Welcome to all of our new students and families. We have had an extremely busy start of 2017 with approximately 100 enrolments this term, resulting in many full classes. Currently Syrian students make up the largest percentage of our student population, followed by Afghani then Chinese students.

Our school’s cultural diversity and intercultural understandings were recently celebrated as part of Harmony Day and National Youth Week. Dilky Wijeyekoon, Humanitarian Settlement Services Program Manager of the Australian Migrant Resource Centre (AMRC), was the guest speaker at our Student Achievement Assembly. She spoke about the importance of celebrating this year’s theme of everyone belonging.

A project “Planting Dreams in a New Land: an exhibition of stories and art, by Syrian students from Adelaide Secondary School of English” was launched at the Migration Museum on Thursday the 30th March and will be on display for the next 3 months. Students, parents and invited guests were touched by the stories, hopes and dreams shared. The school is continuing to focus on promoting our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience across the curriculum and as part of positive behaviour education. These values encourage students to persevere in a range of situations, to value and accept cultural diversity and to be responsible global citizens.

Our Annual General Meeting and first Governing Council Meeting for 2017 as well as the 2016 Student Achievement & Program highlighting the achievements of our students were held on Thursday the 30th March. At this meeting the 2016 Annual Report was presented along with the 2017 Site Improvement Plan. The school budget for 2017 was also presented and approved. As part of a 5 year review, our new curriculum is being implemented across the school in all levels and pathways. New subjects, such as Robotics as part of Digital Technology is now also taught to all transition classes. More new computers have been purchased and teachers have been working collaboratively to share a range of classroom strategies to further enhance student engagement, intellectual stretch and skill development, through Professional Learning Teams and on staff training days.

A major focus for this term has also been on the preparation for our Council of International Schools (CIS) visit, which is scheduled for early next term. The school received its 10 year CIS re-accreditation in 2012 after being one of the first schools in South Australia to be accredited in 2002. As part of our preparations staff have reflected on school policies, procedures and practices for the purpose of on-going school improvement. Feedback has been sought from staff, students and parents/caregivers. The importance of developing positive relationships and partnerships with families and members of our wider community is an on-going priority for the school, as we continue to encourage parents/caregivers to attend parent meetings, Governing Council meetings and most recently parent-teacher interviews and a Syrian Mother’s meeting. This year we have entered into a partnership with the Beacon Foundation as part of a Western schools cluster which focuses on career education and forging links with businesses and the local community.

As Principal, part of my role is to ensure students at Adelaide Secondary School of English are provided with opportunities to become powerful learners by developing their curiosity, creativity and confidence to actively participate in their learning, solve problems, make good decisions, work collaboratively and develop effective communication skills. I am very much looking forward to working with the school community in 2017 as we continue to support our students to become powerful learners.

Mr Coats

Acting Principal
On Tuesday of week 9 students from class 10 and 3 participated in a workshop called Polish. The day was interactive and fun. It was aimed at developing student's confidence and knowledge in themselves and what employers are looking for in workers and job interviews. Students looked at first impressions, their personal brand, strengths, interests, communication and team work. Lunch was provided and students spent this time talking with industry representatives from major employment groups; shopping centres, retail, telecommunication and health care. After lunch students practiced their interview skills with these groups. Students gained valuable experience and knowledge about what employers are looking for and how to make a lasting first impression to get a job.

Mr Wood

Work Studies

This term, as part of the Work Studies curriculum, students from Class 3 have been working together on paving the basketball court. The focus of the subject and activity has been to develop skills that can be applied to all workplaces. These skills include: time management, planning, communication and team work.

Mr Wood

Bead Making

In PLW we made beads. At first we added flour, cornflour and salt in a bowl. We added warm water and then we kneaded the dough until it was like stretchy bread. Then we divided the dough into 4 pieces. After that we rolled the dough into a snake shape, and we pulled it into small pieces. At the end we rolled each little piece into a ball, and we put a toothpick inside for the hole. The beads dried over the weekend. When the beads were dry, we painted them with pink, yellow, light blue, green and black. We mixed 2 colours to make purple. Finally, we put our beads onto strings, and we shared them with our friends. We really enjoyed making our beads.

Jood Hussien (Class 19)

Music

This term, Class 25 used recycled household materials to make musical instruments for creating their soundscapes of the city, in their country and in Australia. This is part of the new Foundation Music Curriculum. Students enjoyed participating and learning to create different sounds, rhythms, moods and feelings associated with various landscapes.

Ms Vadoulis

Beach Safety Day

Class 25 students with a Surf Live Saving instructor at Glenelg on Monday 27th March.

NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

A celebration of young people and their important contribution to our community. A focus on wellbeing and encouraging all young people to feel good about themselves, their decisions and life choices.

This term we took 3 boys and 3 girls teams to a beach volleyball carnival at Glenelg beach. All of the students played well, improved their skills and teamwork throughout a very hot day. 42 students participated in our first ever athletics carnival. We competed against other schools in the Western zone in different running events from 100m - 1500m, as well as the long jump. This was a great experience for our students who received ribbons for their 1st, 2nd or 3rd place finishes.

After school sport includes a futsal program for senior boys on Monday afternoons and a girls soccer program on Friday afternoons. The West Adelaide football club have offered scholarships to some of our talented students to play soccer for their club. Some students have also joined the local Fitzroy AFL football club and learned how to play Australian football.

Mr Ellenbroek

Student achieved amazing images in Visual Art studies.

Class 1 students created beautiful masks representing themselves and their cultures.

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Who guessed the correct number of lollies???

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