

# SPOTLIGHT MAGAZINE



**SUNRISE**  
Christian School

# OPENING WORDS

By Shane Hosking, School Principal

**Welcome to the second edition of Sunrise Christian School's "SPOTLIGHT" magazine. This is the magazine in which we keep you informed about the happenings of the wider school, operating across six unique communities.**

In this edition we take a look at some of the events that have taken place in each community; introduce the new Principal of Sunrise Christian School, Whyalla; catch up with a past student; and have a chat about the pending changes to Grade 7 in primary schools across South Australia.

The first edition of the SPOTLIGHT magazine was well-received by the wider school community and its connected friends. We trust you will enjoy this second edition of the SPOTLIGHT magazine. Once you have finished reading it, why not pass it on to a friend or family member to show them what's happening at your school!

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**Spotlight Magazine** – the official publication of Sunrise Christian School.

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 Sunrise Christian School – South Australia

# THE FAITH FOUNDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL

By Kym Golding – Head of Schools, Adelaide Christian Schools

**Sunrise Christian School has been blessed with a rich faith foundation and Christian heritage.**

The vision for the school was started by Pastor Leo Harris (Pastor of the Adelaide Christian Centre and the father of the CRC Church Movement) who placed \$20 on the table and in faith asked for a Bible-based, Christ-centred school. The subsequent 38 years saw this new school grow and flourish. Throughout this time, God quite miraculously grew school numbers, both in students and campuses, but more importantly the school grew in its philosophy and faith.

During the 1970s, the pioneering Christian School movement in Australia was struggling with little or no Government funding, minimal resources and a developing philosophical base. For many years it was a real faith

journey. Sunrise students and parents went without much of what their counterparts in public schools enjoyed, both in resources and finances. In the early years, they could afford only second-hand furniture and reused many single-use resources. The staff were paid only a portion of public school teacher salaries and personally purchased resources for the students out of their own pockets. Although a struggle, it was a pure joy.

The Board understood that a Biblical foundation and subsequent philosophy was essential. The Principal and another staff member travelled to the USA (where Christian Education had been thriving for many decades) to develop a philosophy that was truly Biblical in every facet of the life of the school. This rich philosophy outlined how God's Word is the basis for everything that happens in the school and has been passed through the generations of Principals and monitored by the Board.

We have seen that when these principles become priorities, the results are exceptional, as anything to do with Christ should be excellent. These Biblical principles that drive the fundamental mechanics of the school include the central role of the parent in the educative process; the understanding that each child is loved and unique; the focus on character development; the role of the Holy Spirit in the learning process; the insistence on excellence in attitude and work habits; and the servant nature of our staff.

For more information about our Philosophies and Aims, please speak with your Campus Principal.



*"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."*

**Psalm 119:105**

# LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

By Shane Hosking, School Principal

**As we draw to the end of 2016, it's time to look back and reflect on the year that has been. For all of our campuses, we prepare to send-off another cohort of students as they move on into high schools, tertiary study or enter the workforce. In many of those cases, we also farewell their families who have journeyed alongside Sunrise Christian School in the nurturing of their children throughout their schooling years. We consider it such an honour to partner with you, and it is with sadness that we say goodbye to these families.**

As a school, we have once again been hard at work, as we strive to constantly improve our school product. This year we have continued to refine our curriculum and its alignment to the Australian Curriculum Framework. We have specifically targeted the areas of Technology, incorporating Design Technologies and Digital Technologies into our learning. We have also carried on our work in refining the areas of Health, HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) and our secondary curriculum. Throughout this process, we have maintained our commitment to applying our Biblical lenses to what is taught. In each unit plan we ask key questions to ensure we have a sound Biblical worldview of the topics we are teaching:

- » What was God's original intent for this topic?
- » How has sin affected that?
- » How has Jesus redeemed or restored that?

In addition, we have included another section in our plan called Threads. Threads are the responses that we wish to draw out after understanding God's revelation as articulated in the Biblical Perspective. Threads assist in drawing the unit together and provide students with opportunities to live out their new learning. For example, one of the threads – **Building Community** – states that **students will explore that they are active contributors and encouragers of others as the community is built up. They will find ways to serve others in their own classroom and beyond.**

We are also committed to interpreting the testing data we collect on the students' academic progress. Sunrise Christian School has had a long-standing tradition of regular assessment, through standardised and diagnostic testing to support other forms

of assessment and review of student progress. As technology has advanced, we have been able to utilise an electronic program for the collation of all student testing data. This tool then allows us to review student and group progress with an opportunity to set growth targets throughout the year. We have also used this tool to review our NAPLAN data at a school, peer group and individual student level.

*Once again, our school has been recognised as one of the top schools for showing the greatest increases in results between the testing cohorts.*

This year's NAPLAN data continues to demonstrate that children at Sunrise Christian School continue to finish their primary schooling well, bucking the national trend and seeing greater levels of improvement at Grade 5, 7 and 9. Once again, our school has been recognised as one of the top schools for showing the greatest increases in results between the testing cohorts. This is always a pleasing result, as we have remained dedicated firstly to character development, knowing that, when the character of the child is right, the academic improvement of the child will follow. This commendable outcome is even more noteworthy, given the increasing number of students requiring learning support, as more students with learning difficulties join our school community.



Many schools are simply discouraging such students from attending throughout the assessment week to avoid jeopardising their overall results. We however remain committed to being an unashamedly ethical organisation, and know that testing these children gives the opportunity to celebrate their improvement.

As we look ahead to 2017, we are excited about the opportunities both staff and students have to learn new things, master previously learned skills, live out new behaviours, and be reminded of the faithfulness of God. For those moving into new communities, we pray for a smooth transition into your new season of life. For those families whose students are staying at Sunrise Christian School, we look forward to again partnering with you to see God's best for your child.



# IN MEMORIUM LEE AVERY

*By Shane Hosking, School Principal*

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2016, the Sunrise Christian School community lost a cherished former principal and inspiring mentor in Christ, to a short battle with illness.

Born and raised in the United States, Lee Avery migrated to Australia in 1984 with his wife, Mary. Having taught in Christian schools in the US for five years, he and Mary took a holiday to Australia and visited Sunrise Christian School. An interview for the position of classroom teacher followed and, as a result, Lee was offered a job at Sunrise, which secured his migration to Australia. He joined the Sunrise family under the Principalship of Mrs Bev Norsworthy, who was a significant influence on Lee's ministry in education.

Lee was a passionate classroom teacher for six years prior to being appointed the Campus Principal of the Fullarton Campus. He served in this role for 12 years before moving to the Campus Principal role at the Marion Campus in 2002. Lee taught children from Reception to Year 12, specialising in upper primary and lower secondary. In 1997 he completed his Master's Degree in Education at Flinders University with a special focus in curriculum reading and educational psychology. He had a great love for quality education and believed strongly in portraying this mandate through a strong Bible-based curriculum.

After serving faithfully for many years at Sunrise, Lee was promoted to the position of Principal in 2008 and was based at the Marion Campus of Sunrise where he took on the dual role of Campus Principal for Marion and Principal for Sunrise. Lee developed a support team

around him to allow him to perform his role in this capacity, and in 2015 returned to the sole responsibility of the Marion Campus, before taking leave at the commencement of 2016 as he battled his illness. Lee went to be with his Saviour he so dearly loved, surrounded by his family in Rome, on 27 May 2016.

One of Lee's finest characteristics was his ready willingness to help Christian parents teach their children how to correctly interpret the world from God's point of view. His loving, all-embracing spirit would always strive to see the best in everyone and every situation. Dedicated to nurturing and getting alongside, Lee gently encouraged and esteemed growth in all.

He always displayed a love of discipleship. He would delight in the occasion to share sound doctrine within the school community through teaching the Apostle's Creed, and never missed a chance to highlight certain lyrics of songs we sang, drawing out richer and deeper truths. He inspired people to be the doers of the Word and to take a stand for Godliness and righteousness, and to work to protect the religious freedoms we enjoy in Australia today.

*Lee was a real peacemaker, he lived out Romans 12, a passage we spent lots of time in, "if it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."*

He was always committed to people and to relationships, working through issues, and always committed to finding a win-win



scenario which led to a path of peace. Lee had a wonderful ability to form friendships with anyone and everyone, drawing people to his genuineness, warm smile and kind words. That deep American voice was so distinct and always so welcoming.

Lee, following Christ's example, modelled a life of service. It wasn't uncommon to see him with a vacuum cleaner on his back, picking up rubbish. He was just the sort of person that would roll up his sleeves and get stuck into serving whenever and wherever he saw a need. It was always comforting to know Lee who was very pastoral, was always for you, not against you. An interaction with Lee usually left you feeling brighter and better. "Good on you" or "Well done" were frequent catch cries, with many encounters ending in prayer.

Lee faithfully served at Sunrise Christian School for 31 years and was the longest-serving employee. Lee was held in very high regard by the staff and his memory and legacy will be cherished.

Whether Lee impacted your life for a short or long while, today we thank God for him, his service to Sunrise Christian School and the impact he has had on each of our lives. His legacy will live on strong within the communities and culture of Sunrise Christian School.



# GRADE 7: MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

*By Shane Hosking, School Principal*

**I have many memories of my final year at primary school. Attending a public primary school in the north-eastern suburbs, I remember my coming-of-age as I prepared to leave many of my school friends and begin the transition to a local high school.**

Grade 7 has long been held as the last year of primary schooling. In recent times, the states and territories have been moving to unite in their practice of secondary education beginning at Grade 7, as they strive to come into line with the Australian Curriculum.

In South Australia, while many of the Lutheran and Catholic schools have widely adopted the transition, public schools (DECD) have still not committed to a timeline for implementation. This is largely due to the cost to the Department of losing a large cohort of students, and the resultant staffing costs and redundancies in adjusting to change.



So what does this all mean for Sunrise Christian School?

As an independent school, we are not mandated to follow a particular path, philosophy or sector. Our only requirement is to be able to deliver the Grade 7 curriculum as articulated in the Australian Curriculum framework. Sunrise has continued to meet and exceed the requirements for students at Grade 7. Therefore, we are not in a position to respond to a mandated decision by a sector. As a school, and with our families, we will carefully consider each campus on a case-by-case basis before presenting any changes to our Board for final approval.

We know the journey to a secondary school is an important time and we are committed to supporting students and parents. We partner with selected secondary schools to provide transition visits to make the move into Grade 8 as smooth as possible. In the metropolitan campuses, we partner with Temple Christian College (an ACS school) and the Marion Campus to provide a seamless pathway into the later years of schooling by offering a priority enrolment scheme, and by frequently joining with them for combined experiences.

*Regardless of what decisions lie ahead,  
our commitment remains the same:  
Sunrise Christian School seeks to bring  
glory to God in all of our activities.*

Our Grade 7 programme is a special part of our students' life. Our Grade 7 students enjoy the opportunity to be "top" of the school, often cherishing the chance to be a "buddy" to a Reception child in their first year of schooling. The Canberra trip and the Stewardship project are additional highlights. There are many benefits to maintaining Grade 7 within a primary context. National testing has shown that students completing Grade 7 within such a setting perform better than those students undertaking the same study in a secondary environment.

Regardless of what decisions lie ahead, our commitment remains the same: Sunrise Christian School seeks to bring glory to God in all of our activities as we act as an extension of the families in our school communities. We remain dedicated to helping students achieve their full potential in order to serve firstly God and then others.

# THEN AND NOW MY TIME AT SUNRISE

By Tanya Nokes

**I remember the first time I walked with my children through the gates of the Fullarton Campus as if it was only yesterday. The sounds... the sights... the community... the buzz.**

It was the 27<sup>th</sup> of January, 2004, Jade's first day of school. My son Dylan was 3 and I was heavily pregnant with Liam; less than a week later he was born.

We didn't know a soul. We were brand new to Sunrise. We were hopeful; trusting in God that we had made the right decision for our precious first-born.

Jade was an incredibly shy, timid and anxious child. One of the reasons we believe God led us to Sunrise was that Jade needed to be nurtured and her innocence protected, while she grew in confidence in a Christ-centred environment.

Although scared, we walked into the school yard and headed towards the Reception classroom. There were lots of friendly faces, warm smiles, people chatting; it felt safe, trustworthy and although my tummy was full of butterflies, I was peaceful. I knew in this very moment, this is where we were meant to be. I was so thankful to God. I've been thanking him ever since.

Jade was the only child who screamed when it came time to line-up. She clung to me like a koala, crying, begging me not to leave her. Jade's teacher, Mrs Christiann Hosking, was, however like an angel to me. I was a wreck. Picture the scene: I'm about to give birth, a toddler hanging around my legs, a child clinging to me, tears streaming down my face. Lovingly and calmly, Mrs Hosking simply peeled Jade off of me, held her close and carried her into the classroom. She did this every day for six weeks! Above and beyond the call of duty. We were so blessed.

Being brand new to Sunrise it took me a while 'to put myself out there'. I hadn't been the 'new kid on the block' in a long time and it was uncomfortable; intimidating even. It became normal for me to kiss Jade goodbye and walk out with my little boys; having not spoken a word to anyone. I did this for about 6 months until the Holy Spirit began to challenge me. I'm a community girl at heart and happiest when in connection with people. The Holy Spirit showed me it was time for me to jump in; so I jumped.

Fast forward to 2016, and 12 years on from that very first day, Jade will graduate from Temple Christian College, Dylan will complete Year 10, Liam will graduate from Grade 7 and our time at Sunrise will come to an end. I simply have no words... just tears. Sunrise has truly been the greatest gift. Thankfully, I still have a nephew, nieces and family friends at our Fullarton campus.

How can I put into words my Sunrise experience?

Jade, Dylan and Liam have had their individuality valued at Sunrise. They have been encouraged to be themselves, they have developed an understanding of who they are in Christ, and they have thrived in an environment of love and grace.

I'm sure you've noticed in the classrooms the words 'every child matters every day'. I'm so thankful that each and every school day I drove away in confidence knowing my children mattered to the school.

In today's society and the crazy world that our children are growing up in, it is so important that they develop an understanding of who they are in Christ and hold a Biblical worldview, as the basis for their self-worth. I truly believe Christ-centred education is the greatest gift we can give to our children.

Community matters. Which is a bit like saying oxygen matters. As our lungs require air, so our souls require what only community provides. Our very spirit, as human beings, as God intended it, is to 'be with' and alongside. Not just smiling at one another in the school corridor, but a sharing of lives as community, togetherness, oneness, commonality, participation; a deep desire to the sharing of lives. This will be the richness of your experience at Sunrise if you also jump in; I can guarantee it!

Grace and peace,  
A very thankful Tan Nokes



2004



2016

# CAMPUS UPDATES

## Family Market Day

By Anne Dolan, Principal, Naracoorte Campus

**Sunrise Christian School, Naracoorte Campus was the place to be on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September as parent volunteers from our Garden Club, along with staff, held a highly successful Sunrise Market Day to raise money for the garden programme, nature play area and a friendship seat for the garden.**

It was truly a community event with stallholders coming from across the region and local families from Sunrise and the Naracoorte township. This variety led to a vast array of goods being offered for sale including craft, plants, fresh produce, cosmetics, jewellery, flowers, baked goods, clothing and hot food.

An auction was supported by local businesses and run by local auctioneer, Tom Dennis, and assisted by Naracoorte Campus personality, Mr Amazing.

Sunrise Christian School has recently joined Facebook, and to celebrate, visitors and stallholders were invited to have their photo taken in a Facebook cut out and share their photos.

The Sunrise Garden Club is a voluntary programme held every Wednesday lunchtime in the school grounds, and is designed to teach students how to grow, prepare and savour fresh produce whilst enjoying healthy lifestyle choices.



## Leadership in High School

By Phil Patterson, Principal, Marion Campus

**Among the many qualities we desire to instil in our children, leadership must be one of the most important.**

In an age when leaders of character and integrity seem to be a minority, it is important that our children understand and demonstrate what it is to be a good leader in the families, churches and vocational futures that lie before them.

Sunrise Christian School, Marion Campus continues to furnish opportunities for leadership input and practice, especially in our high school.

In August, our Prefects, members of our School Service Council (SSC), and representatives from Grades 7 to 12, attended a leadership camp in the Adelaide Hills. The attendees learned important skills through team-

building and sessions looking at the nature of leadership. The students heard from a number of leaders from within our community including Principal Shane Hosking, and the State Member for Bright, Mr David Speirs.

Spiritual Life Week is an opportunity for many of our senior students to show leadership. This is an annual event where extra time and emphasis is given over to a devotional aspect and the students led times of worship and facilitated small group discussions. It has also been heartening to reflect on the quality of young leaders we are involved with who are now influencing our world in positive ways.

## Grade 3s Win over Teachers

By Joel Munro, Assistant Principal, Marion Campus

**Our Primary classes have been a hive of activity with students working busily on an array of projects and activities.**

Grade 5, 6 and 7 students have shared stories of the adventures they experienced on their respective school camps. Many students enjoyed the chance to spend time with friends from other campuses.

Recently, the Grade 3 classes treated the teachers to some impressive writing. Their task was to write a persuasive essay that would convince the leadership to support a Grade 3 stewardship programme. Staff were hesitant at first, knowing how much work it takes our Year 7s to host a school market, however to their credit, the Grade 3s presented

a strong argument and the school gave its full endorsement to their market proposal.

Over the following weeks, the Grade 3s worked tirelessly to make their wares, advertise the market and learn basic financial management.

Finally, Market Day arrived and, with the help of parents, teachers and senior students, they delivered a smooth and overwhelmingly successful stewardship market. The Marion Campus was incredibly proud of what was achieved that day and it again highlighted what a fantastic school community we have.



## Multicultural Extravaganza

By Debbie Robertson, Principal, Paradise Campus

**A Multicultural Extravaganza was the culmination of a unit of learning focused on the countries of origin of the families of our Junior Primary classes, and their associated cultures and histories.**

Learning was shared among the classes as students became the 'experts' in their focus countries. Parents assisted by telling stories, cooking, providing artefacts and teaching songs in preparation for the Extravaganza.

The Extravaganza began in a flood of colour and noise – students and parents arrived dressed in national costumes and buzzing with excitement.

Students holding the flag of their country were introduced as they marched toward a large map of the world where the words 'Every tribe and tongue' were written.

The students performed items including the retelling of traditional tales, shadow puppet shows and the singing of songs. Classrooms were set up as continents with students artwork, written reports and artefacts displayed.

The final performance was the end of a concert with the entire Junior Primary singing a medley of 'Jesus Loves the Little Children' and 'Yes Jesus Loves Me' in five different languages, before finishing with 'I am Australian (We are Australian)' in English.

It was a night to remember for everyone.



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## Activity Afternoon Takes Off

By Tim Heading, Principal, Morphett Vale Campus

**There is an increased buzz around the Morphett Vale campus on Friday afternoons. Term 3 saw the commencement of an activities-based program called Activity Afternoon.**

We recognise that play forms an incredibly important role in children's learning and we were concerned that this seemed to be diminishing in the lives of today's children. One of the planned outcomes of this program is to improve our children's skills in solving problems individually and in groups.

Junior Primary children are involved in free and directed play-based activities, which have included dress-ups and role-playing, exploration with sand, woodwork, cooking and knitting.

Grades 3 and 4 have been involved in design challenges with varied materials including cardboard, straws and cups. The Grade 5 class have taken on the responsibility of our school garden and are eagerly anticipating tasting some of the results of their hard work. The Grade 6 and 7 classes have been learning and participating in the sport of orienteering. It has been wonderful having a number of our parents volunteering to assist and lead many of these activities.

Fridays have been transformed into days of heightened engagement among students in expectation of the upcoming activities. Parent responses have been positive and we plan to continue Activity Afternoons.



## New Graduate Reflections

By Karen Petruzzelli, Principal, Fullarton Campus

**Our Grade 7 students become quite reflective as they approach the end of their primary schooling and look towards a new season in secondary education. It is a joy and privilege to walk this journey with the students and their parents to celebrate so many milestones.**

In this season we see the fruit of all that has been sown into each student by their families, teachers and staff and volunteers – all of whom have invested so much into seeing our students grow in Christian character and become all that God has made them to be.

Our Grade 7 students have many opportunities to shine, being called upon to support events in which they wholeheartedly contribute:

- » The Reception Buddy program
- » The Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day stalls
- » Grandparents' Day – guides and hosts
- » Junior Primary Sports Day – assistants and scorers
- » Monday morning assembly – each term the Grade 7 students led an assembly
- » Easter – preparing a gift and card to give to our neighbours
- » Stewardship programme
- » Canberra trip – experiencing all that our national capital has to offer.

Through their participation in these events, our Grade 7 students have found the opportunity to grow in their final year and prepare for transition to secondary education.



# PREPARING CHILDREN FOR THEIR FUTURE

By Cate Tymko, ELC Director

**At Sunrise Christian School Early Learning Centres (ELCs), we are not only preparing children for their transition to school; we are preparing them for life! ELC creates the foundations for education in preparing our children for their futures.**

As well as literacy and numeracy, early education involves social competency, emotional resilience, imagination and creativity, independence and responsibility. We work hard with the children during their time in the ELC to ensure that they leave us with developmentally appropriate skills in these areas. Brain development is at a crucial time when the children are with us at the ELC and the experiences we provide for the children naturally develops these skills. It is such a delight to see how much they grow during their time with us.

In addition to developing these integral skills, another aim at the ELC is to inspire life-long learners; children who are able to gather and sort information, solve problems, and thrive at being independent learners. We encourage this by enquiry-based learning through play, as children discover their surroundings and their connections with their world. All the while we, as educators, take every opportunity to discover, with the children of God's creation, His world and our relationship with Him and each other.



# ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES IN WHYALLA

By Henry Engelbrecht, Acting Principal, Sunrise Christian School, Whyalla

Sunrise Christian School was established in Whyalla in 2009 when it purchased the Whyalla Christian School. Together, the schools have almost 40 years of rich history for the glory of God. Sunrise continued to build on the foundations that existed by putting God first in education and character development. Sunrise expanded rapidly from 40 students to now caring for over 150 from Reception to Grade 7. An Early Learning Centre, Long Day Care and OSHC services have been established to serve the school community.

The school has a great community feel and regularly has visits from old scholars of both Sunrise and Whyalla Christian School. One such old scholar is Cr Robert Schmitz who currently serves on the Whyalla Town Council. Robert still has one younger sibling at Sunrise and his mother works as part of the Sunrise Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden team.

Sunrise Christian School, Whyalla recently interviewed Cr Schmitz, during which he noted that, "Opportunity is the one word that keeps on returning to my mind when I look at the future of Whyalla. Whyalla is an amazing city full of potential and if one simply goes for a short drive around the city you will certainly understand what I mean."

Robert commented that there are opportunities for youth events and attractions, for coastal living and

learning or exploring and showing off the unique city.

For Robert, one of the most exciting things is that many of these aspects are not yet running to their full potential. This leads to an opportunity where parents and, more importantly students, have a role to play.

"If you have an idea, a goal, a passion or a hobby, there is a likely chance that many other people in Whyalla do also. What a perfect opportunity to start up or join a unique club or group and shine your light for the City of Whyalla."

Robert is right. There are so many possibilities for Sunrise as a school and as Christians to be involved and positively impact the community. Sunrise Christian School looks forward to continuing to shine the light of God in the city of Whyalla and to bring faith and hope to the community.



# SUNRISE

## Christian School

WHYALLA

## Pedal to the Metal

**Two stand-out events for the Sunrise Christian School, Whyalla include the Pedal Prix competitions in Adelaide and the annual Sunrise Whyalla Boys' Camp.**

Grade 6/7 students take part in the Pedal Prix competition every year. More than 160 teams make up the competition in Adelaide and see a wide range of schools come together for good Grand Prix-style racing around the Victoria Park circuit. It is a great team building event and teaches the students how to work together to achieve a common goal. Sunrise Whyalla's best placing this year was 17<sup>th</sup> out of 80 competitors in our class (primary schools).

The annual Sunrise Whyalla Boys' Camp began in 2015 with a desire to spend valuable time with the Grade 6/7 boys away from the school and instilling in them Godly principles and attitudes for life. These values carry through to everyone that they connect with from their families and women, to life in general. The boys have fun with the experiences of setting up camp, cooking together and participating in team activities such as geocaching and archery.



## Farewell Mr Kowald, welcome Mr Engelbrecht

**It is with sadness we say goodbye to Mr Ben Kowald as his time in Whyalla comes to an end. Mr Kowald's season at Sunrise Christian School Whyalla is filled with good memories and we, as a school community, will surely miss him. In the five years he has been here, he impacted a lot of lives. Mr Kowald walked the school through many difficult circumstances with faithfulness and compassion.**

As Principal, he led with confidence and always had an attentive ear. Mr Kowald would always find time in his busy schedule to stop and listen and then help where he could. We wish him all the best with his next endeavour and pray God's richest blessing upon him and his wife, Sophie.

As one era closes, another one starts. Mr Henry Engelbrecht has been appointed to the lead role in Whyalla. He has been part of the Sunrise Christian School Whyalla family from 2012, and over the last five years, has built lifelong relationships with people in the Whyalla community. At Sunrise, we promote a Christ-centred education where 'every child matters every day'. Mr Engelbrecht is looking forward to working together with students, teachers and parents to create an awesome, God-honouring school culture and community.



Mr Ben Kowald



Mr Henry Engelbrecht

*Sunrise Christian School looks forward to continuing to shine the light of God in the city of Whyalla.*

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

By Joel Lomman

Sarah-Ann Tan was a student at our Marion Campus and Graduated in 2014. We had the opportunity to catch up with her to find out what she is up to now, and hear about her time at Sunrise Christian School.

We caught up with Sarah at Flinders University just after she had finished one of the many lectures that fill her busy schedule. Sarah's faculty jumper, emblazoned with the words Speech Pathology, gave away what she was up to now well before we had the opportunity to ask.

Sarah is currently coming to the end of the second year of her Speech Pathology Degree, which she started the year after graduating from Sunrise Christian School. Sarah always felt called towards a path in the health sciences of some sort, although it was Mrs Dixon, the Year 12 careers counsellor at the time, who introduced her to speech pathology. This sparked an interest that would eventuate into the journey she is now on. Sarah has had the opportunity to study a vast range of topics, which will one day allow her to help a wide variety of patients, from very young children who are speech impaired to adults who have developed problems with the act of swallowing and communicating.

We had barely begun to ask what had helped her get to where she is today, before Sarah began reminiscing about her time at Sunrise.



"I have so many memories of being at Sunrise. Being a part of a tight-knit community, I'm so thankful for the friendships I've made and I know they are people who will be there for me for the rest of my life."

"Sunrise also prepared me for further study, I had to learn to be able to manage my time and prioritise my tasks in having to study for 9 subjects and the SATs in senior year, on top of other commitments."

Sarah said the thing that she most appreciated from her time at Sunrise was the real "care and love the teachers had for them, which was evident in so many ways. They all genuinely wanted us to succeed and be the best that we could be."

A former school Prefect and the school worship band leader in year 12, Sarah is currently also a part of the Kids Church leadership team at Edge Church South and said that Sunrise had a huge impact on her Faith.

"The teachers were role models for me and a real reflection of Christ, not in the big sermons or anything, but in the little things, how they served and cared. All the teachers go above and beyond at Sunrise, and that was something I really valued. I remember the late Mr Avery in particular, who taught me so much about being humble and being a servant for God. He left a legacy behind and has imparted so many biblical values to me and the Sunrise community."

As a school community we wish and pray the very best for Sarah-Ann as she completes her study and moves onto all that God has for her future.



A member of Adelaide Christian Schools