



Specialised Assistance School for Youth (SASY)

THE SASY SCOOP

Issue No. 23 | Term 4 DEC 2025



END OF YEAR STUDENT CHRISTMAS LUNCH- SANTA AND HIS HELPERS

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QUOTE OF THE TERM

“The end of the year is a time to remember every lesson learned & laugh shared”

–Unknown

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

SASY is open for those who need support during part of the school holiday period. We are staffed and open for young people on the following dates between 10am-3pm.

Tues 16th, 17th, 18th Dec 2025

Tues 13th, 14th, 15th Jan 2026

Term 1 begins Tues 27th Jan 2026

A note from the Editor

To our dearest readers,

It feels like only yesterday we were signing off on our 2024 End of Year newsletter—and here we are again, closing out another incredible chapter! 2025 has been a year of growth, resilience, and celebration for the SASY community. Together, we've shared countless moments that remind us why our work matters and why our community is so special.

This year was packed with standout events and achievements:

- **Community Activity Day** brought everyone together in the spirit of fun and connection
- **Senior Dinner** was a heartfelt celebration of our graduating students, and celebrating our current Senior Students
- SASY hosted their first ever **Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser** at the Adelaide Showgrounds Farmers market
- **SASY turned 9 in May!**
- The development of our **2024 Annual Report** highlighted the progress we've made and the vision we're building for the future.
- **Celebration Week/Evening:** SASY opened its doors to the community and showcased learning and projects from Semester one
- **R U OK? Day** reminded us of the importance of mental health and checking in with one another
- Our **Annual Student Christmas Party** was a joyful way to wrap up the year, filled with laughter, gratitude, and festive cheer.

We also celebrated two major milestones:

- The launch of our **new branding and website**, which reflects our evolving identity and commitment to innovation while staying true to our values.
- The construction of our new **Middle School campus**, a space designed to inspire learning and foster a sense of belonging for our younger students.

One of my most inspiring successes of 2025 has been the Stepping Out program, which continues to empower school leavers and graduates as they transition into the next stage of their lives. Seeing these young people thrive and embrace new opportunities has been nothing short of amazing.

Thank you for being part of this journey—your engagement and enthusiasm make everything we do possible. Here's to another year of growth, connection, and success!

As always please reach out to these services if you need support during the summer holiday period:

Mental Health Triage Service: Call 13 14 65 for a mental health emergency or crisis.

Lifeline: 13 11 14 for 24/7

Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636 for 24/7

Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

13YARN: 13 92 76 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Sunny Stefanovski | Marketing Assistant

Something from our CE

As we reach the end of another year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the many achievements right across SASY.

2025 saw the creation of our new Middle School campus at Port Rd. From our first viewing of what was an empty warehouse in December 2024 to the incredible finished product that will see young people and staff filling its many and varied learning spaces in January 2026, this has been an exciting, challenging and rewarding project. So many people have contributed to this project from our Board to SLT members, many staff and input from young people. I would like to mention one person in particular who has taken on the role of internal Project Manager and done an outstanding job and that is our Head of Business Development Kelly Chambers. Extraordinary work this year Kelly! I would also like to thank Richard and Fay from Liminton Designs who without, none of this would have happened in the timeframe it did or to the standard that has been delivered.

At SASY we recognise that success looks different for every young person at SASY and are proud of all young people who have moved through SASY this year. Whether that was trying a program for the first time, meeting new people, achieving SACE, gaining employment or simply just showing up at school after a period of being at home, I extend my congratulations to all SASY students and acknowledge the challenges that must be overcome to get here today.

The incredible passion and commitment of our staff, who have supported our students' education and wellbeing, must also be acknowledged. They have offered engaging and personalised programs and support to all students and meet them where they are at, day to day. This requires enormous adaptability and planning, and we are grateful for their care, skills, and positive impact. Thank you to each and every one of you!

I would also like to thank our Board, who have guided and effectively governed our school, and the Senior Leadership Team, who have led our staff through a year of significant growth and change.

SASY would not be where it was without the support and generosity of its stakeholders, partners and broader network. To those who have funded our programs, provided advice or support, or engaged with our students and staff this year, thank you for enriching our school offerings. SASY is a community, and one we are proud of.

At SASY we believe that every young person deserves a chance to thrive, and we will keep working to make that happen.

I wish all of our community a safe and happy holiday season, whatever that looks like for you and yours.

Karen Taylor | Chief Executive

Remembrance Day

HI Project

On Remembrance Day, sixteen dedicated SASY young people gathered in the heart of the CBD to pay tribute to those who served and sacrificed for our freedom.

Their presence at the ceremony was a powerful reminder that the legacy of courage and resilience continues to inspire future generations.

The service featured a moving tribute, including the laying of wreaths, a moment of silence, and the recitation of the Ode of Remembrance. These young attendees stood alongside veterans, community leaders, and citizens, demonstrating respect and gratitude for the men and women who fought for peace.

Their participation reflects a growing commitment among youth to engage with history and honor traditions that unite communities. By attending, they not only remembered the fallen but also embraced the responsibility of carrying forward the values of service and remembrance.

As we look to the future, their involvement serves as a beacon of hope—ensuring that the sacrifices of the past will never be forgotten.

-Greg, Middle School Teacher



In Term 4, three of our Senior School young people proudly participated in the Hospitably Inclusive (HI) Project, delivered by Community Bridging Services (CBS Inc).

The 10-week program provides hands-on, accessible training designed to prepare young people for careers in hospitality. The students worked alongside industry professionals at Sprout Cooking School and collaborated with the Flinders University Nutrition & Dietetics (FUND) team, gaining accredited skills in food safety, preparation, and customer service.

The program culminated in a special graduation event at The Summit Café in Glandore. Our SASY young people showcased their talents and skills learnt across the 10 weeks by preparing and serving an impressive menu – including spring risotto, steak with chimichurri on flatbread, and pandan panna cotta, all made from scratch! They also demonstrated barista skills, making and serving coffee while warmly engaging with guests.

It was inspiring to witness their growth, confidence, and professionalism. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to seeing where these new skills take them.

-Molly, Senior School Youth Worker





And just like that, Term Four—and 2025—has wrapped up!

This Term has been a big one for SASY, marking the end of being a single campus and the start of an exciting new chapter with two campuses on the horizon.

Middle School staff have spent time chatting with young people about what they'd love to see at the new campus, while helping them prepare for the mix of new and familiar that next year will bring. SASY young people even helped create a handy FAQ about the new campus.

Some highlights from this term:

- **New Faces:** SASY welcomed two new teachers to Middle School —Niki (Inclusive Education Teacher) and Taryn (Teacher).
- **EIF Intensive:** Inspire students took part in an Exploring Identity and Futures intensive, 14 more young people completed EIF
- **Long Tan Award:** This year's Year 10 winner was Hope, who has shown incredible growth in resilience, handling challenges, and showing

respect for both peers and staff. The Long Tan awards celebrate leadership, teamwork, and values like doing your best, respect, and mateship from schools across Australia

"Next year will look a little different, with Middle School moving to the new campus, exciting times ahead!"

On behalf of the Middle School team, we wish our Year 10s all the best as they move into Senior School, and we hope everyone enjoys a well-earned, and relaxing break.

Middle School Team Leader, Nathan

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONT...

Colebrook Reconciliation Park Excursion

During Term four, Connect young people, along with staff, embarked on a powerful learning journey to Colebrook Blackwood Reconciliation Park, a site of deep historical and cultural significance. While on this excursion, young people had the invaluable opportunity to learn directly from First Nations people about the Stolen Generations and the ongoing impact of colonisation on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Through interactive activities facilitated by Aboriginal educators, young people gained a richer understanding of history, resilience, and reconciliation.

Colebrook Reconciliation Park stands as a permanent memorial to the children of the Stolen Generations and their families. Once the site of the Colebrook Training Home, it now serves as a place of remembrance, reflection, and education.



SENIOR SCHOOL



Senior School Adventure

Celebrating a Year of Achievement in the Senior School

As 2025 draws to a close, we are proud to reflect on the incredible accomplishments of our Senior School young people (YP) and community throughout Term 4.

This year has been marked by growth, resilience, and a commitment to future pathways.

Here are some of the highlights:

• 56 Short Courses Completed

YP embraced opportunities to broaden their skills and knowledge through a diverse range of short courses.

• 44 Industry Immersion Activities

These experiences provided invaluable insights into real world workplaces, helping YP connect learning with career aspirations.

• 38 Certificate II/III & Apprenticeships Completed or Commenced

• 60 Additional Engagements

Included a session led by former SASY student Karina Warns, now employed full-time at youth drop in centre The Foundry. Her journey is an inspiring example of what's possible beyond school.

• 15 Confirmed SACE Completers

With a few more pending, this result is consistent with last year and significantly higher than previous years—a testament to the dedication of our YP and staff.

These achievements reflect the strength of our programs and the unwavering support of our community.

"As we look ahead to 2026, we remain committed to creating opportunities that empower every young person to thrive"

Thank you to all SASY young people, families, and staff for making this year a success!

Senior School Team Leader, Bruce

SENIOR SCHOOL cont...

Health & Wellbeing

This term saw the launch of SASY's first cookbook 'Power Up'.

This program was a collaboration with Dietician Jack from POD Dietetics where young people planned, cooked, photographed, edited and published recipes.

All cooking took place at Norwood Commercial Kitchen over the course of 5 weeks. It was incredible to see the SASY community supporting this project that the young people are so proud of. In week 7 the official launch of 'Power Up' took place at SASY.

Health and Wellbeing also completed their HLTAI012, Provide First Aid in an Education or Care Setting Cert with Nick and Nikki from Engage First Aid.

It was a brilliant session and the young people engaged incredibly well throughout, asking lots of thoughtful questions to our trainers.

-Allira, Senior School teacher



Transition Week

A dozen enthusiastic Middle Schoolers jumped into our Profit Mode Taster session, where we explored transferable workplace skills in a fun and creative way—by building marshmallow towers!

It was fantastic to see leadership, communication, and collaboration shine through as teams worked together to create their masterpieces.

Profit Mode builds on the foundations set in EIF, offering hands-on opportunities to learn about practical work experiences, as well as workers' rights and responsibilities.

-Narelle, Senior School Teacher

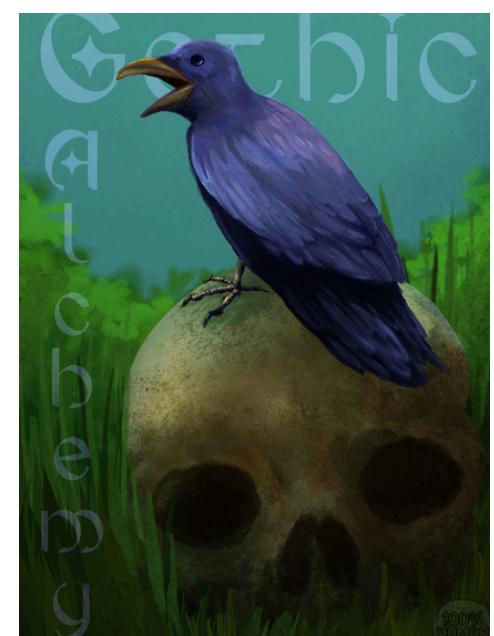
Gothic Alchemy Anthology Coming Soon...

Our young writers have been busy crafting poems and short stories in the gothic style for inclusion in the upcoming Gothic Alchemy Anthology.

This unique collection will be printed over the holiday break and distributed in the new year. The anthology features an exciting range of creative works, including Heidi's alternate vampire tale Miriam, eats flowers, Eli's steampunk-inspired Gadgetry and other Sins, and Nettle's evocative poems Bark and 'It's About Birds, Man'.

We can't wait to share these imaginative pieces with you soon!

-Narelle, Senior School Teacher



ADVENTURE

Adventure Awaits: A Semester of Thrills and Teamwork

This semester, Adventure has been nothing short of amazing! Our students embraced a wide range of exciting activities, including rock climbing, go-karting, mystery picnics, mini golf, BBQs, ice skating, mega climbing, and boating.

Each experience offered opportunities for fun, challenge, and growth.

One of the highlights was our overnight camp at Tailem Bend, where students explored Monarto Zoo, stepped back in time at Old Tailem Town, and enjoyed the thrills of The Bend Motorsport Park. These adventures encouraged students to step outside their comfort zones, try new things, and discover hidden strengths.

Beyond the activities themselves, the most rewarding aspect was witnessing the incredible camaraderie and teamwork that developed.

Students supported and encouraged one another, building confidence and friendships that will last well beyond this semester. Adventure truly lived up to its name—creating memories, fostering resilience, and encouraging a spirit of collaboration.

-Sally, Senior School Senior Teacher



Long Tan Awards

We are proud to announce the recipients of this year's prestigious Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Awards, which recognise students who exemplify resilience, respect, and a commitment to supporting their peers and school community. For those who don't know, the 'Long Tan' awards celebrate leadership, teamwork, and values like doing your best, respect, and mateship—qualities that really matter in Australian society.

Year 10 Winner – Hope

Hope has demonstrated outstanding resilience throughout the year, approaching challenges with determination and a positive mindset. Her ability to adapt and persevere in difficult situations has been inspiring to both staff and students.

Year 12 Winner – Alia

Alia has been a shining example of leadership and integrity. Her respectful interactions with staff and fellow students is recognised. Alia's resilience in handling academic and personal challenges reflects her strength of character and unwavering commitment to excellence.

Congratulations to Hope and Alia for their remarkable achievements and for setting such a positive example for our school community!



Stepping Out

This year has been an incredible milestone for the Stepping Out Program, as we continue to empower SASY leavers on their journey beyond school.

Through the generous support of multiple grants, many of our graduates have been able to pursue their chosen pathways with confidence and purpose.

These grants have played a vital role in removing barriers and opening doors to new opportunities, ensuring every participant has the resources they need to succeed.

To celebrate these achievements, six of our program participants gathered for our end-of-year lunch at Milky Lane, followed by a sweet treat at Yo-Bar. It was a wonderful occasion to reflect on the progress made, share stories of success, and look forward to the exciting times ahead.

The future of the program is brighter than ever! Ending 2025, we welcomed 16 new graduates alongside many other school leavers who have joined the Stepping Out community. With this growth, we are committed to expanding our support and continuing to provide meaningful opportunities for every participant.

Here's to another year of growth, resilience, and success. We can't wait to see what 2026 brings for the Stepping Out Program!



