

The SASY Scoop

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In March, to celebrate the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Sydney WorldPride 2023, SASY welcomed Drag superstar, Australia's own Beverly Kills from RuPaul's Drag Race! To celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community, and promote inclusivity and diversity at school, Beverly spoke candidly with our students and staff about her journey and held a Q&A session. What a 'pinch me' moment!

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30 Chesser

In 2022, SASY commissioned the refurbishment of upstairs 30 Chesser to be completed by Term 1 2023. The area now houses both middle school Hubs, with purpose-built breakout spaces and meeting rooms, flexible learning setups and state of the art technology. The refurbishment of SASY's 1st building now puts it in stead with the look and feel of 25, 27 and 29 Chesser and we are very excited to have finished the space! Here's a snap of the building during refurbishment - keep your eyes peeled for professional shots!



A note from the CE

Hello SASY community,

2023 has started with a big positive bang of energy!

With 11 new students and 1 new staff member joining us this year, we've tried to minimise all other changes. Over the last few years we have introduced new buildings, run a new schedule, begun new programs, and established student groups (that we call Hubs). All these new elements remain unchanged in 2023, but SASY is a dynamic place where the range of interesting things to get involved in seemingly never ends.

Ice hockey, bike maintenance, esports, drama, literacy, research projects, sewing and cooking are some fantastic programs we offer, just off the top of my head! It has been great seeing the year begin with such a range of interesting opportunities, and above all it is a joy seeing how students engage in these to develop and do great things!

A focus of the year has been the slow introduction of holistic learning into our ways of doing things. Meaning that wellbeing and learning are planned into the same projects and programs. This is not too different from SASY's typical ways of doing things over the years, but we are now putting more time into the planning and conscious effort of this work. It's exciting, as this is what makes SASY so different to many schools.

A significant highlight for the term was to welcome back our graduates and school leavers from last year to celebrate with our [annual ceremony](#) at the Adelaide Town Hall to honour their achievements. Together we wish all of last year's leaving students all the very best, and are so very proud to highlight that 100% of our 2022 graduates have moved onto work or study!

Another highlight was the [official launch](#) of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to the school community in January. This was an important step in our school's reconciliation journey and I believe, just the start of many more connections with the land and its traditional owners, and meaningful actions towards reconciliation.

Thanks goes to our fantastic team of staff, awesome students, and great extended community and friends of SASY, it's been a great term, and now 3 more to go for the year. There are many good times ahead.

Sincerely,
David Wild | Chief Executive



Mario on the big screen

To finish off the term, SASY hired a private theatre room at Palace Nova Cinemas and took students from the Pixel program there for a gaming session. This excursion encouraged positive and light-hearted engagement and connection with peers, and served as a fun way to end the term before school holidays.

It's not everyday your favourite Mario characters come to life on the big screen! A big thank you to Sofiann, Curtis and Andy for your work on this program this term.



PIXEL PROGRAM AT PALACE NOVA, WEEK 11

INSPIRE HUB



It has been an exciting and energetic start to Inspire for 2023. Inspire young people have been adjusting to the newly renovated space, forming new friendships, meeting new staff, and welcoming Connect hub to upstairs 30. Inspire has been working on building our ongoing relationship with Connect and have decided this year to join our morning programs which have been successful thus far.

Inspire young people have been getting involved and engaged in a range of different programs this term from exploring the 'Magic' behind science experiments, testing their knowledge in 'The Riddler,' informing themselves on healthy eating and physical activity in 'Gym and Nutrition,' and expressing their creativity through scrapbooking in 'Scrap Happens.'

Inspire young people have been engaging in a range of programs that have broadened their experiences from clay animation in 'Design Studio,'

to exploring new and unique locations within South Australia in 'Treasure Hunt,' to learning about healthy relationships in 'Humans Being Humans.'

Inspire young people, alongside Inspire staff, have come up with this year's shared expectations within the hub: Respect, Humour, Engage, Speak up, and Listen. We will continue to ensure these expectations become a part of Inspire's ethos for the year.

Inspire staff asked Inspire young people what some of their highlights from this term were and their responses were heartwarming!

- 'My highlight is being able to use the gym. I get to work out in a safe environment, and it helps me self-regulate when I am feeling angry.' - Charlotte
- 'My highlight is the good food, good excursions, and I have made a friend.' - Hope



YOUNG PEOPLE IN TREASURE HUNT AND CONNECTION PROGRAMS

- 'My highlight this term was going on Adventure paddle boarding. I loved the water and the water-based activities for Adventure this term.' - Claire
- 'My highlight is being able to increase my cooking skills with Zach, the SASY chef. I also like how SASY staff have been friendly and approachable this term and helping me with pursuing my jewellery making.' - Isaac
- 'My highlight this term has been getting involved with Ice Factor and making new friends.' - Kasey

Inspire has enjoyed furthering their connection with young people and staff and look forward to what Term 2 brings!

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY NATHAN,
TEAM LEADER



Friday 3rd of February was an exciting time for our school as it was the official launch of SASY's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to the community.

A RAP is a formal commitment to reconciliation. It documents how SASY will strengthen relationships, respect, and opportunities in Hubs, around SASY, and with the wider community.

In the Adelaide CBD, we are privileged to educate the next generation of young people on Kurna land and wanted to deepen our connection to land and community. Thus, a multidisciplinary committee was formed in late 2021 with the aim to publish SASY's first RAP and formalise the school's commitment to reconciliation.

The committee developed the Reflect RAP over two years and it was a respectful and considerate process that consulted with students, staff and external stakeholders. It was very important that the RAP had voice and input from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people too, and the

committee were lucky enough to have worked with Uncle John Lochowiak who has connections to Pitjantjatjara, Kurna, Ramindjeri and Arrernte Aboriginal communities, throughout the process.

SASY also had the opportunity to work closely with Monica Williams from the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA) and the design process was done collaboratively by Ochre Dawn and Naomi Murrell Studios. We are very grateful to our community for their input throughout the process of publishing our first RAP.

The showstopping artwork featured in the document and hanging in our reception area at SASY, was a commissioned piece by Mali Isabel, a Kokatha and Arabana artist. Titled 'A beautiful life,' the piece reflects SASY's colourful and youthful identity and is 'about remaining positive and persevering through the tricky times which can be school for some.'

For our public launch in February, the committee worked with Adelaide City

LAUNCH AT PINKY FLAT
(TARNTANYA WAMA)
AND ARTWORK BY MALI ISABEL

Council to host the event at Pinky Flat (Tarntanya Wama), which is a place of cultural significance to Kurna people. Uncle John Lochowiak performed a traditional smoking ceremony and welcome to country at the event, which was attended by staff, students, the SASY Board and key stakeholders.

SASY is committed to implementing the 14 actions within the RAP. Our school will continue to ensure SASY is an inclusive, holistic environment for all young people and focus on teaching and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

SASY's Reflect RAP 2022-23 is now available on our [website](#).

Table Top program

SASY's band of adventurers have entered the battlefield in the Table Top program, a new initiative for 2023. This has seen young people engage in The Pokémon Trading Card Game, and HeroQuest, both on-site at SASY and out in the community at GoodGames Adelaide. It has been awesome to see the crew grow in confidence, both in their knowledge of the games, and their ability to work in a team environment.

Both of these games have been popular, with young people having the opportunity to build their own decks, dungeon master quests, and teach others how to play. There has been a fantastic, positive atmosphere within these sessions, and they have been filled with creativity and laughter.

Next Term, the focus moves to Warhammer, where once again there will be the chance to be part of the wider gaming community, in addition, to building strong connections amongst SASY's young people.

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY HARVEY,
TEAM LEADER



Anime Culture program

Anime Culture is a program that aims to explore Japanese culture and more specifically, anime, a hand-drawn and computer generated animation style originating in Japan. Students implement drawing and animation skills both on paper and digitally, as well as research the history and culture of this iconic art style and familiarise themselves with Japanese language and traditions.

Recently students went for a walk to Breadtop Bakery for a cross-cultural food experience. Breadtop offers a unique Japanese experience in their products and service style. Some of the traditional baked options students tried were the Red Bean Bun, Takoyaki Bun, Tuna and Corn Bun, and the Purple Sweet Potato Cake.

Students have begun researching anime characters and next Term will design their own using a variety of art media and will build personal profiles of their characters in Japanese.

Magic program



This term we introduced the Magic program to the middle school years. Students were able to bend spoons, do card tricks and make pens go rubbery. Joel had an amazing array of tricks, particularly using a deck of cards.

To this day we have no idea how he did the trick that was accompanied by a story! Hope introduced a new trick to the group who were stunned at her skills. Scarlett, Alyssa, Abi and Ed were very creative when using a range of materials to make magical designs. Nash and Will tried their best at creating magical potions and Will did his best to make his air pods disappear but further practice is required as we kept seeing where they went...

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY AL,
TEACHER

Pixel program

Back for a second year, the Pixel program is stronger than ever!

Some highlights this Term included the continuation of the Pixel magazine, where young people review games and develop literacy skills contributing to magazine made by students, for students. There's been the introduction of 'Pixel - We Build' where students are currently building 8 mini arcade machines with the aim for each Hub to house two each for student (and staff!) use! There is of course, 'Pixel - We Play' with rotating and new games for students and staff to play together and provide opportunities to socialise, engage in healthy competition and build rapport. This activity is also a healthy emotional regulation tool and provides young people with a chance to relax and focus on something fun and non-strenuous.

In addition to the in-house activities, Pixel also connected with members of the community to expand students' understanding of gaming and design and see real life examples of the industry and what it can look like. Pixel attended Games Plus, a collaborative workspace for game developers and related specialist technology start-ups. The students participated in a programming and coding workshop. The program also visited the Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) where students learnt about career and study pathways for gaming, design and coding and got to test games made by AIE students. Lastly but certainly not least, SASY students and parents/carers attended an immersive multi-instrumental performance that showed students another career pathway in the digi-arts sector.

We can't wait for what next Term brings!



EXCURSION TO ACADEMY OF INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT (AIE)

PHOTOS BY SOFIANN,
YOUTH WORKER

SASY Leavers Ceremony

SASY celebrated our 2022 school leavers in a special and intimate ceremony on Wednesday 22nd of March at the Adelaide Town Hall. Last year SASY had it's highest number of SACE graduates ever with 7 young people completing their SACE, with 100% of graduates transitioning into further study or work pathways!

We also had 37 students leave SASY to pursue further study and/or work pathways, which is an equally amazing achievement and one we applaud! We know that everyone's path is different, and at SASY we celebrate the individual. Congratulations to our 2022 leavers, we are so proud of each and every one of you.



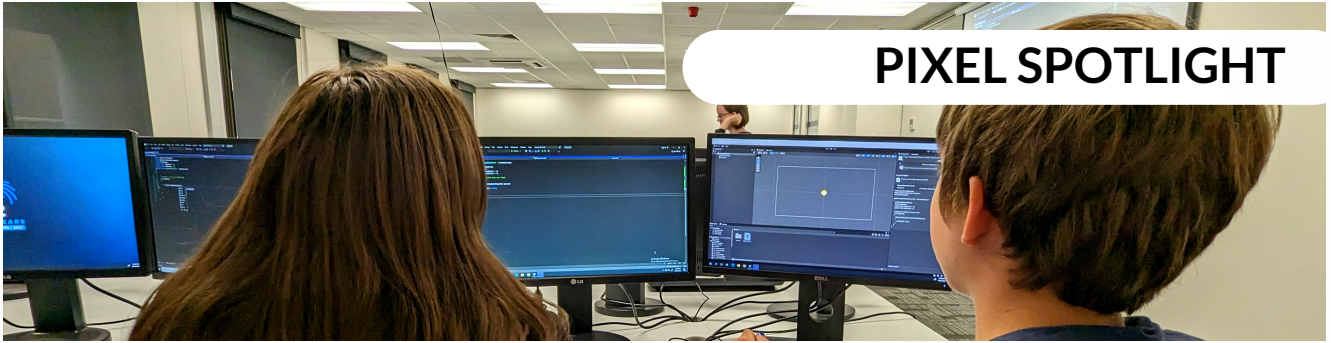
THREE OF OUR LEAVERS,
L TO R - LACHLAN, ALEX & SHAYLEE



SENIOR TEACHER TOM AWARDING CERTIFICATES

School holiday open hours

For students in need of support during holidays SASY has staffed open hours - 10am-2pm on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th, Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th of April. Term 2 starts Tuesday 2nd May.



PIXEL SPOTLIGHT

