Dear Parents/Caregivers, Staff and Students,

We are always very proud of our students’ achievements, in whatever field they take place: academic achievement, sport, the Arts, vocational education, community service etc.

During our recent school holidays, I attended a leadership conference in Melbourne and, during the sessions, I couldn’t help being distracted by Twitter feeds and Facebook updates from our students in Cambodia and our Digital Leaders at the Australian Computers in Education National Conference (ACEC) in Adelaide. The development of the young people involved in each of these activities was significant, as was the contribution they made.

**Trip To Cambodia**

Our 15 students, ranging from Year 9s to Year 12s, together with 3 members of staff and 4 volunteers, achieved an amazing amount while they were working at the New Hope for Children Association in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The leader of the trip, our Senior Leader Teresa Bruno, spoke at our recent Governing Council Meeting, and students and staff also presented at a Staff Meeting and our whole School Assembly last week. We are keen to make this a regular part of our school life at Wirreanda, at this stage on a 2-yearly basis. We would also like to maintain a connection with the Cambodian community between visits.

**Digital Leaders at the ACEC Conference**

Our Wirreanda Digital Leaders were invited to participate and work at the National ACEC Conference held in Adelaide during the last school holidays. During the Conference, the Digital Leaders provided technical support for delegates, as well as producing a live Twitter feed and blogs based on speakers and events, and participating in workshops. Feedback from the organizers, speakers and their fellow-delegates was extremely positive and this is indicative of their skills, as well as a credit to the teachers who have worked with them – Gabrielle Rinaldi and Melissa Mulholland.
Southern Schools Student Leadership Summit

On the Friday of the first week of this term, our Captains and Vice Captains hosted the first Southern Schools Student Leadership Summit, at Wirreanda. Once again, our students, including our Digital Leaders and Summit Delegates, showed high-level leadership and also learnt a great deal through the experience.

We believe that these opportunities to show leadership, and make a contribution in both the local and broader community, enhance our students’ learning and development as young people. We want as many students as possible to have these opportunities, in a range of ways, to develop and learn.

This is the second year of Wirreanda having School Captains and Vice Captains and Addison and Mel (Captains) and Benny and Cara (Vice Captains) have done an outstanding job in their roles.

Following a leadership forum they attended earlier in the year, they set themselves the goal of organizing a Student Leadership Summit for the South and, on Friday 17 October, their vision became a reality.

The Summit involved around 50 student leaders from 12 schools, together with 10 teachers and 2 Principals, attending a full day conference on Student Leadership. The program was extremely well structured and paced, based around 3 key themes:

- Aware – thinking about Leadership
- Explore – what is possible
- Apply – make plans for your school

Keynote speakers for the Summit were Jayne Johnston, Chief Education Officer of DECD, and Katrine Hildyard, Member for Reynell, who both shared their thoughts on leadership and provided advice and direction for the students. The Summit was an outstanding success and a credit to the student organisers, the staff and Digital Leaders who provided support in planning, as well as the student delegates who attended.

Year 12 Farewell Assembly

Each year it is a bitter-sweet time when we formally farewell our Year 12s at a whole School Assembly, which was held last Thursday. Our Governing Council Chairperson, Sasha Dragoveic, addressed the students, wishing them well and providing some great advice about navigating their futures, along with a presentation from Sol Naidu, our Year 12 Coordinator. School Captains Addison and Mel responded on behalf of the students and talked about their experiences at school and encouraged younger students to take advantage of the many opportunities provided at Wirreanda.

It has become a tradition at our Farewell Assembly that teachers form a guard of honour for our departing Year 12s, while students stand and applaud.

On Friday we held the traditional Year 12 Breakfast for students and staff and, even though we have said goodbye, most Year 12s will be returning for exams, lessons and assignments prior to the Year 12 Graduation and Formal.

We wish our 2014 Year 12s all the best for their exams and final assignments, and for their futures beyond Wirreanda.

Other Recent Events

We offer an excellent Music program at Wirreanda and some of our younger musical talent was on display at last week’s Year 9-10 Music Evening.

Involvement in the Performing Arts is not only a great
academic pathway, it also promotes personal and social development. Performing in front of a live audience, particularly when that audience comprises family and friends, can be a daunting task, and it is an experience that builds character and resilience, as well as skills in collaboration and teamwork.

Congratulations and thanks to Mel Duluk for her work in preparing the students for their performance and to the other staff members who supported her and the students on the night.

We offer a range of Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses at Wirreanda, both as part of the Southern Adelaide and Fleurieu Trade School and exclusively for our students. Anne McKinlay, our VET Coordinator, and Senior Leader Tim Byers-Thomas, ran a VET Information Evening for students and parents last week where they could find out more about courses being offered and meet teachers. VET courses offer a great opportunity for students to develop work skills, develop their understandings and interest in a range of pathways and earn points toward their SACE. Thank you to Ms McKinlay, Mr Byers-Thomas, Ms Dean and Ms White and for their contribution on the night.

Calendar & Events
Upcoming events this term include:
- Year 7/8 Parent Information Evening – Wednesday 5th November
- The Unit Camp – Monday 10th – Wednesday 12th November
- Year 9 Roundtables – Friday 14th November
- Year 12 Graduation – Monday 17th November
- Dance & Music Showcase – Wednesday 19th November
- Year 12 Formal – Tuesday 25th November
- Year 7 Transition Day – Friday 28th November
- Volunteer Dinner – Monday 1st December
- Year 8-11 Certificate Night – Wednesday 10th December

Regards
Tony Lunniss
Principal
Parents can report a student absence one of two ways; either by calling 8329 7242 or by an SMS to 0427 016 253. Parents and caregivers are asked to give the child’s name, home group and reason for the absence. Can parents also be aware that the SMS they receive may be a follow up from an absence prior to the date the SMS is received. Thank you for your assistance.

PARENT NEWSLETTERS 2015
Wirreanda Secondary School values communication between the school, our students and their families. We want to ensure you are kept up to date with events and activities. To assist with this we are proud to have recently launched our new website that will contain all current events and our school newsletter. We are also now emailing much of our information out to families.

As a result, from the beginning of next year we will not be posting the school newsletter home. The newsletter will be sent to your email address and it will also be available on our website at www.wirreandasecondary.sa.edu.au
If you have any questions regarding this please feel free to call me on 8329 7200 or contact me at Sue.Bogumil831@schools.sa.edu.au

CAREERS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS
Wirreanda Secondary School is holding a free parent workshop to help parents work with their teenagers on career ideas and goals.
The afternoon is being held on Tuesday 18 November from 12 noon – 2pm at the school.
Please call Anne McKinlay on 83297200 or at Anne.McKinlay554@schools.sa.edu.au for more information.

PROJECTS ABROAD
Two students write about their experience:

“Going to Cambodia for Projects Abroad was undoubtedly the best experience of my life. Although the culture shock was devastating, every moment spent there was one to remember.
Driving through the streets of Siem Reap’s extreme poverty, we were exposed to things commonly heard about in developing countries. Being amongst it first-hand was a completely different reality. There were occasions during the trip in which I and others felt like crying. Seeing these people with so little was heartbreaking. It was so shocking to realize how truly lucky we all are.
We saw such things as literally starving people begging for money, physically deformed others being exploited for tourists sympathy, and devastating living conditions for families.
Arriving at the school morning and afternoon truly became such an uplifting experience. The children’s ecstatic expressions there to greet us were so heart-warming and brightened all our days.
The highlight for me working in the school would without a doubt be the many flowers they would welcome me with.

As soon as we arrived, they would bring me bouquets of hand-picked flowers, and start carefully arranging them in my hair. By the end of the trip they had even begun to create intricate flower crowns made purely from the flowers themselves.
Helping these children was what I came there to achieve, however I never knew how much they would help me in return. They have taught me love, kindness and gratitude to an extent that I have never felt before. I am beyond words for how grateful I am to have gone on such a life-changing trip and it will be one that will stay with me every day”.
Isabella – Year 9

REAGAN MILSTEIN FOUNDATION
“Reagan was a healthy 14 year old boy. He loved sports, especially football and he wanted more than anything to make the world a better place.
Reagan’s dream was to combine his love of football and his passion for helping others, to coach a junior football team and make a career as a sports journalist.
Tragically, Reagan never got the chance to realise his dreams. At only 14 years of age, he was injured in a SCUBA diving accident. Despite weeks of intensive care, Reagan never regained consciousness and passed away on 22nd July, 2010.
The Reagan Milstein foundation was created on the 25 of November, 2010 (Reagan’s birthday) to pay tribute to Reagan and to help others the way Reagan would have wanted.
When I did my work experience at projects abroad prior to the trip, I thought of the idea to run a football program over in Cambodia. Working collaboratively with Dante we set out to find donations and resources to take with us.

When we came across The Reagan Milstein foundation and got in contact with Kevin, he gave us more support than we could have ever imagined! I have never spoken to a more caring and generous man in my life.

Kevin Milstein—Reagan’s father, has been an absolute inspiration to others and was extremely supportive of our project and what we were trying to achieve. He donated a lot of football gear that we took over to Cambodia with us to run a football/physical education based program for the two weeks we were there. These included balls, bibs, strips, socks and much more.

Dante—Ms Bruno’s son—and I used our passion and love for the sport and ran a structured program at the school. The way the children reacted to our program and really embraced the whole concept was fulfilling. His son’s story touched all of us and it was an absolute honour to run a football program in Cambodia in his name. An experience I will treasure forever.

Every day when our two buses left the school the kids would line up along the path and throw flowers and shout ‘goodbye teacher!’ It was like we were leaving forever. On the last day when we were officially leaving the emotions that filled the air as the students realised we were leaving for good, words just can’t describe.

We found out that the director’s son who we nicknamed ‘zero’ because he didn’t speak was actually going to be using the kindergarten that we had built! This melted our hearts! I am forever changed from this experience; it has made me a better person and made me only want to give selflessly more in the future”.

Cara Year 11

2014 SOUTHERN SCHOOLS STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Emily Parker, Counsellor

On Friday 17 October Wirreanda Secondary School hosted the Southern Schools Student Leadership Summit. Twelve schools from across the southern region attended and were addressed by keynote speakers Ms Jayne Johnston, Chief Executive Officer for DECD and Katrine Hildyard, Member for Reynell. The purpose of the Summit was to bring leaders together to share ideas on leadership and to participate in future planning; for student leaders to enhance their own personal leadership, focusing on five key areas.

Wirreanda Secondary School is extremely proud of our student leaders’ performance throughout the Summit. These students facilitated each workshop throughout the day and were able to provide other students in the Southern Region with an opportunity to collaboratively plan for events in the future.

Students from the Southern Region have planned activities within their communities ranging from events such as ‘Wear it Purple Day’, to Big Brother/Sister programs for younger students in their schools, and raising awareness of issues such as positive mental health to name a few. Students from all schools showed dedication, maturity and a willingness to engage with their community. We would like to congratulate all those who were involved and thank them for their leadership on the day. The Southern Region will benefit greatly from future student driven initiatives.

TALK ABOUT STAYING SAFE

Teresa Bruno, Senior Leader, Learner Wellbeing

Staying safe should be a family discussion topic! It’s important to talk about bullying and staying safe with your teenager. Staying safe is something young people should hear around the dinner table. Help your teenager understand the issue, what it means to be safe and what it means to have your rights of safety violated.

Here are some guidelines to help your talk with kids around bullying:

1. Use real life examples or examples that appear on the News or in TV programs to initiate conversations.
2. Encourage your children to think for themselves, rather than follow the crowd.
3. Discuss what it feels like to be safe, and what being unsafe may feel like. Recognising these feelings can help them identify if they are being bullied.
4. Make sure kids know who to talk to at school and at home when they feel unsafe. Give them permission to talk.
5. Talk about what they can do if they know someone else is experiencing some type of bullying at school. Bullying exists when everyone is silent so speaking up is the job of everyone. They don't have to feel like they have to fix the problem, but they can tell someone they trust. This is not DOBBING. It is helping a friend.
6. Talk about how they can become a friend of someone who is being bullied. Young people who are bullied are often isolated, or feel alone, so just one friend can be a huge support.

SASI TALENT SEARCH 2014
Caroline Fishpool, Senior Leader SSC
During 2014 all Year 8-10 PE and SSC students have completed the SASI Talent Search testing with fantastic results across all classes. Congratulations to the following students who have been selected through to the next stage of testing, Phase 2b for the South Australian Sports Institute (SASI) Talent Search:
Brayden
Karina
Robert
Layla
Zara
Courtney
The next phase of testing will involve some sport specific testing and also offer these students the opportunity to find out more about the sports they could potentially be selected for, including Rowing, Cycling and Canoe Sprint. Those students across the state who are successful at this phase will be invited to join a SASI talent development program. We wish them the best of luck!

MARTIN CLIFTON-DAVID SCHOLZ CHALLENGE SHIELD 2014
Nick Moschetta, PE Teacher
Year 8-9 Match Summary Thursday 16 October
The Year 8/9 team travelled to Reynella East College for the first round match of the Martin Clifton-David Scholz Challenge Shield. Reynella won the toss and decided to bat first. It was soon apparent that it would be a hard day in the field for the Wirreanda boys. The first wicket fell at 40 when Ryan broke through with a straight delivery for a LBW, and another fell at 57 when Connor dismissed the opposing captain. However, the runs kept flowing for Reynella and it was not until the score reached 167 that the third wicket fell. Thereafter a number of wickets fell quickly with Jake being the most successful bowler taking three wickets, while later in the innings he was involved in two run outs with Josh. Reynella finally finished on 8/235. Requiring just over six runs an over was too much of a task for the Wirreanda batsmen with only Josh putting up any resistance with a score of 35. The team were all out for 84.

The boys are to be commended on their good sportsmanship and the positive spirit in which they played the game. Thank you to Jake who was the scorer and helped out during the day.

AFL GRAND FINAL DAY SELECTION
Jake Year 10
“I umpire football for local Southern Football League teams in our district and from this I was selected to go to the MCG to umpire the half time Auskick game during the 2104 Grand Final. What an honor this was and I was also able to take my Pop with me. On Friday the 26 September Pop and I boarded a 6.35am Virgin Australia plane to Melbourne. Upon arriving I got straight into my umpiring gear and walked down to the Grand Final Parade to join other umpires who were marching behind the footballers driven in cars. Just before the parade started it still hadn’t kicked in that I was going to be in the grand final parade in front of thousands of people! Walking in the parade was absolutely amazing! The next day I walked to the grand final for what was my biggest game ever. To umpire at half time on the biggest day of the football calendar year in front of 99,454 people was mind blowing. It was the best day of my life”
AQUATICS DAY
Andrew Attwell-Gill, PE Teacher
What an awesome day was had by the 64 students and 4 staff who ventured to Port Noarlunga Aquatics centre, Port Noarlunga for this year’s, Year 8 Aquatics Day.
The weather was picture perfect, ideal for in water, on water and standing above the water activities.
Students chose from a range of activities such as fishing, kayaking, surfing and snorkelling.
Students moved through their chosen activities over 3 specified sessions.
Some students so enjoyed their chosen activities that they were able to repeat the session later in the day.

The comradery between students, staff and instructors was fantastic to see and allowed for students to further bond with their mates and teachers in a recreational setting. We encourage all students at Wirreanda Secondary School to be part of these type of bonding activities.
Riley had the catch of the day with a late cast adding to to Cody’s earlier prize of a legally sized squid.
I’d like to thank Mr Dixon, Mr Yates and Ms Dean for attending on the day and the whole Year 8 team for preparing the students for what was undoubtedly a splendid day of aquatic fun in the sun.

SCIENCE NEWS
Zoe Finch and Colin Grace
Science Faculty Teachers
Decked out in their finest lab coats, three students from Wirreanda Secondary School competed in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute Finals of The Australian National Chemical Analysis Competition. This competition requires students to accurately and precisely perform two titrations each round, an analytical technique used in industries to determine the pH of wines, the development of pharmaceuticals and check the quality of waste water. The objective for the students was to determine the unknown concentration of a provided acid sample. The students made it through two previous rounds, competed in the preliminary rounds, and were up against the best students from other schools in the state at the State Finals.
Each round increased the difficulty of the tasks set for the students and a necessary substitution when our Norwegian exchange student Marie returned home, added further to the complexity. The new team gelled together well, worked for each other and made it through to compete against the best in Australia.
On the morning of Saturday 20 September two teachers and ‘The Team’ arrived at the University of South Australia to compete for the final time. To obtain the highest ranking, students had to perform a titration with less than 1% error from the known value.
The girls showed excellent skill but just missed out. They did receive a gold plaque for their efforts.

Congratulations to Nicole, Tahlia, Taylor-Maree and Marie.

SHORT COURSES FOR 2014
Anne McKinlay, VET Coordinator

During the year, senior students (Years 10, 11 and 12) have had the opportunity of participating in a wide range of short courses through the school. These courses were conducted through other training institutions including TAFE, Jobs on Power etc. This year students have participated in the following courses:

- Apply First Aid
- Directions in Hair and Beauty
- Certificate 2 in Hairdressing
- Certificate 2 in Retail Makeup & Skincare
- White Card

Those courses above may be available for 2015 as well as:

- The Make-up & Beauty Palette
- Café Operations
- Liquor Service (Year 12 only)
- Forklift License (need to be 18)
- Boom Lift and Scissor Lift

Information about these courses will be published towards the end of this term or at the beginning of 2015.

Students or parents interested in finding out more about these courses for 2015 should make an appointment to see Anne McKinlay through the Work Experience Office.

PHOTOGRAPHY AT THE ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW

Adrian Tamlin
Coordinator Arts and Technology

Congratulation to the very talented cohort of Photography students who entered images into the Royal Adelaide Show.

This year Wirreanda students won:

- Best Year 9 Exhibit (Brodie),
- Best Year 10 Exhibit and Best Overall Colour Print (Sharna)
- Best Overall Black and White Print (Chloe)
- Best Rose Image (Angela).

It was an excellent effort for the Year 10 students to be judged best overall, competing against Year 11 and 12 students who entered from across the state. 17 Wirreanda students won first prize in their section, 4 students won second place, 5 students won third and 1 merit certificate was awarded.

Congratulations to all students involved.

CO2 DRAGSTERS

Adrian Tamlin, Coordinator Arts and Technology

Design and Technology students have been designing and building CO2 powered cars as part of their Year 9 course. The cars are made of wood and are powered by a soda bulb canister. The project involves students considering factors such as weight, friction and aerodynamics in their design. The car needs to “look good and go fast”.

The cars are raced on a 20 meter track and can reach speeds of up to 80 KPH!

This year, Wirreanda students entered their cars in the Southern Regional Competition where they came first, second and third. The cars were then raced in at the Royal Adelaide Show where they achieved first second and third place again.
In September Wirreanda hosted the National CO2 championships where cars, from all over Australia raced. Our students acted as stewards for this event. The judges and organizers have commended the students and the school for the involvement in this event.

First place: Brandon
Second place: Nick
Third place: Karlie

DIGITAL LEADERS @ACEC2014

Eighteen students from Years 8-11 were involved in the National Australian Computers in Education Conference over the past school holidays. The three day conference saw students involved like never before-tweeting, reflecting and conversing with educators and keynote speakers, blogging and presenting. It was an incredible experience to see our students think so critically, speak so eloquently and engage so fiercely.

A student’s perspective:
“My experience being an ACEDL was no less than purely enlightening and educating. It was a great experience and I thoroughly enjoyed being in an important role in the conference. I found speaking to and challenging the keynote on their points invigorating, and I felt like we as students, had a purpose in improving young adolescents’ experience with technology. Although, saying this, when we challenged the keynote as a part of the panel I felt like they really didn’t absorb our question, and sometimes they managed to very subtly avoid our questions and points entirely. They seemed to still talk about what they were doing right now, and talking about themselves rather than actually addressing the problem directly. Funnym enough this was one of our points that we brought up and was an interesting challenge we were faced with. I did, though, enjoy the mini-sessions and I especially loved the ‘Technology of the future: What's around the corner’ segment. I really liked seeing which technology is being developed right now and will be with us within the next decade. Our world is progressing at a light force speed, and I think it is both absolutely brilliant and a little scary. All in all, the Australian Computers in Education Conference was a little taste of this progression and I liked being involved and hopefully carving a bit of it. A big thank you to those who allowed this to be possible for me.”
Jordin Year 10
Gabriel Rinaldi
Coordinator Innovative Pedagogy

ACADEMIC AWARDS TERM 3

The following Year 12 students were presented with Certificates of Outstanding Effort at their final assembly on Thursday 23rd October. Congratulations to these students on their achievement. Well done!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lee</th>
<th>Zac</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amelia</td>
<td>Robert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
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<td>Tahlia</td>
<td>Nicole</td>
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<td>Daniella</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
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<td>Ross</td>
<td>Mel</td>
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<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>Chris</td>
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<td>Cara</td>
<td>Riley</td>
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<td>Tahlia</td>
<td>Warren</td>
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Years 8 – 11 students received Outstanding Effort certificates at their Year level assemblies. They are:

**Year 8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sarah</th>
<th>Chris</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Zoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tayah</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Mathew</td>
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<td>Kalvyn</td>
<td>Jazmine</td>
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<td>Clare Van</td>
<td>Jeni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Emily</td>
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<td>Matthew</td>
<td>Rosemma</td>
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**Year 9**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ruby</th>
<th>Jay</th>
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<td>Claudia</td>
<td>Amy</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Angelika</td>
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<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Hayley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macey</td>
<td>Zachary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abby</td>
<td>Laura</td>
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<td>Kristy</td>
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**Year 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jake</th>
<th>Chloe</th>
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<tr>
<td>Celeste</td>
<td>Amber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kara</td>
<td>Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eloise</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stephanie  Deepali
Isbah       Dylan
Casey       Abigail
Ben         Katrina
June        Meraneah M
Kristy      Jordin

Year 11
Jayden      Casey
Brandon     Jack
Jessica     Clayton
Shania      Hayley
Hannah      Makayla
Liam        Mitchell
Joshua      Lachlan
Lucas       Kalem
Amy         

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Adelaide Education Consultants are holding the following courses for 2015 Year 12 students:
Year 12 SACE AEC Headstart Preparation Program
Wednesday 7 January-Friday 9 January and/or
Monday 12 January-Wednesday 14 January
St Mary's College, Franklin Street Adelaide. Phone:
8231 7776 or visit seminars@aeg.sa.edu.au Early Bird Specials available!