.

We continue to pray that Sunrise Christian School will remain a place where students, staff, and families experience the love, grace, and truth of Jesus—and where every step we take reflects His light to the world. With grateful hearts and expectant faith, we commit the journey ahead into His hands.

**Kylie Clark**  
Principal  
Sunrise Fullarton





# SUNRISE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MORPHETT VALE

PRINCIPAL: DANIEL HAMILTON

When life is challenging, God provides abundantly – that is the testimony of Sunrise Christian School Morphett Vale for 2024.

The year began in challenging circumstances when the Principal, Mr Andrew Ready, stepped down unexpectedly at the beginning of the school year to attend to family matters. The loss of a much-loved and long-serving leader will always be challenging for a school community, and this circumstance proved no exception. However, it can truly be stated the MV staff responded with great dedication to the task of ensuring that the school community did not suffer from the leadership change. Special mention must be made of Mrs Imbi Shields who stepped away from her Grade 6 teaching role to serve as interim principal in Term 1 and 2. Mrs Shields received generous support from

Adelaide Christian Schools CEO Mr Kym Golding, who spent many hours at Morphett Vale in 2024. Together, they provided steadfast leadership through the storm and strong vision to those around them.

When Mrs Shields took a long-planned long service leave trip around Australia with her family in Term 3, Mrs Jacqui Munro returned to Sunrise Christian School to step into the interim principal role and served the school community wholeheartedly with her famously boundless energy and enthusiasm, remaining in the role for the remainder of the year. Mrs Munro was able to work closely with Mr Daniel Hamilton, the incoming principal for 2025, ensuring a smooth transition. Huge thanks must be given to Mrs Shields, Mrs Munro and Mr Golding for their leadership and strength.



While those in the inner sanctum know the magnitude of challenges that a sudden, unexpected leadership change can present, in classrooms and the schoolyard, it was business as usual, and student wellbeing and learning never took a backwards step. There were many highlights for the year, including:

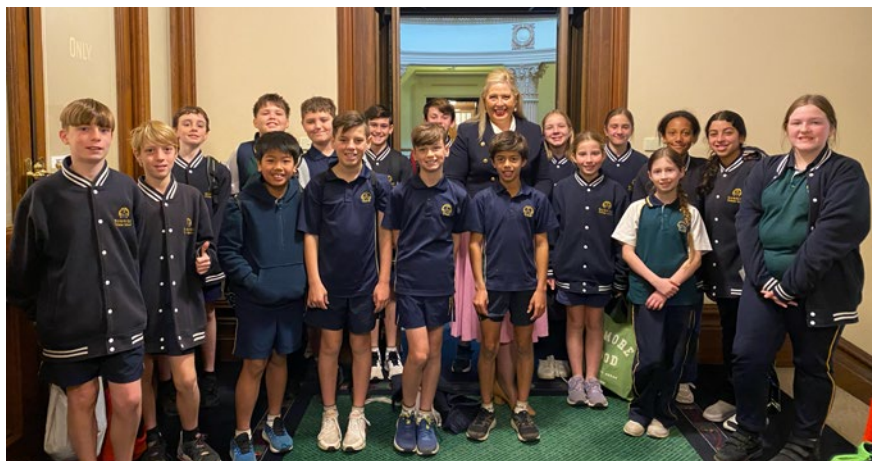
- The school musical at the Hopwood Theatre, 'Back to the Cross', a powerful (and catchy) presentation of the beauty of the gospel.
- Grade 6 Canberra Trip, including Parliament House, the War Memorial and the Corin Forest snowfields.
- Training for parents in the Peacewise program, bringing parents key conflict management skills that partner with the school's approach.
- Grandparents Day celebration honouring the school's 'Abraham' generation.
- Upper Primary student involvement in the Oliphant Awards for the first time
- Many fundraising events to raise awareness and connection to the ACS International school family.







One point of pride for the school community was the successful entrance of the Morphett Vale student garden into the Onkaparinga Mayor's Garden Competition, finishing second in the schools' category. A recent addition to the school, the garden has become a much-loved student-centred space of hands-on learning and connecting to the Australian curriculum in Science, HASS and more. Mrs Sarah Neil has done a tremendous job of caring for the garden and working closely with all classes in the growing of foods and the preparation and cooking of harvested foods.



Although the year presented its share of challenges, the firm foundation on which the school is established – Christ-centred education aimed at transforming young minds and uncovering God-given gifts in young people – kept the school strong. The staff completed a study of Loving Our Kids on Purpose, and it was wonderful to see them draw closer together in seeking God and His will for the school and its students.

Philippians 4:6 says,

***“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God.”***

This provides the Biblical foundation for how the MV Sunrise community responded to a challenging yet ultimately God-glorifying year.

Thank you to the Adelaide Christian Schools Board and the Association for your wise leadership and governance.

**Daniel Hamilton**

Principal

Sunrise Morphett Vale







# SUNRISE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PARADISE

163 STUDENTS | PRINCIPAL: MATTHEW STEADMAN

*“And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skilful hands he led them.”*  
– Psalm 78:72

This year, our school community has been richly blessed, as we were once again guided by the truth found in Psalm 78:72. This is a scripture that has long held a special place in my heart and in the heart of the school as we strive to lead those around us.

It is with grateful hearts that we reflect on a year marked by deepening community, a pursuit of excellence, and faithful growth – both in the spiritual journey of our students and their academic growth.

## Christ-Centred Learning Community

At the heart of our school is the unchanging truth that Jesus Christ is Lord. We remain steadfast in our commitment to keeping Christ at the centre of all that we do - our teaching, learning, relationships, and vision for the future. Every decision, program, and initiative is underpinned by a desire to honour God.

We have seen this lived out powerfully in the way our staff have served, not just as educators, but as ministers for the Lord. Each teacher, education support officer, and administrative staff member has approached their role as a calling, pouring their gifts and time



into the lives of our students and their families. Their unwavering dedication has helped cultivate an environment where children are not only known and loved but also encouraged to grow in wisdom and understanding.

## Continued Growth and Development

We have continued to witness significant growth across all aspects of the school this past year. Student enrolments have steadily increased, moving from 152 students last year to 163 at the end of 2024. With wait lists beginning to form for our future reception classes, the future numbers of enrolments appear to be strong into the years to come.

In response to the needs of our growing student body, we were excited to welcome several new staff members to our team, including Mrs Karen Verall, a garden specialist who has brought both passion and purpose to our learning environment. The establishment of the new Garden Program has been a true highlight of the year. This program has not only enhanced our sustainability practices and beautified the school grounds, but







more importantly, it has become a meaningful extension of classroom learning. Students have engaged with hands-on experiences that tie directly into subjects like science, health, and even mathematics, as well as Biblical principles of stewardship, creation care, and gratitude.

The Garden Program exemplifies our belief that learning should be holistic and deeply rooted in purpose. It is just one example of how we seek to integrate faith, life, and education in tangible, engaging ways.

We also welcomed Mrs Celeste Davies as our chaplain, replacing Mrs Barb Page who retired after the first term. We thank Mrs Page for her commitment and godly wisdom and service over the years. It was wonderful to see God's hand in the appointment of Celeste, who after working as a children's pastor and pastoral support worker, joined our school part way through 2023 as an ESO. Celeste was a natural fit and was able to

smoothly transition into the chaplaincy role over the first term as Barb moved into retirement.

God was also able to support the growth in the school as we split the existing 'arts teacher' into two roles comprising visual arts, ably filled by Mrs Angela Abbott, and the performing arts role filled by Mrs Beatrice Viljoen.

What a blessing it is when God 'does the staffing' for us. Every new addition to the team has been an answer to prayer and is the perfect person for the role in the His timing.

### Academic and Spiritual Growth

One of the greatest joys of this year has been watching our students flourish. We have continued to see strong growth academically, with students achieving personal excellence and making meaningful progress across all year levels. Our dedicated staff have maintained a high standard of teaching and learning, with rich, differentiated programs that meet students where they are and encourage them to strive forward.

More than just academic success, we rejoice in the spiritual growth we have witnessed in our students. Through regular devotional times, assemblies, our scripture memorisation program, and intentional conversations, our students are deepening their understanding of God's Word and developing a personal relationship with Jesus.

Our focus on Christ-like character development remains a central pillar of our approach. Students are taught not only knowledge, but wisdom, integrity, kindness, and perseverance - qualities that reflect the heart of Jesus and prepare them to live lives of purpose and service.

### Community Highlights and Celebrations

This year has been marked by a number of wonderful events that have brought our school community together in meaningful and joyful ways. Each event has been an opportunity to celebrate the gifts God has given us, to build relationships, and to honour the talents of our students.

Our annual Grandparents Morning was a particular highlight, as we welcomed many cherished family

members into our school to share in the life our students. It was a morning filled with smiles, songs, and heartfelt conversations.

Book Week once again provided a fantastic opportunity to share community with many events during the week promoting a love for reading, culminating in what is always a highlight of the year, our dress up parade. Staff again teamed up to dress to a theme, with Dr Suess being the selection this year.

Our End-of-Year Musical was another standout moment, showcasing not only the creative talents of our students but also their courage and teamwork. The production was a powerful reminder that when students are empowered and encouraged, they can achieve incredible things.

Our Presentation Evening served as both a celebration and a commissioning. As we recognised the achievements of the year and the contributions of our graduating students, we also gave thanks to God for His guidance and looked forward in hope to the plans He has for each of our students.

The many school camps held throughout the year also played a vital role in developing independence, resilience, and connection. These experiences were a wonderful opportunity for our students to extend beyond their comfort zone and experience something new.

Other events included Science Week, where we once again were blessed by Mr Marcel Rijken hosting sessions with our students where he was able to share his passion for the subject, athletics carnivals, the Grade 3 sleepover, and special events to honour our mums on Mother's Day and our dads on Father's Day. We also participated in events like the Walk-a-Mile in My Boots to support the homeless in Adelaide, the Aquatics Program for Grades 3-6, Friday Fun activities for Reception-Grade 3, and many excursions throughout the year.

All of these events and activities form a rich and diverse learning environment where students, regardless of where their gifting and talents lie, are able to shine and achieve excellence and experience growth.



### Staff as Ministers

We are deeply grateful for our staff who have embraced their roles not only as educators but as ministers to the school community. Their commitment goes far beyond lesson planning and marking. It is seen in the patient guidance they offer, the prayers they pray for their students, the extra hours they invest, and the way they model Christ in both word and action.

This year, our teaching and support teams have continued to pursue professional excellence through collaboration, ongoing training, and a shared vision for excellence in Christian education. Their ability to adapt, innovate, and lead with servant hearts is a testament to God's work in and through them.

### Looking Ahead

As we look to the future, we remain committed to fostering a school environment where each student is known, valued, and nurtured in both their faith and learning. We will continue to invest in programs that develop the whole child and to seek ways to partner with families in raising children who are strong in spirit, confident in their identity in Christ, and prepared to make a difference in the world.

We also continue to pray for wisdom, provision, and unity as our school grows. We know that the journey ahead will require faith, collaboration, and a continued reliance on the Lord.

### A Heart of Thankfulness

As we close out 2024, I personally would like to thank Mr Kym Golding and the ACS board for their unwavering support. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement. It is such a blessing to be a part of the broader organisation of Adelaide Christian Schools.

In all things, we give thanks to God, who is the author and sustainer of every good work in our school. His faithfulness has been evident in every season, and we acknowledge that it is by His grace that we have experienced such growth, joy, and impact.

As Colossians 3:17 reminds us:

***"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."***

We end this year with a deep sense of gratitude—to God, to our staff, to our families, and to our students. Each person has played a vital role in shaping the culture of our school and in reflecting the love and truth of Jesus Christ.

May we continue to be a community that leads with integrity of heart and serves with skilful hands, just as Psalm 78:72 encourages us to do. May we remain united in our calling, steadfast in our mission, and always open to the leading of the Holy Spirit.



As we reflect on the year that has passed and look forward to what lies ahead, we echo the words of Philipians 1:6:

***"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."***

To God be the glory.

**Matthew Steadman**  
Principal  
Sunrise Paradise







# SUNRISE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MARION

303 STUDENTS | 33.1 STAFF | PRINCIPAL: HENRY ENGELBRECHT

Sunrise Christian School continues to uphold its commitment to providing a holistic Christian education to our students, nurturing their academic, spiritual, and personal development. Our teachers are pivotal in shaping students' lives and influencing their outcomes beyond the classroom. The integration and importance of our Christian faith in learning fosters Godly character development and positive relationships. Teachers are role models of our Christian values and beliefs through personalised attention and mentorship. We educate hearts and minds in Godly wisdom and understanding, specifically in that order, because as Aristotle said in 300 B.C., 'Educating the mind without educating the heart, is no education at all'.

Our partnership with Temple Christian College here at Marion works hand in hand to influence precious lives, from young ELC-aged children to Year 9 students. At Sunrise, we educate hearts

and minds in Godly Wisdom and Understanding. This flows nicely into Temple's mission of empowering students to grow in Christian character and service and be a Christ-like influence in the school and broader community. All staff graciously take on the educator role as part of God's calling on their lives.

We employ just under 50 staff members at Marion, including part-time teachers, office staff, and the maintenance crew.

## LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We are a school filled with individuals who have a purpose to influence the next generation with a message of hope, truth and love, using this medium we call education. What a privilege! Scripture guides our focus towards fostering a Christ-centred focus and moral excellence, highlighting the two most important things in life; 'loving God and loving others'. It emphasises virtues such as kindness,



honesty, and empathy, which form the foundation of character.

Eric Liddell, an outspoken Christian athlete in the 1930s, was famous for saying this - God made me fast, and when I run, I feel His pleasure. At Sunrise, every staff member has a God-ordained purpose to influence lives, and it resonated so much when I heard from one staff member the same sentiment as Eric Liddell, 'God made me good at explaining stuff, and when I teach, I feel His pleasure'. Romans 12:1 and 2 says: So here's what I want you to do, God helping you (I urge you): Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.

Our theme for the year was 'Transformation'. For our staff, the transformation started with themselves and then naturally flowed down to the students they teach, which was the 'offering' we placed before God.

Scripture is central to community life, starting with staff devotions







each morning, where staff unite to worship, read God's Word and participate in a time of prayer. The school week begins similarly for our student community with an assembly where God's Word is taught and a time of singing where worship is enjoyed. This is also a time to recognise students' achievement in several areas of their growth at school, like character, academic, sports or drama achievements. Classes start the day with devotions, enjoy daily Bible reading, a memory verse programme across the grades is practised, and a weekly character quality is highlighted. Primary students finish most Fridays with an assembly where classes share and take turns leading.

Teachers had the opportunity to engage in meaningful professional development throughout the year, starting with a 4-day intensive where all Sunrise schools come together as a unit. At the start of Term 3, we also engaged in professional development with all the Christian schools in South Australia through CSA (Christian Schools Australia), plus another day of Sunrise-specific PD. These days, together as educators, are essential for building each other up in faith, strengthening our relationships and honing our knowledge of 'good practice' in education.

Once again, each student's rigorous standardised testing regime took place in literacy and numeracy, allowing us to track these critical areas. Utilising the ACER Progressive Achievement Tests and various other literacy and numeracy tests, we have collated the assessment data in a software tool called the Student Performance Analyser. This assists

us in tracking individual and cohort data over the years a student is at Sunrise Christian School, ensuring accountability for a student's progress and an opportunity to review our programme.

#### **Literacy Evening**

We provide an opportunity for all our new families to begin the year with a BBQ and a run-down of what we provide to our students in the area of literacy unique to Sunrise.

#### **Open Day**

A big part of our marketing plan happens in Term 1 every year, with an Open Day where we invite potential families to come and experience the school. Primary and middle schools combine to create a fantastic night where young and old can join in all different activities and enjoy some food together.

#### **Grand Parents' Day**

Honouring and giving gratitude to those who invest in our students' lives.

#### **School Musical and Christmas Carols**

We are spreading the word of the gospel through the musical "Back to the Beginning" to our community and to be the salt and light in the local community once again. With the Hopgood Theatre in Noarlunga under construction, we had to consolidate our performances with a smaller cohort at Edwadrstown Baptist Church.

Our junior primary students did not miss out on any performance opportunities, as they had a chance to showcase their talent at the end-of-year Carols performance.

### **Grade 6**

Grade 6s at the Marion site participated in the annual Stewardship project. They were given \$20 and encouraged to "make it grow" by creating, marketing, and selling a product during selling day opportunities in Term 2.

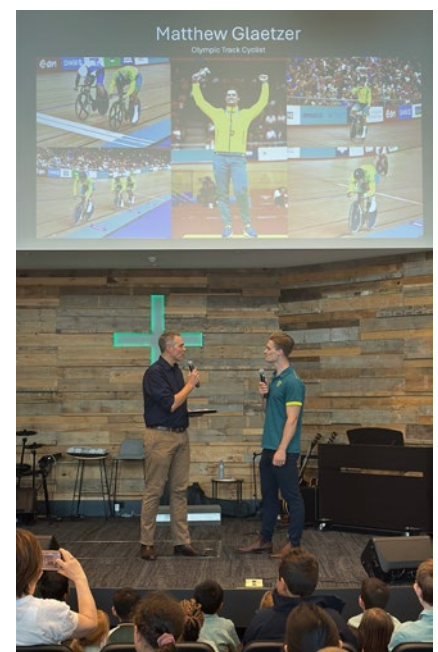
The Grade 6 year culminated in another Sunrise tradition - the End of Year Dinner. It was fantastic to have had our parents organise a beautiful event that the students would remember long after finishing Primary School.

### **Sport**

We competed in various sporting codes, from Athletics and Cross Country to Basketball, Netball, Soccer and Table Tennis. In addition, there were many opportunities to compete in interschool sporting activities and the state-wide SACSA competitions.

### **Music**

Music is another one of God's gifts to us. In addition to weekly worship times in school assemblies and class devotions, the students learn about music in their weekly lessons. In Grades 6,7 and 8, we offer an Instrumental Program where students can choose from 4 band instruments and learn to play them in a small group context. The four instruments are the saxophone, flute, trombone, and trumpet. The intention is to promote a music culture that begins in the Sunrise





Upper Primary and builds toward confident ensemble experiences at the middle school level. Ultimately, it will lead to excellent music opportunities at a senior level at Temple Mile End.

As a school, we provide Christian tutors so parents can access specialist tuition for their children in percussion, strings, dance, and piano. Music and the Arts are also showcased through the school's End-of-Year Musical. Particular opportunities are given to senior students with key roles and responsibilities in each of the productions.

### Other Highlights

At Sunrise Marion, our LOTE subject for 2024 was Japanese. However, as required, we follow the Australian Curriculum learning patterns and achieve good outcomes across the school. Scripture passages are learnt in Japanese with iPads used to record oral speech for assessment, practice, and development.

Class camps are a real highlight for our students. These memorable experiences proved to be an opportunity to learn vital life skills beyond the classroom. Camps start in Grade 3 with a Friday night sleepover at Adelaide Zoo and then move to a 3-day camp in Grades 4 and 5. Two or three schools combine for these camps to build unity and friendship across the Sunrise locations. Various senior teachers are assigned to coordinate these camps, and this role helps facilitate their growth as leaders.

Our Year 6 students had the opportunity to go back to Canberra in 2024. It was another memorable experience, with the new opportunity to visit the snowfields on the outskirts of Canberra.

Our middle school students participated in an all-in camp and had the privilege of spending a week at a campground on the York Peninsula. The Rite Journey is now in its 5th year, and our dedicated staff helped our Grade 9 students navigate this 'rite of passage' from childhood to adulthood with enthusiasm and a sense of purpose. It focuses on "owning" the transformation from youth to adulthood and gives excellent scope for input from a Christian perspective.

The usual end-of-year presentation evenings for the Primary and Middle Schools continued. Still, as a growing school, we decided to have two separate evenings, with ELC to Grade 2 together and Grades 3 -9 on a different evening. These were great opportunities to recognise the character, academic, sporting, and artistic accomplishments of our student body.

As is customary, a provision was made to celebrate the graduation of the Grade 6s and Year 9s with a special certificate and gift from the school.

### STAFFING

The dedication of our teachers to embodying Christian principles significantly impacts student outcomes at Sunrise Christian School. Together, through our commitment to Christian education, we continue to inspire and empower future leaders grounded in faith and knowledge. With a total staff of about 50, we have an incredible cohort of talented personalities committed to working with parents to see their students grow in understanding God's world and Word.

The staff and students have access to a range of technology in the classroom, from Samsung 75" Non-Touch 4K Panels with Apple 4K TVs attached, MacBook Air, student iPads and simple robotics. Junior Primary students can access two trollies of 30 iPads, and students from Grades 4-6 can participate in a one-to-one iPad program. The teachers regularly use electronic devices and platforms such as SEQTA, SPA, and SharePoint to plan and present lessons and manage data collected from the learning process and assessments. They prepare for excursions and camps using the Child Safe Online system, which not only manages induction and risk analysis of all those who work with the children but also provides collected information such as phone numbers, policies and medical information to be available both at school and off-site when the need arises.

Our teaching staff participated in six days of in-school professional development (PD) and various days of outsourced PD that focused mainly on the philosophy of

Christian education, classroom expectations, JP Literacy, and Mathematics. In addition, all staff participated in First Aid training.

### DIVERSE EDUCATION

Throughout 2024, the diverse needs of the students at Marion were ever-changing, fluid and flexible. New enrolments and new diagnoses presented new situations to manage, and I applaud Mrs Williams and the Diverse Ed staff for their willingness to change regularly to accommodate our students' needs by modifying the support given. The team is enthusiastic and eager to improve what we do. Having such dedicated people working with our most vulnerable students is a privilege.

With the influx of new students throughout the year, the BLITZ program proved to be a successful intervention program. It helped new students improve their knowledge of phonics and spelling, their ability to read fluently, and their ability to use phonograms accurately in their writing. Identifying, reviewing, and reporting against goals set by a teacher has also improved tracking students' progress over the year.

Sunrise Marion has a very diverse student cohort. The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) census in August indicates where extra support is given to our student cohort. This additional support is highly effective, and we continue exploring ways to manage this optimally and improve our practice.





## WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

Ensuring our students and staff's safety and well-being are paramount. Over the past year, we have steadfastly committed to maintaining a safe and secure learning environment. We have cultivated a safety culture permeating every aspect of our

school community through adherence to updated fire safety protocols, first aid training, and mandatory reporting procedures.

Staff work tirelessly to implement and uphold all standards, ensuring all community members feel secure and supported. Each weekly staff meeting reviews one safety area, and a local WHS representative completes a termly checklist and attends a school-specific WHS meeting. In addition, each volunteer is inducted and registered in our Child Safe Online program. This safety management software programme is critical in risk management for off-campus activities.

## IN CLOSING

In closing, Sunrise Christian School Marion passed all criteria in the Education Standards Board self-audit during Term 3. This was a significant process, and thanks must go out to all our principals and staff across our Sunrise schools for their hard work and dedication to see this come to fruition.

Sunrise Christian School Marion is not just another Christian school but a place where every child matters every day. Staff dedicate their lives to seeing young people's hearts touched. I am witness to this fact of lives being changed on a daily basis.

People are central to our business, and influencing them for God's glory gives us purpose and a sense of satisfaction. It is a privilege to be part of an incredible team at Sunrise Marion.

The relationship with Temple Christian College continued to strengthen, especially regarding leadership and teaching staff engagement. The support of many

key staff at Mile End for their Marion colleagues has been critical and is much appreciated.

The Middle School is thankful to Marcel Rijken, Principal of Temple Christian College, and Phil Paterson for skillfully negotiating all things Middle School.

I want to thank Mr Kym Golding, our CEO of Adelaide Christian Schools, for his guidance and leadership, along with the other Sunrise Principals and Coordinators for their dedication and character. I would also like to thank Mark Nokes and the Central Services Team for overseeing our excellent reputation from a financial and business perspective. Thank you to each of our board members for your dedication, prayers and guidance throughout 2024.

We are looking forward to what lies ahead in 2025.

**Henry Engelbrecht**  
Principal  
Sunrise Christian School Marion



# SUNRISE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NARACOOORTE

119 STUDENTS | 26 STAFF | PRINCIPAL: AARON HAINES

## STAFFING

2024 started in difficult circumstances after the resignation of the middle school / sports coordinator at the end of 2023 as well as a long-term staff member resigning in January 2024 for health reasons. This meant some late January shuffling to fill classroom positions, including several part-time roles from relief teachers and part-time staff increasing their FTE load. At the end of Term 1, these relief positions needing filling again, and we were thankful to have a more stable teaching team from Term 2 onwards as things began to settle.

The addition of an extra bus run from Penola meant two bus drivers were required after the resignation of the chaplain / Lucindale bus driver. Through much prayer, appeals, and negotiation, we managed to contract two local Christian bus drivers for these bus runs, which stabilised from Term 2.

Tania Jennings continued in the primary coordinator and diverse education coordinator roles, and Kate Gale took on the middle school coordinator role.

We were most thankful to appoint a woodwork teacher in Semester Two, after a number of several years of searching. This teacher travels from Mt Gambier each Wednesday, to work with the middle school classes.

### Staff Development

Staff development began in the January PD Week, where staff were refreshed on the 'Sunrise vision' that underpins the pedagogy and philosophy for Sunrise. Staff also worked on inclusive curriculum (diverse education), reading records, maths challenge activities, time management and a wellbeing workshop, as well as several elective sessions linked to subject areas.

Staff continued to work collaboratively on unit plans and overviews across in their grade level with teachers from other sites. Individual staff identified professional development opportunities in their respective roles, including a focus on food technology, visual arts, textiles, digital technology and more.

Other local professional training undertaken during the year included first aid CPR refresher, The Resilience Project, and the CSA mid-year conference on the theme of 'Who Are We Becoming?' Regular staff meeting training focussed on 'The Sunrise Way' document and its application across the life of the school.

Our school theme for 2024 was 'In His Image' from Genesis 1:27, and the staff encouraged students in this vision, that they are people of utmost dignity not because of what they can do, but because of who they belong to. This then undergirded conversations around value, respect and dignity across the school.

*So God created man  
in his own image,  
in the image of God he  
created him;  
male and female  
he created them.  
- Genesis 1:27*







## LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

### Community Events

It is exciting to celebrate community events within the life of the school, and 2024 was no different.

The parent coffee mornings (served by the Grade 9/10 hospitality team) moved to Wednesdays, linking with the whole school run, which provided a great boost to numbers. The school librarian created a parent resources book stand, allowing parents to borrow resources that support them and their children. Linked to this, several special coffee mornings were held, such as 'Coffee with a Cop', 'Coffee with a Nurse' and 'Coffee with a Councillor' to link in with the local community.

Also on Wednesday mornings, our chaplain, Kiara Price, started a breakfast club to build discussion and rapport with students over toast and jam. It has certainly built great atmosphere and school community each Wednesday morning.

Grandparents' Day was celebrated in June, the theme being 'A Love of Learning', where students would learn and appreciate what learning looked like for their grandparents. The Grade 9/10 barista-students served a special morning tea of jam and scones with coffee or tea as grandparents enjoyed a variety of students' musical pieces. The grandparents then walked around and witnessed what learning looked like in 2024 for their grandchildren, with many special photos taken and memories made.

Science Week was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate all things science. Students participated in over 20 interactive activities

and experiments, hosted by the Grade 9/10 home group, ESOs and teachers.

Mrs Bettina Palma, our librarian, brought in many exciting initiatives to Book Week, including special class sessions with author of 'Frieda' and 'The Worry Tree', Marianne Musgrove, lunchtime activities, a book stall, and the iconic Book Week parade to finish the week.

Our school had the privilege of connecting with community at both the Remembrance Day and Anzac Day commemorations in the Naracoorte Town Square, where members of the Student Leadership Team were able to lead a scripture reading and lay a wreath on behalf of the school.

### Promotion / Marketing

Working closely with the marketing team in Adelaide, the school hosted several promotional events, including the Twilight Tour in February, Lucindale Field Days stall in March, 'Why Choose Sunrise' (aimed at Reception intake) in May, and regional Sunrise Information Evenings in May / June. Regular Principal Tours are conducted once to twice-a-term. In addition, the online presence of Sunrise Naracoorte is increasing through the school's open Facebook page with regular stories and advertising. In 2024, the addition of online parent and student testimonials was well-received.

The school has continued to work on its strong relationships with its local newsprint, including Limestone Coast Today and The News, both in advertising and sending local stories to the paper, several of which received front page coverage.

### Storytime

Mrs Kristy Marshall and her loyal volunteers continue to implement Storytime for families and children up to 5 years of age. Attendances continued to be low in 2024, and the decision was made to re-start the programme in 2025 with an educational focus on the Early Years Learning Framework. This is such a valuable program for our community, especially in making connections with families of pre-school aged children.

### Student Leadership Team

The Student Leadership Team (SLT) is comprised of student leaders in all classes from Grade 2 and upwards, headed up by two Grade 6 Senior Ambassadors and two Grade 9/10 School Captains. The SLT in 2024 worked on goals for the year and activities to achieve them. They conducted several fundraising initiatives towards both local (aged care) and international missions, including the Bethel School in PNG.

The students participated in the GRIP Leadership conference in Mt Gambier, the Lucindale Field Days stall, Anzac and Remembrance Day commemorations, casual days, hosting the Colour Run, and they ran a successful whole school games night in Term 3 (where students competed in their sports day teams) and speaking at the Presentation Evening in Term 4.

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*  
- Ephesians 2:10





## Sport

The year was off to a great start with the school's 'Whole School Sports Day' now in its third year. This event is a combined effort of the Parent Group and the school staff to bring together this occasion in Term 1. Students were divided into four teams and participated in a range of sports events and fun activities, for points, before the 70m sprints in the middle of the day. The day then moves to the athletics events for Grade 3 and above, before closing with the tug-of-war and presentations.

Students at Naracoorte can participate in both SAPSASA and SACS representative sports, and we had several students compete in athletics, cross country, football, netball, tennis, swimming, basketball and more. Mr Sean Speed, the sport coordinator, ran extra after-school training sessions for the athletics programme.

The other big sporting event for Term 1 was the Sunrise Athletics Carnival, where Grade 4-6 students enjoyed competing. The Premier's Be Active Challenge ran in Term 2, before Auskick ran in Term 3, with help from the local SANFL liaison. A Sporting Schools grant was used to run football clinics in this same term.

We also participated in the local school netball and football competitions.

## The Arts

Students have received many opportunities to participate the exercises across 'The Arts' in 2024. This has included workshops from the State Opera of South Australia, The 'Stations of the Cross' Easter art presentation, two concerts from Christian children's entertainer, Sean W Smith, a concert from the JAM band ('Just Add Music'), the junior primary attending the theatre show 'When the Mirror Bird Sings' as well as local events such as Harmony Day and the South East Primary Schools' Music Festival (choir), and the finale to the year, the whole school musical, 'In a Galilee Far, Far Away', encompassing students from across all year levels.

## Middle School

One of the main highlights of 2024 for the middle school was their Grampians camp in early Term 4. Students spent a week seeing the sights and participating in some exciting activities, such as high ropes course, canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling, archery, bushwalking, and two special day trips - one to Halls Gap and one to Sovereign Hill. It's hoped we can continue to offer these exciting camps to retain middle school enrolments.

The Rite Journey ran in 2024 for the Grade 9/10 class. Students embarked on their year-long journey with the Departure Ceremony in

Term 1 before participating in a series of challenges and mentoring experiences over the year, including 'The Abyss' (solo camp). Students finished the year with a special Homecoming Ceremony with family and friends as they showcased their mentor project.

Our middle school students continue to have access to a wide variety of community-linked electives on a Wednesday afternoon. In 2024, this included electives at the Naracoorte Kindergarten, The Sheep's Back Museum, and in the fields of barista coffee, arm wrestling, Lego Mindstorms, recycled jewellery, 3D printing, visual art, pottery, deadlifting, chess, metalwork, woodwork, small engine maintenance, textiles and guitar.

The Grade 9/10 hospitality team have helped a variety of events across the school year, including Twilight Tour, promotional events, Grandparents' Day, Book Week, Shrove Tuesday, and much more.





## Camps

In addition to the excellent middle school camp to the Grampians, students in the primary school continued to access camps to Adare (Gr 4), Wirraway (Gr 5), Adelaide Zoo and Canberra (Gr 6). We were fortunate to receive positive social media publicity through our local state and federal members of parliament on our Grade 6 camps.

*Unless the Lord  
builds the house,  
those who build it  
labor in vain.  
- Psalm 127:1*

## DIVERSE EDUCATION

Tania Jennings continued in the role of diverse education coordinator from Term 3. She led staff in a greater focus on the need for evidence of support for the National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD), as well as implementation of the QuickSmart maths programme for differentiation across the school. Subsequently, in staff meetings each team (middle school and primary school) focussed on diverse education, including Individualised Learning Plans (ILPs), adjustment forms and ensuring accurate records

are being kept for all supplementary and substantial-level students. Education Support Officers are now keeping records of their sessions as further evidence of the support students are receiving.

## WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

Staff development and compliances, WHS audits and training were completed, and no significant incidents were recorded.

## CAPITAL DEVELOPMENTS

Over the course of 2024 we were able to see the kitchen garden project begin to take shape. Beginning with pathways, planter beds, irrigation and compost bays, the next installation was the butterfly-shaped shade structure, fencing, and the greenhouse. The project did take on some delays with the unavailability of tradespeople, but it was good to begin using the produce from the garden in the latter stages of 2024.

## IN CLOSING

2024 was a year of consolidation after the leadership change in mid-2023. Many experiences still feel 'new' as staff and I worked together in our first full year together. The goal I outlined at the beginning of

the year was to continue to 'love God and love our neighbours', always remembering the missional focus for our school. I believe this culture will continue to build slowly as we remain committed to this vision.

I am immensely thankful to the support of the ACS Board for their oversight, Mr Mark Nokes, Business Manager, for his financial advice, Mr Kym Golding, CEO, for his wisdom in difficult situations, the Executive Leadership Team, for their advice, and the many staff in Corporate Services who help me on a regular basis. I am most thankful to the staff in Naracoorte who do the valuable work of educating and supporting our students and families.

*Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." [a]38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'*  
- Matthew 22:37-39







# SUNRISE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL WHYALLA

265 STUDENTS | 62 STAFF | PRINCIPAL: CINDY MILLWOOD

## WHYALLA: WHERE THE OUTBACK MEETS THE SEA

Many staff members attest that their experiences in the desert have prepared their hearts for immense gratitude and healing. These testimonies have been shared with numerous students at Sunrise Whyalla, highlighting God's goodness and everlasting faithfulness.

At our school, our focus continues to be on developing students into well-balanced citizens. Every staff member plays a crucial role in the character development of our students.

They are more than just students; they are souls seeking God in a world that often does not recognise Him and the hope and peace that comes from following Jesus.

*John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."*

## WHYALLA: A TOWN IN CRISIS

2024 has been marked by significant highlights, as well as moments that have showcased the courage and strong sense of community among the people of Whyalla.

A particularly challenging situation arose when our main industry, GFG Alliance (steelworks), faced a crisis when the blast furnace, the heart of the steelworks, experienced difficulties and ceased operations. This was compounded by the fact that many local businesses had not been paid for an extended period, which affected the town as a whole in a major way.

It was heartwarming and encouraging to see both the staff and the community come together, demonstrating resilience during this time of great uncertainty. Despite the challenges surrounding GFG and the significant number of our school families who lost jobs, we were able to maintain our student enrolment.

Fee assistance has been given to some of these affected families, enabling them to continue their Christian education uninterrupted.

It has been wonderful to witness our school shining as a beacon of hope in times of need and desperation.

*Matthew 5:14 states "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."*

This verse, referring to ancient cities built on hills for defensive purposes, truly reflects our goal of remaining visible and impactful within our community. It has been heartwarming to hear visitors comment on the peacefulness of our site. All glory to God!

## LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Staff devotions have continued to be an essential and valued part of each school day. Being united in Christ through studies of various books of the Bible, including the Book of Jonah, as well as worship and prayer for events, the school community and students, has been uplifting and encouraging. Each day begins with themed devotions, such as exploring the Beatitudes and the Fruits of the Spirit.







Throughout the year, our staff continued to benefit from meaningful professional development. The four-day connection with the other Sunrise schools and the intensive face-to-face personal development sessions at the start of the year provide excellent opportunities for further growth and learning. Additionally, we had the chance to participate in the CSA On-Demand PD (Christian Schools Australia), which allowed the staff at Whyalla to engage in further personal development from a Christian perspective.

Our Early Learning Centre (ELC) started the year strongly with a positive mindset. The students have actively participated in several school events throughout the year, including our Junior Primary Sports Day, where it was heartwarming to see the little ones racing towards the finish line during their sprints! We are focused on making the transition to school as smooth and easy as possible for our ELC students. One initiative that supports this is our 'Veggie Buddy' program, where the Grade 5 students visit the ELC to sow, plant and harvest vegetables together. The children particularly enjoy visiting our large chicken coop, which is home to numerous hens and a couple of roosters. Participating in other school-wide events, such as Grandparents' Day and Harmony Day, has also been a successful way to foster a sense of community and cohesion within the broader school environment.

Sport is an area where our students excel and enjoy participating in events such as Pedal Prix, netball, soccer, AFL, basketball and even finishing 4th in a mountain biking carnival. Our teams have consistently demonstrated both talent and sportsmanship, often being awarded with the team spirit award at combined school carnivals. The Junior Primary cohort participated in water safety and swimming lessons at the Whyalla Recreation Centre. Plans are in place to expand this initiative to include our Upper Primary students. We have been privileged to connect with the greater Sunrise community by joining the annual Upper Primary Athletics Carnival in Adelaide. It is a great opportunity for our country students to compete on this level with Adelaide and Naracoorte campuses. Additionally, our Grade 6-9 students participated in the UniSA Australian HPV Super Series (Pedal Prix). We currently have two vehicles, "Sunrisers" and "Cuttlerush". Our students were very competitive and achieved great results for our school at this fantastic event.

Celebrating and encouraging the development of creativity, and a love for music and theatre, has remained a focus for our school. We held a successful musical production titled "Jonah's Druthers". Our Grade 6 students showcased their singing and acting talents, with each primary class also performing a song on stage.

Music classes have continued to thrive, with Junior Primary students learning recorder, Upper Primary playing the ukulele, and Middle School mastering the guitar. A love for music has been fostered through weekly praise and worship times, assemblies and devotions. It's a blessing to provide the opportunity for our students to praise God boldly

together. Our school are hosting Stormfront Production providing weekly private tutoring for a variety of musical instruments and vocal training. We once again participated in the Festival of Music, culminating in a mass combined schools choir performance at our local theatre.

The Grade 6 classes enjoyed a year filled with exciting leadership opportunities, including being appointed in Tech Support, Library Monitors, Sport Captains and School Captains' roles. The year concluded with the end-of-year formal dinner, a lovely celebration signifying the end of their Primary School years.

At Sunrise Whyalla, our Language Other Than English (LOTE) subject is Spanish. We utilise the Education Perfect online program to deliver the curriculum in an engaging way. A highlight of the year was our Spanish Day, giving the students the opportunity to dress in colourful Spanish outfits, participate in cultural games and activities, and sample delicious Spanish delicacies.

Beyond the schoolyard environment, we have enhanced our students' learning opportunities by offering exciting opportunities including excursions, incursions and our highly anticipated annual camps. Our Grade 3 class having a Friday night sleepover on the school grounds helps prepare them for their upcoming two-night stay at Adare in Victor Harbor in Grade 4. Although it's quite a distance for the Grade 4 students, this camp provides a valuable opportunity to learn about the First Fleet. Grade 5 students enjoyed a camping experience at Wirraway in the Adelaide Hills. Joining with two of our sister campuses promotes unity and friendship among our Sunrise locations.





Grade 6 students once again had the incredible opportunity to visit Canberra. This experience is key in enriching their understanding of Human and Social Sciences, as well as the Civics and Citizenship curriculum. Exploring locations such as Parliament House, the War Memorial and Questacon provides an invaluable experience that cannot be replicated.

Our Middle School students participated in two separate camps. Our 7th and 8th graders spent three days at West Beach for an Adelaide Adventure Camp, while our 9th and 10th graders camped for three days at Melrose in the Flinders Ranges.

The Grade 9 class engaged in the Rite Journey, a program designed to assist in their transition from youth to young adulthood. This program was facilitated by our dedicated staff, who not only highlighted the gifts and talents of the 9th graders but also guided them through this 'rite of passage' from childhood to adulthood, fostering a sense of purpose and a deep understanding of their identity in Christ.

The graduation of our Grade 6 and Grade 10 students was celebrated at our prestigious annual presentation evenings. The Grade 6 class looked so very grown up and mature in their graduation gowns and caps. Each one of the Grade 6 and Grade 10 students received a certificate and a gift from the school to celebrate this significant milestone in their lives. All students from Reception through to Grade 10 received certificates to acknowledge their character



and spiritual gifts and to celebrate outstanding achievements in the categories of sports, academics, character, performing arts and progress.

#### Other highlights:

- Grandparents and Special Person's Day
- Junior Primary Sports Day
- Colour Run
- Jump Rope for Heart
- African drumming workshop
- Barista training for Middle School students
- Grade 7 stewardship programme

#### STAFFING

The staff at Sunrise Christian School exemplifies a deep and palpable faith in Christ, which profoundly influences their daily interactions with students. Their dedication to sharing this faith, particularly with those from non-believing families, is truly encouraging as they strive to bring precious lives into the Kingdom of God. Heartfelt stories, shared during our morning devotion times, highlight moments when students have come to Christ. These moments are celebrated by the entire staff, reinforcing the supportive and nurturing environment of our school. The staff actively partners with parents, maintaining constant communication through the Class Dojo app, ensuring that families feel connected and informed. Committed to the safety and wellbeing of all students, our staff



diligently prepares thorough risk management strategies through the Safety Management Online program, in preparation for all off site excursions and camps. Staff members are encouraged to use their strengths to invest in our students, resulting in a wide variety of opportunities for them and creating a secure environment where they can learn and grow. Staff members use platforms such as SEQTA and SharePoint to plan and manage data and assessments collected from students. Staff meetings were regularly held, alternating between full staff meetings and sub-school meetings. Personal development occurred during these meetings, including reflections and identification of areas for growth.

#### WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is our top priority. Throughout the past year, we have made a strong commitment to fostering a secure learning environment. We have established a culture of safety that influences every part of our school community by strictly following updated fire safety procedures, providing first aid training, and enforcing mandatory reporting procedures. Our devoted staff continually work to implement and maintain these standards, ensuring that everyone in our community feels safe and supported.





## DIVERSE EDUCATION

Our school is home to a wide variety of cultures and educational needs. Over the past year, we have welcomed an increasing number of students with diverse learning needs, prompting us to provide the necessary care and support. We are fortunate to have an outstanding Diverse Education team dedicated to helping teachers create Individual Learning Plans for every student who needs one. The flexibility of our staff has been encouraging, and many parents have expressed their appreciation for the nurturing environment our teachers and Education Support Officers (ESOs) provide for their children. It is truly a blessing to work alongside staff who put in tremendous effort to tailor each lesson, ensuring every child has the opportunity to learn and grow. Our MiniLit and Early Numeracy Intervention programs have been instrumental in helping teachers identify specific areas in each child's learning that require attention.

## IN CLOSING

Sunrise Christian School Whyalla is committed to creating a safe and nurturing environment where students are encouraged to develop a strong relationship with God and to extend that love to others in their community. We hold a deep conviction that every staff member, student, and family member is part

of our school for a specific purpose during this time. Our focus is on empowering young people because we believe they are the future, and we work diligently to protect our culture and faith, ensuring that it permeates every aspect of our educational approach.

Central to our philosophy is

***Micah 6:8, "...and what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."***

This scripture encapsulates our mission here in outback Whyalla. It serves as a guiding principle for our daily interactions and activities. We strive to act justly, demonstrating fairness and integrity in all our dealings. Compassion is a cornerstone of our community life, where we support one another and extend kindness to those in need. Living in humility reminds us to remain grounded and grateful, while fostering an environment of respect and unity.

***And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body, you were called to peace. And be thankful.***  
- Colossians 3:15

I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to all the key individuals who have supported Sunrise Christian School Whyalla throughout our journey. The oversight of Mr Mark Nokes and the Central Services Team has been vital to the operation, health and development of our school.

I also wish to thank Mr Kym Golding, CEO of Adelaide Christian Schools, for his ongoing support, dedication and leadership. I wish him all the best in his future endeavours and pray that God's joy, comfort and all-encompassing peace will be with him every day of his life. May the Lord bless you and keep you!

The guidance and support from the other Sunrise Principals have been invaluable, along with the relentless dedication and hard work of the coordinators at Sunrise Christian School Whyalla. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Mr Mike Groom and the board for their continuous support, encouragement and advice throughout 2024.

May 2025 be filled with God's plentiful blessings and anointing!

**Cindy Millwood**

Principal

Sunrise Christian School Whyalla





## ACS EARLY LEARNING CENTRES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: JANE BROADBENT

At Sunrise Early Learning Centres, we nurture life-long learners from the age of two. Our dedicated staff are passionate about Christian education and shaping the lives of the next generation.

In 2024, we experienced continued organisational growth, marked by increased enrolments and staffing. We also refined our curriculum and placed a strong emphasis on staff development and support.

We remain committed to reviewing our practices and continuously seeking ways to enhance what we offer in our ELCs. Staff are encouraged to engage in ongoing professional development, and throughout the year, we have prioritised training by revisiting core practices and unpacking our educational philosophy.

Valuable insights from our Literacy Coordinator also helped us establish a more targeted literacy program across our ELCs. This initiative has added significant value to our “Pre-literacy” program, helping our Kindy children prepare for a confident and successful start to their formal schooling journey.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT FOR 2024

#### Whyalla

The beginning of 2024 saw a wonderful start with our Pre-kindy room being at almost capacity for majority of the week.

Playgroup continues to thrive as we saw that we were facilitating for between 15-25 families throughout 2024, with some of those children going onto joining our ELC or applying and waitlisted.

The barista program being utilised in playgroup has been enjoyed by families and staff. The waitlist has continued to grow specifically for 2 Year Olds and majority from our playgroup or word of mouth about the quality of care and education we offer.

In November we watched in anticipation as our new building landed which once approved and operating will see our waitlist decrease and number in enrolments increase.

We welcomed two adult trainees and had a staff member that

completed their training and attained their Diploma by the end of the year.

The Kindy children have enjoyed the new garden specialist visits and through their enthusiasm and creative ideas learned so many wonderful and exciting things, making the kitchen and garden program richer. The connection with the buddies is always a highlight for the children as they build strong connections with older peers.

We participated in school events such as Sports Day, Grandparents Day, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day. We look forward to the ongoing connections built between school and ELC.

#### Marion

2024 was a year of tremendous growth for Marion Early Learning Centre. A significant milestone for the year was the enrolment increase of 38 children, a testament to the centre’s commitment to providing a nurturing and high-quality educational environment. This growth reflects the trust families have placed in us to care for and guide their children in these critical early years of development, from a biblical perspective. All Glory to God for His provision and protection!

The kindy children had a busy and enriching year, participating in weekly Buddy Lessons, as well as Music and Japanese lessons facilitated by the teachers at the school. The children were also invited to join the school for key events such as Well-Being Day, Sports Day, the Science Living-







Lab and an excursion to the South Australian Museum with the Reception class, offering them a variety of learning experiences throughout the year.

A major highlight of 2024 was the successful introduction of our Two-Year-Old Programme. This milestone marked a significant step in supporting the youngest members of our community. The children involved thrived in an environment that was both safe and stimulating. They enjoyed interacting with older peers, which provided valuable opportunities for learning, social interaction, and emotional development. The presence of the older children helped to foster a sense of community and contributed to the growth of social skills across all age groups.

Our commitment to professional development was evident in the success of our traineeship program. We celebrated the achievement of one of our trainees, who completed her Certificate III and transitioned to working toward her Diploma. Additionally, three other staff members were working toward their Certificate III, with each receiving dedicated support from individual mentors and training providers. This investment in staff development ensures that we continue to provide the best possible care and education for the children in our centre.

A key project in 2024 was the creation of a world map, connecting each child's photo to their country of origin. This interactive initiative involved families in a positive and inclusive way, and the completed

map became a frequent topic of discussion during drop-off and pick-up. It fostered a deeper sense of connection and cultural awareness within our community. This project will continue into 2025 as we further explore and embed our cultural diversity, in our daily activities.

As we move into the next year, we are excited to build on these foundations, continuing to support the developmental needs of every child, and strengthening the sense of belonging within our community. We are grateful for the trust and support of all families and look forward to another year of growth and development, with God as our anchor, provider and hope.

### Paradise

We had a wonderful year of growth in 2024 where we were almost reaching capacity towards the later part of the year, with waitlist for some of the days. This meant more little people to be able to sow seeds of God's Word into their hearts in such a foundation time of their lives, and more children knowing how loved they are by God and knowing they have a purpose for their lives. This is a wonderful blessing and a privilege. We also had a well-attended Playgroup throughout 2024, with some of those children going onto joining our ELC.

Our core staff remained constant throughout 2024, with several casual staff joining the team to keep up with the enrolment growth. We continued to partner with Temple College and had another two Grade 11 trainees join us in 2024 for their

Certificate 3 traineeships, Taliese Wilson, and Mikayla Duncan. Our traineeship student for 2023 finished her Certificate 3 and has gone onto her Diploma Traineeship with us as she has finished Grade 12.

Throughout the year we enjoyed various excursions and events, such as Grandparents Day, Mother's Day morning tea, Gorge Wildlife Park, a scavenger hunt to Linear Park, and a visit from Animals Anonymous and the Fire Service. The Fire Engine experience was a hit!

A gate was put in at the rear of the ELC yard to be able to access the new veggie garden at the school. This helped connect us more to the whole school community and supported our Veggie Buddies program run every Friday with the Grade 5 students. This has shown to be a wonderful way to build relationships across the ELC and school and supports their transition over to Reception beautifully.

Our yearly focus for 2024 was 'How can we care for the ELC?' We noticed as we had grown quite rapidly in the number of children attending, that the principal of stewarding the



resources that God has given us was something that we needed to intentionally work at amongst the children and staff. God has given us resources and the mandate to steward them well. It was wonderful to watch both children and staff showing a sense of ownership and care of their ELC as the year progressed.

### Fullarton

We had a beautiful, blessed year at our Fullarton ELC in 2024 and we praise God for leading us in His ways to support and love on our beautiful families and children.

It was such a joy to watch our confident Kindy children graduating at the end of the year and heading to reception at school. We had a new team of teachers that came together last year, and it was a time of learning and growing for us all.

Our team felt it was important for us to get to know our families better and we focused on understanding different cultures and embracing diversity. Hence our Yearly focus last year was focussed on us learning as a team to understand cultural backgrounds.

We had so much fun putting a Culture book together, designed to showcase each staff and families' cultural background. We even got to share recipes with each other.

Our team focussed on leading by example, we prayed with our children and families. We all praised God with music, song and dance! Glorifying God in all we do and teaching our little ones that in all things we go to God and he is the one we trust and praise.

We had so much fun heading out on an excursion to the Gorge wildlife park. Then meeting all our other staff and friends from the other Adelaide based Sunrise ELCs at the Orphanage Park in March 2024. We had beautiful days celebrating Father's Day, Mother's Day and Grandparent's Day. Such a good way to honour the people who play such a key role in the lives of our Children.

We have had the joy of watching things grow, doing garden projects with our Grade 5 buddies. Talking walks, playing together and doing crafts and other fun things. Watching how the buddy program has helped build relationships and

confidence among our children has encouraged us to focus more on enriching this time set aside each week!

It's also been a pleasure to partner with our beautiful families and the school and to come together to bless our Fullarton community.

### Morphett Vale

2024 at Morphett Vale began with a new direction under fresh leadership. Despite the uncertainties surrounding the start of the year, particularly with leadership transitions and health concerns, the staff, families, and leadership team stood strong and united. Together, they faced these challenges head-on, ensuring the children's learning and care remained seamless and uninterrupted.

Our families were incredibly supportive, and their involvement was highlighted during a memorable "Big Morning Tea" held during a playgroup session. The event was filled with delicious homemade cakes, pastries, and fruit platters that brought everyone together in a spirit of community.

This year also saw a change in leadership at Sunrise School at Morphett Vale. Both the school and Early Learning Centre (ELC) worked closely together, further strengthening our partnership. The alignment of both sites helped to ensure a smooth and unified transition for the children between them.

Key events, such as Sports Day, Orphanage Park, Grandparents Day, the Kitchen Garden initiative, and the Buddies program, were the highlights of our year. The ELC also participated in the weekly assemblies every Monday morning, providing a greater sense of belonging to the broader school community.



We partnered with the local community. Having visits from Bunnings, Woodcroft Library, Waste and Recycling, 'Let's Move It' Fitness.

The ELC yard and centre received much-needed refurbishments and updates, making the environment even more conducive to the children's learning and development. Additionally, the decision to swap the Kindy and Pre-Kindy rooms at the start of the year provided the Kindy children with more space for their learning, while our younger two-year-olds thrived under the mentorship of their older peers.

Our combined staff meetings at Fullarton, as well as the Professional Development (PD) Day, were beneficial in fostering collaboration across campuses. These events allowed staff to meet and share experiences, all while focusing on the shared mission to serve in the Ministry God has called us to.

The year concluded with a beautiful end-of-year celebration at Grow Church Auditorium, where we celebrated the graduation of our Kindy children. We pray that God continues to bless them as they journey forward into all He has planned for them.

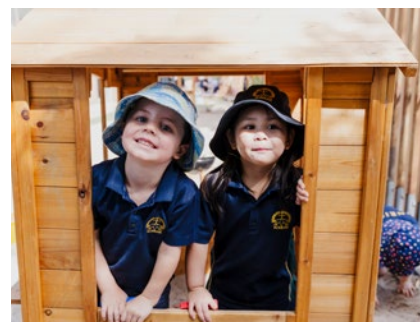
We are excited and hopeful for what 2025 holds and look forward to even greater achievements ahead.

### In closing

We're excited to witness the meaningful educational impact of Christian early learning centres. Our commitment remains strong in continuously improving our programs to give children the best possible start to their educational journey.

### Jane Broadbent

Executive Director  
Acs Early Learning Centres







## TEMPLE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

1116 STUDENTS | 232 STAFF | PRINCIPAL: MARCEL RIJKEN

At Temple Christian College we build on the foundation of Jesus Christ. The individual members are living stones of different shapes and sizes that are being fitly framed together and are growing unto a holy temple in the Lord. The following 2 scriptures are why we are called Temple Christian College.

### *Ephesians 2:21-22*

*In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

### *Peter 2:4-5*

*As you come to him the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

In 2024 we have brought greater clarity in how we communicate the Vision, Mission and Values of Temple Christian College.

This was our first year where we had a Campus Principal for Mile End and for Paralowie. I have been greatly encouraged by how Mr Magan Schaefer has led our Mile End Campus and how Mr Ben Bleby has led our Paralowie Campus. I am very grateful for their Godly leadership and the efforts of their teams.

### **LIFE OF THE SCHOOL - IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY**

Providing students with opportunities to grow in their faith and impact on the community is a very important aspect of the life at Temple.

The beginning of the school year is very busy with year level camps, it is a great way to start the year as it allows each year level to develop as a more cohesive group and for each of the students to see the significant role each has to contribute. Separate camps are held for each campus. The Year 9 Rite Journey Camps was held in Term 3.

Sport is a very significant passion for a large number of students. We have whole school carnivals at each campus for Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country. Students are selected to then compete for Temple in the State Competition (SSSSA) and the Christian Schools Competition (SACSA)

Involvement in SACSA Sport has continued to grow with a significant highlight being the annual SACSA Rijken Cup for students in Years 11 and 12. We entered separate teams for Mile End and Paralowie. The competition lasted a week with

Temple Christian College - a faith based, learning community.



students competing in Netball, Volleyball, Table Tennis, Soccer, Basketball and Mixed Touch Football.

Performing Arts really blesses the school and the wider community at both campuses. Through Music, Drama, Dance and Audio-Visual students are able to grow and minister in their gifts. Each week we have a School Assembly at each campus where we gather to bring praise and worship to our Lord and Saviour. Our student leaders will pray and share a scripture. It is a significant time each week and can be a great encouragement for the students.

Open Evenings continue to be very important and very successful at each campus. It is an evening where we celebrate God's goodness and provision within our school community. It is great to see so many Temple families support the night. In many ways visitors are a bonus as the school community really enjoys the celebration.

The involvement of students in Mission work and fundraising for Missions continues to grow. In 2024 we again had a trip to Cambodia and had 18 students and 4 staff attend. We visited schools, learning

centres and churches that Temple teams have been working with for over 15 years. It is encouraging to see continued growth in a country where there is still great need and much to be done.

Our final Presentation Nights at the end of each year are a wonderful celebration of God's provision and the achievement of our students.

## STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT

A demographic analysis through the My Schools website clearly shows that the Temple community is diverse in relation to the distribution of Socio-Educational Advantage.

Although a significant number of students have a university aspiration, we also have students entering TAFE, apprenticeships, and the workforce.

Lachlan Ridge was the 2024 Dux of Temple Christian College Paralowie Campus, and achieved a score of 95.2, which is an exceptional achievement. The following students achieved an ATAR above 80: Tam Le 93.85, Linh Nguyen 89.25, Anna Tran 88.55, Abeemelek Belachew 88.45, Lina Do 87.1, Kaiden Nguyen 86.6, Aaliyah Pursche 85.95, Loria Tol 83.45, Fatema Sadiqi 82.35,

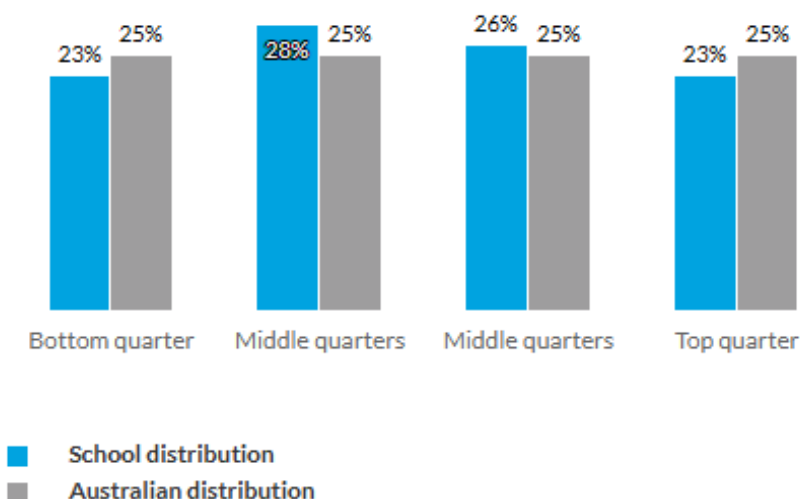
Lilly Huynh 81.7, Lele Roesler 81.25, Hemen Mulugeta 80.05. A Merit were award to: Trevena Hong in Sport & Recreation.

I had the privilege of attending the Merit Ceremony at Government House. Joshua Wabnitz from the Mile End Campus received a Governor of South Australia Commendation presented to the 30 most outstanding students in the state. This includes academic achievement, School and Community involvement. This is the second year in a row with Zoe Lin receiving it last year. Esther Brightbard was our Dux for Mile End and achieved an ATAR of 98.95 achieving 3 merits and was also at the ceremony.

The following students achieved an ATAR above 90: Chloe Meinel 97.9, Amelia Schaefer 97.45, Natalia Wabnitz 96.65, Joshua Wabnitz 95.55, Abby Stevenson 95.45, Ava Jones 95.15, Winter Edwards 94.1, Finn Horner 93.15, Felicity Rapkins 91.25, and Charlise Natale 90.4

Merits were achieved by Esther Brightbard in Physical Education, Psychology and English Literary Studies and by Amy Lin and Kate Hyde in Material Solutions

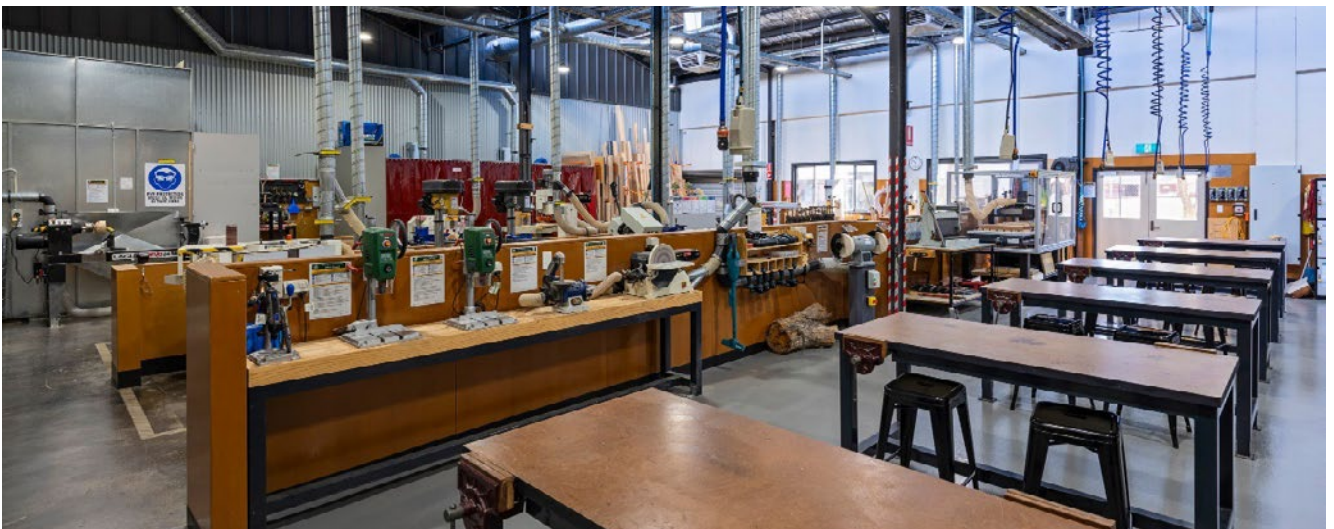
## Distribution of Socio-Educational Advantage (SEA)



Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100







## PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS

Continual capital development and investment is really important at both campuses. The most significant projects occurred at Mile End with the completion of the Covered Outdoor Learning Area,

expansion of the Design, Technology and Engineering facilities and redevelopment of the old Art Rooms into 3 modern classrooms. The facilities were available from the start of Term 2. Mr. Steve Georganas MP officially opened all the facilities in September.

## IN CLOSING

We do look forward to the 2025 school year confident that God will continue to be with us, leading and guiding as we navigate the journey that is Temple Christian College.

**Marcel Rijken**

Principal  
Temple Christian College





# DISCOVERY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

319 STUDENTS | 54 STAFF | PRINCIPAL: JOSH COUNSEL

In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul reminds us of what it means to love well. Whilst this verse is usually reserved for weddings, throughout 2024, we have used this verse as a lens as we have wrestled with the theme of 'slowing down to the speed of love'. In doing so we have explored how intentionality in our relationships enable us to love one another well and honour Christ in the work that He has called us to. Slowing down has invited us to pay attention, to stop, to notice, to listen and observe the depth and richness of our community.

Each of us carries unique stories - stories of hope, pain, redemption and growth. When we move at the speed of love, we are able to see and understand these stories more clearly. In slowing down, we create space for each other to be known, to be heard and to be seen. These stories shape the very fabric of our community; they deepen our understanding of each other, they challenge our assumptions and build empathy for those around us. By

doing this well, we embody Christ's command captured in the Gospel of John to love God and to love people and it is our prayer and hope that love would continue to transform our community.

It would be remiss not to mention that 2024 marked the tenth year of operations for DCC. This is a remarkable story and one that we should be incredibly proud of. As we reflect on the journey of the College over that time, we can see and recognise God's hand at work in our school and we are deeply thankful that we get to partner with him in the work that he is doing both at DCC and in the Agnes Water community.

## SCHOOL LIFE SNAPSHOT

Life in schools is rich, diverse and deeply rewarding. This year at Discovery has been wonderful as we have continued to see the College grow, our students thrive and our community flourish. Term One is always jam packed with activities. Year 7 students headed away to

Garapine for camp in week two, seeking to forge new friendships and strengthen connections as they commenced their high school journey. Year 8 headed to Coolum on the Sunshine Coast with the camp challenging them to step out of their comfort zone and to help support their peers to do the same. Year 12 headed to K'Gari for their annual leadership retreat and were encouraged to infuse our community with the aroma of Christ - a challenge they accepted with great vigour. We also had a number of Secondary Sports teams travel to Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast to compete in Netball, Touch, Basketball and Futsal.

In Term Two, students were blessed with a visit from Mueller Worship who ran a number of chapel and worship services with year levels across the College. Our Year 10 students embarked on our inaugural careers camp to Brisbane where they connected with a range of Tertiary and Vocational providers as well as exploring different career pathways. This was a brilliant opportunity for students to lift their eyes and see the possibilities that lie beyond our immediate community. The College hosted our inaugural Under 8's days, with lower primary students engaging together in a morning of games and fun, we certainly look forward to this initiative expanding in the years to come. The term finished off with the Agnes Water/1770 Festival Parade, another great opportunity to connect with the broader community and celebrate our region.







In Term Three, we joined together to officially open our new Lower Primary Precinct. This was a wonderful time of student-led celebration, but for our students, the highlight was most certainly the morning tea and cake that followed. Year 6 students ran their annual disco, our Athletics squad travelled to compete at districts and a number of our sporting teams traveled to Rockhampton to compete in the Central Queensland Christian Sports Gala, with a number of teams winning their respective finals. Students in Year 5, headed out to Chaverim for their first camp, Year 6 headed to Canberra and our Year 9 students headed back to Emu Gully for a week of mud pits and ANZAC themed challenges.

The rapid nature of Term Four never ceases to amaze me. Our Year 11 students returned to Vanuatu, serving in local villages. Students spent time concreting, helping locals prepare for cyclone season and teaching English and running activities in a number of schools. It was great to build connections in the Popowoh and Malaliu Villages and we look forward to partnering with the local school in the years to come. We were privileged to have JC Action Sports join us with a guest appearance from Year 3 student Beau Tingle, who threw down some great tricks on the half pipe. The year finished off with a number of end of year celebrations that marked another rich and vibrant year in the life of the College.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We were immensely proud of the achievements and outcomes of our 2024 graduates. Cassandra La Grazia was College Dux, achieving an ATAR of 93.7. Congratulations Cass! Foundation student Peter Domorev also received an outstanding ATAR of 93.4, a testament to his diligence and dedication. Almost 30% of the 2024 cohort achieved an ATAR above 90, with all students receiving their first round Tertiary offer. The average ATAR was 76.8. On top of this 75% of the cohort graduated with a Certificate II or III, with two students Pacey Ohl and Michael Bewsey being offered full time apprenticeships commencing in 2025. These are certainly deeply pleasing results and are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and staff over a number of years.

The College also had another highly successful year across our sporting teams, with 8 students selected to compete at State Titles in the

Wide Bay Surf Team and 7 students selected to compete at State Titles in Athletics and Cross Country.

The College Touch and Netball teams were highly successful in their respective seasons with a number of teams winning their finals against teams from Brisbane and Central Queensland. We look forward to seeing these programs continue to develop over the coming years.

A massive shout out must also go to Year Three student Beau Tingle, who finished the year ranked number 1 in Australia for his age group in Skateboarding. Congratulations Beau!

## IN CLOSING

2024 was another wonderful year in the life of the College. We look forward to all that 2025 will hold and rest in confidence knowing that God will illuminate our path and be with us at each step of the journey.

**Josh Counsel**  
Principal  
Discovery Christian College







# PAPUA NEW GUINEA SUNRISE BETHEL & EDAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

466 STUDENTS | 52 STAFF | EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL: LUCY KULA

## THEME

*'My Sheep Listen to My Voice' - John 10:27*

## LEADERSHIP

Elinas Sione (High School Principal), Janet Givan (Head of Campus, Edai) and Joy Romalus (Primary Coordinator (Waigani Campus))

## SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

The 2024 enrolment showed an increase above the budgeted enrolment which was a huge advantage for SBCS and ECS. We had the first Grade 5 class enrolled at Edai Christian School.

## DEDICATION SERVICE

The responsibility to teach our children in our care on how we can recognise the voice of the shepherd, know Him and follow Him is enormous. We are fully committed to teaching our students God's Word because He wants us to live a life of faith and victory.

## ARTS THEATRE TRIP FOR GRADE 9

The Grade 9 students embarked on a thrilling artistic journey as part of the Port Moresby Arts Theatre Program, where they had the chance to showcase their talents on stage. Given the thought-provoking theme of AI and Technology—its impact on the past, its role in shaping the present, and its potential to transform the future—our students poured their creativity into dynamic performances that captivated audiences. With a stunning blend of drama, humor, and theatrical flair, they brought their visions to life, channeling both nervous excitement and boundless enthusiasm. Their dedication and passion shone through every scene, making their performances truly unforgettable. Among these talented young stars, two students stood out, earning prestigious awards for their remarkable portrayals in the plays—a testament to their hard work and artistry. The future of the arts is bright with such inspired young minds leading the way!



## 52<sup>ND</sup> CRC PNG ANNIVERSARY

CRC PNG marked an incredible milestone—52 years of transformative ministry, both locally and internationally, through Evangelism and Missions. The celebration was not just an acknowledgment of its journey but also a community effort, uniting everyone in service and joy. Our dedicated maintenance team contributed by giving the inner fence a fresh coat of paint, adding vibrancy to the festivities, while our amazing female staff showcased their culinary talents, preparing meals that nourished hearts and brought people together. It was a celebration of purpose, teamwork, and the enduring impact of faith-driven missions.







### PEN PALS FOR PRIMARY - ECS AND SBCS

Throughout the year, SBECs students had the thrilling opportunity to exchange pen pal letters with students in Adelaide. Although the process took some time to come together, the excitement among our students never wavered. Early Learners, as well as Grades 1, 4, and 5, eagerly took part in the activity, writing heartfelt letters about their hometowns, their dreams for the future, and their favorite aspects of school. Each letter was made even more personal with a picture of the writer, adding a face to the words. For our students, the experience was filled with anticipation—imagining who might read their letters and what stories they might receive in return. The students were excited to have received Pen Pal letters from other students, from Adelaide. The exchange not only fostered meaningful friendships but also strengthened their appreciation for storytelling and cultural exchange.

### INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION

The 49th Independence celebration unfolded over two captivating days in Term 3, each showcasing the heart and soul of tradition and community. On Thursday, the Waigani campus turned into a colorful tapestry of culinary heritage, with younger students bringing homemade traditional dishes, while older students cooked at school, blending flavors and traditions to proudly represent their culture.

Meanwhile, at the Edai campus, students dazzled parents with their culinary creations, judged not just on taste and presentation but on their storytelling—their ability to bring each dish to life. Friday was the much-anticipated highlight. The day carried a deep sense of purpose with the theme, “Take My Healing to the Nation,” inspired by the heartfelt Christian radio program, “Praying for the Nation.”

The atmosphere at the assembly was charged with emotion as students raised their voices in prayer, dance, and song, pouring their

hearts out for the country’s future. Their unwavering faith and hope underscored the truth that they are more than just spectators—they are the heartbeat of tomorrow.

### CHARITY

The school embraced a new initiative, organizing a heartfelt charity event under the theme, **“Children Helping Children.”** Every student was invited to bring a shoebox filled with essential items such as toiletries, blankets, and clothing. Over the course of five weeks, contributions poured in, with many parents also joining the effort by donating their own thoughtfully wrapped shoeboxes. The culmination of the project was a deeply meaningful visit to the Port Moresby General Hospital Pediatric Ward, where students and teachers personally delivered the shoeboxes to children in need. The moment was filled with warmth, connection, and generosity. Together, both schools successfully collected over 300 shoeboxes, making a lasting impact on young lives and reinforcing the true spirit of giving.



## PNG NATIONAL EXAMINATION

### Grade 8

The Grade 8 examinations marked a significant milestone for our students as they embarked on their journey toward secondary education. A total of 34 students sat for the examinations, demonstrating dedication and perseverance throughout the assessment period. Following the results, six students successfully secured placement in secondary schools, marking a commendable achievement.

Among them, five students were selected to join La Salle Secondary School, while one student earned admission into Marionville Secondary School. Additionally, several other students received acceptance into various secondary institutions, ensuring a promising future for many.

### Grade 10

Each year, our students undertake the PNG exams, a crucial milestone that determines their placement in government schools. Their journey begins in June with the Written Expression exam, where they showcased their ability to

communicate effectively. Then, in October, they faced a week-long series of rigorous exams, testing their knowledge, resilience, and dedication. To celebrate their hard work, students and their parents gathered for a special evening at the Yacht Club—an occasion filled with joy, reflection, and gratitude. As they dined together, they honored their achievements, shared stories of perseverance, and acknowledged the blessings that have shaped their paths. Ten of our Grade 10's got selected to the top School of Excellence, here in Port Moresby while several others got selected to other top performing secondary schools in the city.

The results highlight the students' commitment to academic excellence and the unwavering support from their teachers and parents. Their success not only reflects their hard work but also sets a strong foundation for future academic pursuits. As they transition into secondary school, we are confident that these students will continue to uphold the values of determination and learning, striving for even greater achievements ahead.

## STAFF LUNCHEON

At the close of Term 4, the staff of SBECS gathered at the Airways Hotel for their annual Staff Luncheon—a time of thanksgiving, celebration, and heartfelt reflection. Laughter filled the room as colleagues reminisced about the swift passage of the year, cherishing the milestones achieved by God's grace. Amid the joy, there was also a sense of farewell, as the team bid a bittersweet goodbye to Roger and Jacqui Page. Staff members shared fond memories, recounting the profound impact the two had made during their time at SBECS. It was a moment of appreciation, gratitude, and well-wishes for their next journey.

## DONATIONS

### Fencing

Both Sunrise Bethel and Edal Christian School saw new fencing all of which were donated by Temple Christian College and Steve from Bargain Steel Centre. It was overseen by Wallace Grant and we thank the men who worked tirelessly to that the new fencing was completed for both campuses.





## VISITORS

At the beginning of the year, we had a visit from the Goldings, who brought along with them their son Josiah; they had PD sessions with staff from both campuses. Jan Golding would later make two more trips, one on her own and later with Jane Broadbent, who is the ELC Executive Director for Sunrise Christian Schools. Towards the end of the year we had Kym Golding visit once more. Adding to the visits, we were also thrilled to have Bradyn March (our IT guru) and Mark Nokes (nicknamed the PNG Action Man).

## JACQUI AND ROGER PAGE

Across the two campuses (Sunrise Bethel, Waigani and Edai Campus) we are indebted to the amount of work, dedication and support given by Jacqui and Roger Page. They poured their hearts to serve us in remarkable ways. They loved our country and its people and will always be the special couple in PNG. They both blended very well into our village culture in the city. They participated in almost everything we did on campus and they became our family. Roger played an important role in providing the support needed at Leadership level. He also worked closely with the maintenance team and has achieved more than what

we expected in a short time. Jacqui was incredibly amazing. She was always on the 'go' from dawn to dusk. Her home three steps away from mine displayed warmth with lots of love and laughter. She attended to the sick at odd hours, ran errands to the pharmacy and was always available at our beck and call. Jacqui stepped in at the front office to fill in the gaps to support Michelle and Lois. She was of tremendous support to the Finance team as well. They carried with them a servant's heart to the work in PNG.

### Lucy Kula

Executive Principal  
Sunrise Bethel &  
Edai Christian Schools, PNG





### **Mission**

Changing Nations Through Christian  
Education

### **Vision**

Equipping Students for Life by Providing  
Christ-Centred Quality Education

### **Adelaide Christian Schools**

Corporate Office | Level 2, 305  
Goodwood Road, Kings Park, 5034,  
South Australia

Contact | 08 8465 6025

[www.acschools.edu.au](http://www.acschools.edu.au)