Specialised Assistance School for Youth (SASY)

The SASY Scoop

Issue No. 17 | Term 2 June 2024



Floristry! Our young people are learning a new skill, being creative, connecting with one another and regulating their emotions. Busying yourself with hands on, repetitive and creative work can help clear your mind and calm your nervous system. Since we don't have a garden at SASY, we brought the garden to us! Student work pictured.

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Cookie!

Our beloved student support dog Cookie was treated to a very special photo shoot by our Year 12 Photography class.

Cookie is affectionally known in the Empower Hub as their "favourite SASY student" and while he is usually in attendance as an assistant dog, he often doubles as a model in Photography classes!

Shot by Year 12 student Izzy.



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<mark>A note fr</mark>om the Editor

Hello SASY Community,

As we come to the end of Semester 1, I want to reflect on the amazing things that our young people have achieved. Success looks different for every young person at SASY; for some it can be completing a project, whilst for others it can be simply going on an excursion for the first time or connecting with someone new.

As SASY continues to grow and evolve, so does our staffing. As the creator and Editor of The SASY Scoop for the past 4 years, I have found it incredibly rewarding to publicise and report on all things SASY. However, I am handing the reigns over to someone most of you will recognise and know; someone who has experienced SASY as both a student and a staff member! Our beloved Receptionist Sunny has moved into a new role as Marketing Assistant and will be taking over as Editor from Term 3 onwards!

As I leave you in her capable hands, I want to thank you all for your passion, generosity and devotion to our young people. They truly are at the heart of everything we do here at SASY, and to have a community who shares this belief makes this school a truly special place to be.

And now without much further ado, a message from your new Editor, Sunny.

"Hello!

Sunny here, your new Editor!

I am excited to introduce myself as SASY's Marketing Assistant! I will be stepping away from my front desk Receptionist role and I'm on to new and exciting things! In saying that, a bit about me...

Many know that I was once a SASY student now 9 years ago. Coming from a crazy family, accompanied by the usual teenage woes, family breakdowns and a tiny touch of trauma (because how else would I have got my humour?!), I found myself at SASY. From that moment I've never felt more understood or welcomed. It took me a little time to attend, but I got there eventually!

I found myself starting a Cert II in Retail Make Up & Skincare, and while that was fun, I had no idea where I was going in life. Until.... SASY offered me a position in administration! An opportunity I'll forever be grateful for. With that I started my traineeship and at the end of 2020 I completed my traineeship with a Cert III in Business! It has been amazing to watch the young people grow, and for some, I have been a part of their journey from day one! Although I am only changing desks, I feel a part of me is also getting left behind; bittersweet if I may say.

As I move into a new position that ticks all the boxes and allows me to do the things I love to do, I want to thank you all for my time in Reception. I have got to know most of the students and their families over the years and it has been a privilege to play a part in your time here at SASY."

It has been a fantastic semester, and this newsletter is just the tip of the iceberg of achievements by our students! Happy reading everyone.

Kelly Chambers | Head of Business Development

Pride Day at SASY

Pride Month is observed every year in the month of June and celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community worldwide.

SASY celebrated Pride Day on the last day of June and it was an important day to reflect on the history of stigma and discrimination that this community has faced, whilst also learning about and celebrating the importance of inclusion, diversity and representation.

All young people are welcome and safe here at SASY, today and always. If you want to learn more about Pride Month and the LGBTQIA+ community, <u>visit Minus18</u>.



PRIDE DAY CRAFTS IN EMPOWER HUB



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CONNECT HUB



It's the end of Semester One already!

Meeting Connect families at the start of the year was a highlight and engagement in Individual Learning, wellbeing activities and programs have been significant achievements too.

As a Hub we have installed a new celebration wall 'Mukamukarrinthi' to recognise student achievements and are in the process of developing a Hub brand and 'Connect Blueprint' to represent all that is Connect, which is led by the young people.

We've welcomed staff into Connect throughout the semester; shoutout to Mel, Bel and Holly who have joined us and to Dylan and Jade who transitioned to Inspire from Connect.

Some student highlights include:

- Sreya has worked hard all term and is writing a story.
- Marlie is producing a unique Tech Deck skateboard park.
- Lee is working on his poetry.
- Hunter F is creating and producing music on his laptop.

- Will is working hard on his EIF.
- Damien and Hunter W have enjoyed the challenges of Bouldering.
- Emme continues to engage in music and art.
- Jordan H and Cyrus regularly participate in games in the hub.
- TJ and Riley are working hard in Bike Kitchen, particularly with mechanics.
- Lily is working on a range of digital art projects.
- Corey and Heidi are creating artistic images in E-Clarity.
- Sophie's drawings for Pictionary have been detailed and easily interpreted.
- Zie has made the state team for Roller Derby.
- Kye is looking forward to demonstrating his riding skills on the MTB track next term.
- Skyler has been attending more and has discussed their passion of ice skating in 'You Can't Ask That.'
- Caitlin's work in Humans Being Human has been excellent.
- Sage's work in their VET course has been of a very high standard.

- Lizzie likes to draw anatomically correct pictures of the body.
- Alyssa is making great progress in literacy activities within the hub.
- Josh L has been looking at some world issues in Eras Tour.
- Blake continues to make substantial progress in Ice Factor.
- Lawyer and Laurence have both been selected to represent an external team for a competition in Darwin later this year.
- Jai has set up his own business which has been very successful.
- Nash has participated in a range of different programs throughout the term and is completing an interesting PowerPoint on the life of JFK.
- LJ was seen heading to Skate and Create and from all accounts is very skilful on the skateboard.
- Tyler and Lachlan engaged in the space.

We look forward to Semester 2!





INSPIRING THE WAY....

Term 2 has come and gone with many successes celebrated throughout the 10 weeks.

With an entire new Leadership Triangle implemented throughout the Term along with returning Youth Workers and some new Teaching staff, Inspire young people have welcomed us all with open arms. New change is exciting and brings new ideas via new eyes. We have seen some implementations taking place, with further new ideas to come forward in Term 3.

We also farewelled our Senior Teacher Grace who is heading off for her Maternity Leave. We look forward to Grace returning to our little Inspire family and showing off her baby!

With the wide array of programs available in the Middle School Rhythm, the young people have had great opportunities to explore, try new things and get out of their comfort zone. This included camps, both local and interstate, and weekly Adventure outings also allowing young people to engage in Tree Climb, rock climbing and abseiling to name only a few.

Many of our young people have shown initiative to seek part time work and staff have assisted with looking at pathways, writing resumes, obtaining USI numbers and Tax File Numbers. One of our young people Joshua G, was offered an opportunity to conduct work experience at Reece Plumbing. As a result of his success and eagerness, Joshua has now been offered a Student Based Traineeship with Reece. Great news indeed!

Other young people have participated in courses varying from trade backgrounds to Barista Courses, VET Volunteering and Welding courses, First Aid and White Card courses.

Within the Hub, we have seen great success with young people working diligently on their Literacy and Numeracy. Some even have scaffolded their learning to the point that they have begun their Senior School Maths work which is really exciting as well!

Young people have worked exceptionally with staff and stakeholders throughout the Term and the relationships formed have provided an excellent platform for Semester 2!

A quote from student Zoe, "..the vibe in Inspire. It's really chill and a good place to be. The other students are really respectful and staff are really caring and kind."

Bring on Semester 2 Inspire!







This term Adventure Program organised a four-day Senior School camp on the Limestone Coast and Middle School participated in a twonight High Ropes and Caving Camp. All the students benefitted from connecting with nature and each other while focussing on their health and wellbeing, exploring new experiences, and forming new friendships.

Middle School Adventurers began their exciting outdoor challenges with crate stacking with the goal to build the tallest tower possible without falling. It's a test of balance, teamwork, and strategy. Followed by the adrenaline rush of the Flying Fox and ending the day with the Giant Swing which involves the whole team pulling the student to great heights on a giant pendulum-like swing. Another camp activity was planned to encourage students to step out of their comfort zones and face their fears by crawling through unlit caves with the option to squeeze through quite challenging tight spaces. This intriguing underground opportunity was

achieved at Naracoorte Caves with a guide.

Senior students were concentrating on the accumulated skills gained over the Semester on the Wednesday day trips and putting into practice the experiences and knowledge formed over the past 10 weeks. Fundamental outdoor practices included setting up swags and the cooking area. They had to pack, unload, set up, pack down and pack again each day. Students learned to work together, communicate effectively, and solve problems as a team.

There were a variety of activities achieved in the three locations - Robe, Mount Gambier and Naracoorte. Accumulated camping skills go beyond just knowing how to put up a swag - it also included resilience, adaptability, and a sense of wonder. And let's face it, the Limestone Coast is absolutely stunning! Camps can be incredibly valuable for personal growth whilst simultaneously prioritising well-being and safe spaces for students at all times. This provides students with a sense of belonging and encourages the development of skills in a supportive environment, that can help them face challenges beyond SASY.

If you think this sounds like something you or your young person would be interested in, then join us in the Adventure program!

Come on an Adventure! Middle school - Tues Senior school - Wed

Bouldering program

SASY is excited to highlight the achievements of our school Bouldering program, in which students have not only learnt climbing skills but also enhanced their resilience and social skills.

This engaging program provides a dynamic environment for students to challenge themselves physically and mentally, fostering a sense of camaraderie and teamwork. As they navigate the climbing walls, participants build confidence, perseverance, and strong peer connections. They learn to overcome fear and anxiety and channel these feelings into movement, growing to trust in themselves and their bodies.

Our bouldering initiative continues to inspire and empower students, demonstrating that with dedication and support, they can conquer both physical and social obstacles.



TOP & BOTTOM: BOULDERING EXCURSIONS TERM 2 WORDS BY BRETT, SENIOR YOUTH WORKER

The SASY Assassins

What an amazing term for the Ice Factor crew, The SASY Assassins! Aptly named for their cleanup at the end of Term! With a rocky start and a player down due to a broken arm, they prevailed and were the under dogs of the season, winning 4/4 games and becoming the winners of Division 2 in their last tournament of the Term!

Massive congratulations to the young people involved and a big shout out to Gianni and Louise for their time and effort in standing side by side with the SASY Assassins! Bring on Term 3!

Reconciliation Week

Reflecting back on a particularly jam-packed Reconciliation Week at SASY, our young people and staff spent a lot of time meaningfully connecting with the culture, achievements and history of First Nations people.

It is vital that we all continue to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, history, community and language. At SASY, we believe it is our duty to educate the next generation on the context of our country and its not-so-distant history of racism and oppression, whilst providing them with the skills and confidence to challenge racism, build safety, create meaningful change and champion equality and equity in the spaces they're in.

The journey to reconciliation is long, but one that SASY is committed to taking, side by side with our young people.

More photos here.



WHOLE-SCHOOL SMOKING CEREMONY & YIDAKI PERFORMANCE BY ROBERT TAYLOR













