



PRINCIPAL REPORT

Dear families,

As we reach the end of another wonderful year at Valley View Secondary School, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements, connections, and positive experiences we have shared. It has been especially rewarding to get to know so many of our students and their families. Our sense of community is one of the school's greatest strengths, and it is a privilege to be part of such a caring and committed group of students, staff, and parents. Thank you for the warm welcome and for the incredible support shown throughout the year.

Term 4 has been filled with notable highlights, including our inspiring Year 12 Graduation, which celebrated the achievements and journeys of our senior students as they prepare for new adventures. The Year 8 HASS Elections offered a fantastic opportunity for students to engage in active citizenship and leadership. We recognised the efforts and progress of our students at the Middle School Achievement Assembly, and welcomed our newest cohort during the Year 7 Transition Day. Additionally, Operation Flinders provided a challenging and rewarding outdoor experience, fostering resilience and growth. These events showcased the spirit and strong community values that make Valley View Secondary School such a special place to learn and grow.

Looking ahead to 2026:

Site Learning Plan

As we prepare for 2026, our commitment to continuous school improvement remains at the forefront of our work. A key focus for the coming year is enhancing our approach to Metacognition and Self-Regulated Learning. Our goal is to help students become more effective learners—learners who can stop and think about what's needed to best achieve the task in front of them, understand and manage their behaviour and reactions to their environment, and pause, reflect, and adjust their actions if needed. Through explicit emphasis on metacognition and self-regulation, we aim to foster greater independence, problem-solving skills, and resilience in all our students.

Timetable Adjustments for 2026

In response to valuable feedback from both students and staff, we have made some tweaks to our timetable for next year. One significant change is the removal of the 10-minute mentor sessions on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. This adjustment has been made to ensure our timetable better meets the needs of our school community while continuing to support students' learning and wellbeing. We appreciate your ongoing input and look forward to a positive transition.



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Farewell to Our Valued Staff Members

As we approach the end of another vibrant year at Valley View Secondary School, we wish to take a moment to acknowledge and say farewell to a number of dedicated staff members who will be leaving our school community. Each of these individuals has made a significant contribution to the lives of our students and the broader school environment.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to:

- Peter Voudantas (Deputy Principal)
- Tom Rose (Technology Teacher)
- Sue Myles (Daily Orgs Manager)
- Tony Zimbardi (Technology Learning Area Leader)
- Liz Burke (English Learning Area Leader)
- Ben Loades (Youth Worker)
- James Ashby (HPE Teacher)
- Muskan Kathpal (Science Teacher)
- Rebecca Voudantas (EALD Teacher)
- Dani Fattori (Technology Teacher)

Your commitment, passion, and professionalism have left a lasting impact on Valley View Secondary School. Whether through teaching, leadership, support, or enrichment activities, your efforts have helped shape the culture and success of our school. While we are sad to see you go, we wish you all the very best in your future endeavours and trust that you will carry fond memories of your time at Valley View with you. On behalf of the entire school community, thank you for your service and dedication.

You will always be a valued part of the Valley View family.

As we say goodbye to much-valued colleagues, we are also delighted to welcome new members to the Valley View Secondary School team for 2026. Please join us in welcoming:

- Theo Papazoglov – Deputy Principal
- Christie Coupar – Technologies Learning Area Leader
- Kayla Egglestone – Technology Teacher
- Niamh Morgan – HPE Teacher
- Taylah Fergusson (Youth Worker)

Thank You to Our Governing Council, Parents and Carers
We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the Valley View Secondary School Governing Council and to all our parents and carers for your ongoing support throughout the year. Your commitment and encouragement are essential to the success of our students and the life of our school. We thank you for your contributions, involvement, and trust as we work together to provide the best possible education for our students.

Wishing everyone a safe, restful break and a successful year ahead. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the Valley View Secondary School community.

Regards
Nathan Cini

START OF YEAR SCHEDULE

To ensure a smooth beginning to the year, please see the schedule for the first week back:

- Monday 26 January; Public Holiday
- Tuesday 27 January: Year 7 and Year 12 Orientation
- Wednesday 28 January: All Students return
(Whole School Assembly to start day)
- Thursday 29 January: All Students
- Friday 30 January: All Students

We look forward to welcoming everyone for a positive and engaging start to the new school year.

2026 Student Free & School Closure Dates

Please note the following dates for student free days and school closure days throughout the 2026 school year:

- Term 1, Friday, 6 March - Student Free Day
- Term 2, Friday, 5 June - Student Free Day
- Term 3, Monday, 7 September - School Closure Day
- Term 3, Tuesday, 8 September - Student Free Day
- Term 4, Friday, 27 November - Student Free Day

We encourage families to take note of these dates for planning purposes. On student free and school closure days, no regular classes will be held.

YEAR 8 HASS ELECTION DAY

This term in HASS, Ms Jaensch, and Ms Balestrin's classes have been learning about the political system of Australia, including the levels of government, the Constitution, voting, and political parties.

We formed groups of 2-4 members, with 6 groups from each class. Our goal was to create political parties, identify issues within our school and create an election campaign on these policies. To achieve this goal, we needed to make and design posters, pamphlets, how-to-vote cards, and speeches.

After almost a term of hard work and dedication, the election day had finally arrived. We printed our campaign materials, set up our pin boards, and practiced our speeches. We were now ready to present to the audience. One by one, each party got a chance to share their speech and convince the sixty audience members why they should be voted #1. There were two separate rounds of speeches with a 15-minute break in between. During this break, the guests were able to visit the booths and ask as many questions as they pleased. We gave out pamphlets, posters, etc, and gave a deeper explanation of all our policies. Then it was time for the next round of speeches.

Once the last groups were finished, the audience now had to vote for the party they thought met their needs and expectations the most. The audience had to list all the parties from 1-12. After calculating the votes, the winner with a total of 36 votes out of 60 was Together Tomorrow! The runners-up were the All Rounders. This experience helped us to learn more about our voting system and how to work as part of a team. We also learned that it's not always about winning, it's about the journey and the lessons we learnt along the way.

-Oliver.P and Jemma.S (Year 8)

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY

During Term 2, our Year 10 Geography class conducted fieldwork at Port Hughes on the Yorke Peninsula to investigate human impacts on the environment. In addition to observing broader examples of human activity in the region, including a visit to the Moonta Mines site, students undertook a focused investigation into the presence and concentration of microplastics at two key coastal locations: Port Hughes and Moonta Bay. Microplastics are defined as plastics less than 5mm in size. South Australia registers the highest microplastics loads nationally, with the largest loads being identified across northern Adelaide. Extreme concentrations have been found around West Lakes and Wetlands Port Adelaide.

Extreme concentrations equate to a concentration of > 10,000 microplastics per m². In some places the readings have been as high as 75,000 microplastics per m².

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-Sam Davenport



YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY

In week 3 of term 4, our year 11 Geography cohort travelled to Bowden to gather data for their inquiry 'An assessment of Liveability, Urban Renewal and Sustainability in Bowden'. Once a heavily industrialised area, Bowden housed Gasworks, Brickworks and Glassworks and in 1936 became the site of the Clipsal factory (Now Plant 4). Students successfully engaged in a walking transect and recorded their observations of different environments using a bipolar scale and field sketches. Students listened to a guest speaker from Renewal SA and learned about Sustainability initiatives integrated into the planning of Bowden which provides the foundation for their world class '6-star green star' sustainability rating. Overall, we had a very productive day and some very impressive fieldwork reports were produced as a result!

Sam Davenport

OPERATION FLINDERS EXPERIENCE

Earlier this term, a group of our Year 9 students had the incredible opportunity to take part in Operation Flinders, an eight-day adventure program designed to challenge, empower, and build resilience. Students trekked through the Flinders Ranges, cooked their own meals, set up camp, supported each other through tough moments, and celebrated every achievement along the way.

The experience promoted teamwork, leadership, self-belief, and a stronger sense of connection with school and community. Since returning, the students have engaged in reflection and accountability sessions, highlighting the skills and



community. Since returning, the students have engaged in reflection and accountability sessions, highlighting the skills and confidence they gained and how they plan to apply them in everyday life. We are so proud of their effort, growth and willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

-Jaz Taylor



RAYMOND CROWE WORKSHOP

In Week 5, our year 9 Drama students were fortunate to take part in a special workshop with world-renowned entertainer Raymond Crowe a celebrated magician, ventriloquist, physical theatre artist and “unusualist,” known globally for his legendary hand-shadow performances.



Students explored character, comedy, physical storytelling and stage presence through hands-on activities and performance coaching. The workshop was fun, high energy, and deeply inspiring, giving students a rare chance to learn from an industry professional currently working at the highest level. The joy and creativity in the room were undeniable, and many students left feeling motivated to push their performance skills even further.

Jaz Taylor



WORLD TEACHER'S DAY AWARDS CEREMONY



Each year, Educators SA host the World Teacher's Day Awards Ceremony. This amazing celebration of educator's event was held at Adelaide Oval on Friday 31 October 2025 and was attended by hundreds of educators, leaders and supporters from South Australia. As the official State event for World Teachers' Day, Educators SA proudly recognised 68 incredible award recipients for their excellence, innovation, and dedication to their students and communities.

Honoured dignitaries included Her Excellency The Hon. Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, The Hon. Blair Boyer MP, Minister for Education, Training and Skills, and Ben Temperly, Acting Chief Executive, Department for Education.

Three of our very own Valley View Secondary School association members attended: Silvia de Cesare, Julie Collings-Wells and Noeleen Curran. It was a very special evening that we all enjoyed immensely.

Noeleen Curran

HORTICULTURE TEAM



Throughout 2025, the Horticultural Team has worked diligently and achieved wonderful progress in maintaining and enhancing The Valley Garden. It is truly rewarding to witness our young gardeners engaging with nature and deepening their understanding of the ecosystem through hands-on gardening experiences. This year, the team has not only refined their gardening and landscaping skills but has also flourished in areas such as teamwork, welcoming international students, contributing to First Nation events identifying and planting native species, and supported important fundraising.

All of this has taken place within the peaceful, sensory-rich setting of The Valley Garden—a space that continues to inspire growth and belonging.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone in our school community, as well as our educational and external partners, who have visited, supported, and encouraged our work. Your interest and generosity have been invaluable to our ongoing journey, and we look forward to welcoming you back as The Valley Garden continues to grow and thrive.



CELEBRATING OUR VET STUDENTS EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

At Valley View Secondary School, we are incredibly proud to recognise the outstanding achievements of our Vocational Education and Training (VET) students in 2025. These students have demonstrated remarkable commitment, balancing their school studies while pursuing a diverse range of nationally accredited qualifications—an effort that has significantly contributed to their SACE completion and prepared them for future success.

This year, our students have successfully completed the following VET qualifications:

- White Card (Construction Induction)
- Certificate II in Animal Care
- Certificate II in Construction Pathways
- Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Career Start)
- Certificate II in Food Processing
- Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics
- Certificate II in Salon Assistant
- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care

These qualifications not only build specialist skills, but also enhance employability and provide a competitive edge as students plan their futures.

School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

We also celebrate those undertaking school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, completing their Certificate III qualifications in:

- Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology
- Carpentry
- Roof Plumbing
- Individual Support

These pathways reflect strong partnerships with industry and a commitment by our students to pursue real-world experience while at school.

Looking Ahead: The interest in VET remains vibrant at Valley View Secondary School. Looking forward to 2026, we currently have 30 Year 11 and 12 students accepted to undertake a Certificate II or III through

VET in Schools, and three school-based apprenticeships and traineeships will continue.

We congratulate all our current and future VET students for their dedication, resilience, and aspiration. Your achievements set an inspiring example in our school community, and we look forward to even more successes in the years to come.

Well done to all involved!

Renee Blatch

FIRST NATIONS UPDATE

As the end of the year is fast approaching, the Aboriginal Education team of Valley View Secondary reflects on our Semester 2 events and achievements. We were lucky enough to host a barista course here with the help of Tauondi college and Workabout centre. To celebrate the end of the year, we hosted a casual gathering with students and families giving students an opportunity to practice their barista skills, connect and yarn with one another.

Congratulations to two of our Year 10 boys who successfully completed a short construction course with the Workabout centre held at Karuna Plains. We were lucky enough to see them in action as they completed their project.

We have been busy attending multiple graduations, including the Marnintyarla graduation celebrating our Year 6s coming into high school. We were privileged to present the Senior school Indigenous Excellence award to Kyiesha Wilson at the Year 12 graduation celebrating her achievement and continuous connections to her culture. We also had the honour of presenting the Middle School Indigenous Excellence award to Kayla Deane at

the final assembly of 2025. Congratulations to both winners, and thank you for being inspirations to the younger generation.

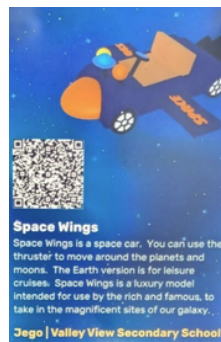
As the year comes to a close, the RAP team finalises our key goals and actions that we would like to put in place at our school, and we hope to be able to share this with you soon. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to what 2026 has in store!

Marisa & Khiara

SPACE CHALLENGE

This semester, our SWAN students took on the exciting challenge of space exploration through the Aurora Mission. Using Makers Empire, a 3D design platform, the students created innovative solutions answer the questions, “To get to space, I will need...” or “When I get to space, I will need...”

Throughout the program, students brainstormed challenges they might encounter either on the way to space or while living there. They designed their projects in 3D and showed impressive problem-solving skills, adapting and improving their designs when things did not go as planned.



See in Augmented Reality (AR)



We are very proud to share that several student projects were chosen to be featured at the Australian Space Discovery Centre from 1 to 17 November. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to showcase their creativity and ideas to the wider community, as well as to be part of broader conversations about the future of space exploration. Having their work displayed in such a setting is a real achievement for our students and staff.

ITALIAN NEWS- ITALIAN OUTDOORS



Celebrating Our Year 12 Italian Graduates

This year we celebrated a truly special moment as our Stage 2 Italian students—Caitlin, Clara, Kanuj, and Shukria—reached the end of their 5-year Italian journey at our school. This is our second consecutive group to complete Year 12 Italian and over the years, they have been actively involved with Adelaide’s Italian community, which has supported and encouraged them throughout their studies. At the graduation ceremony, community representatives gathered to honour their commitment and dedication.

We were privileged to welcome Ernesto Pianelli, Italian Consul in Adelaide, who addressed the students and their families. Each graduate was then invited on stage to receive recognition alongside members of the Italian community: Clara Rehill joined by the Italian Consul; Caitlin Harvey, joined by Cathy Papandrea, Manager of the Marche Club; Shukria Sultani, joined by Marinella Marmo, President of Com.It.Es; and Kanuj Seghal, joined by Vincenzo Papandrea from Radio Italia Uno.

Ragazzi, bravissimi! We are incredibly proud of you. Grazie and arrivederci!

Stage 1 - Adelaide Italian Festival

On 7 November, our Stage 2 Italian students attended the opening night of this year’s Adelaide Italian Festival — a vibrant street party Italian-style, filled with live entertainment and delicious food. Students were part of the festivities, immersing themselves in the lively Italian atmosphere as the Festival Plaza transformed into “Little Italy.” During the evening, they had the chance to connect with members of the Italian community who continue to support our school and Italian program



Guests enjoyed authentic Margherita pizza from our wood-fired oven, followed by a screening of the contemporary Italian comedy 7 ore per farti innamorare (7 Hours to Win Your Heart) with English subtitles. The warm atmosphere and lively turnout made the evening truly special.

We’re delighted to share that the event raised \$1,000 for our Italy Study Trip Fund. Every contribution brings our students closer to this once-in-a-lifetime learning adventure, and we are deeply grateful for the support from staff, families, and our broader community. Around 70 guests attended, including teachers, parents, students, and members of the Italian community. It was a fitting final fundraiser for the year, and our students’ enthusiasm continues to inspire us as we work toward our goal.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to Sebastian Galipo, who continues to champion our program and whose ongoing generosity made the event possible.

We also extend our thanks to our dedicated volunteers:

Students: Year 12 graduates Kanuj and Caitlin; Year 10 students Boaz, Sarina, and Sarah Paige; Year 9 students Brandon, Leah, and Sabine; and Year 8 volunteer Leasha.

Staff: Ali, Sean, StJohn and Luke for setting up our cinema and dining spaces and staying to the very end. Special thanks to our wonderful Italian team—Stefania, Dina and Rame—and everyone who lent a hand throughout the night.

Thank you once again to everyone who made An Evening in Naples such a success—your support truly means the world to our students.

Y10 and Stage 1 - Adelaide Central Market

In WK7, Y10 Italian students visited the Adelaide Central Market to investigate the concept of authentic Made in Italy products versus 'sounds Italian' products. They completed a survey reflecting on the different types of restaurants, stalls and products available as well as noticing the diverse languages spoken and the many ethnic groups represented. Students also focused on the Italian products sold at the market highlighting those made in Italy and those with an Italian sound produced in Australia.

Student Voice

“I liked walking around and smelling all the different food and listening to different languages. I also enjoyed meeting people who were passionate about their stalls and seemed to love working in the central market”

Sarah

“The central market is a very multicultural ground that showcases many diverse foods from so many different countries. We enjoyed trying new food while looking for true Italian food.”

Boaz & Paige

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Sadly, we say goodbye to our international students Ana Clara, Antonia and Rafael from Brazil and Honomi from Japan. It has been a pleasure having these students join our school community. They made the most of every experience—whether on excursions or participating in extracurricular activities—approaching everything with enthusiasm, curiosity, and a wonderful sense of positivity. We hope the connections they’ve formed and the memories they’ve created here will stay with them long into the future. Thank you to all the staff, students and homestay families who welcomed them with such warmth and helped make their time with us so special.

As we look ahead to 2026, we’re preparing to welcome a new group of international students from Brazil and Japan, and we can’t wait to make them feel just as at home.



SOCIAL MEDIA AGE RESTRICTIONS

Newly introduced social media age restrictions will mean Australians under 16 won’t be able to create or keep accounts on many social media platforms. These changes aim to protect children and young people from features that encourage too much screen time and from content that can impact their wellbeing. If you’re a parent or carer, you don’t have to navigate this alone - the eSafety Commissioner has free resources, webinars, and conversation starters to help you support the young people in your life.

Learn more at the following link: [E-Safety](#)