

THE SASY SCOOP

Specialised Assistance School for Youth (SASY) | Term 4 Newsletter



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By David Wild

To our SASY family,

What a year 2021 has been! It was definitely another year of twists and turns that I believe SASY used for good through our collective learning, growth and reflection. It has been a wonderful year, with many highlights, and I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing connection to SASY.

I continue to be impressed by the ability of our students, staff and community to be adaptive, agile and supportive no matter the circumstance. Seeing SASY staff supporting students' growth, and hearing first-hand from students how the SASY environment helps have been highlights for me.

We are very proud to be reporting that 26 of SASY's 2021 students are moving on to positive engagement in further work or study! We wish them all the very best.

2021 has been a year of growth, change and innovation for SASY. Reflecting on the year our highlights include;

- The recent completion of our fourth building on Chesser St
- Formulation of the school's first sports team the SASY Assassins

- Recruitment of 10 new staff
- Launch of SASY's 'Make It Sell It' program, which is a student-led business named Surreal Harmony
- Enrolment of over 50 new students
- New student programs offered during 'Wellbeing Wednesdays'
- The implementation of student Hub groups
- Development of industry partnerships and philanthropic donations
- Introduction of our Outreach Service
- Introduction of SASY parent workshops
- Our first SASY Training event for staff from mainstream schools
- Launch of our student podcast 'Puff'n'Pass' to public streaming platforms

Looking forward to 2022 we will be working under our newly documented operating model The SASY Way, opening our fourth building, hosting more Parent Nights, starting our Alumni Program, growing our music and adventure programs, the building of an onsite kitchen and fitness gym, plus more! Stay posted as news comes to hand, and we look forward to staying connected, there are great things to come.

I wish you a wonderful and safe festive season, see you in 2022.

Market success

by Teacher, Jo

Surreal Harmony had the opportunity to participate in the Ebenezer Night Markets on the 4th of December this year. Emma, Jemma and Lola were key participants in the creation of products and selling these products to customers. These young people were instrumental in the success of the stall, and were a credit to SASY and themselves.

It was impressive listening to the conversations they struck up with customers, answering >

questions about the products, SASY, and themselves as artists and makers.

The market experience was the culmination of the 12 month SACE program Make it/Sell it. At the market, these students had the opportunity to put into practice the business skills they had learned and display their real-world learnings.

Surreal Harmony also featured their stall at the Chesser Street Food Festival in November. This provided our students with practice in customer service and money handling prior to their upcoming Ebenezer Night Markets event and the stall was really successful! Sashi, from Gaja by Sashi restaurant was kind enough to involve our students in this event and it was a fantastic day of food, arts and festivities.

Our students have exceeded expectations this year and it has been a pleasure to watch Surreal Harmony blossom and gain a following. Keep up with them at @surrealharmonyofficial



EBENEZER NIGHT MARKETS DEC 2021



Christmas lunch

Celebrating the year with staff and students

On the last day of Term 4, staff and students got together to celebrate the year and the beginning of the festive season. This is the second time SASY has celebrated Christmas as a whole community and it was a great way to connect and spend time with one another before the school holidays began.

Staff prepared a traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, and there were games, bonbons, gingerbread houses and of course, presents!



Santa Claus
IS COMING TO
TOWN
SASY!

TOP LEFT & CLOCKWISE: GRACE PLAYS SANTA, SASY CHRISTMAS COOKIES, GROUP LUNCH IN EMPOWER HUB AND OUR LITTLE CHRISTMAS TREE!

Giving back

Fundraising for our community

Our staff are passionate about giving back to not only the students at SASY, but to our community as a whole, and many of the issues experienced at school stem from issues experienced outside of the classroom.

During November, one of SASY's Teachers Harry participated in Movember and shaved his beard off with the help of staff in Chesser Street! He surpassed his fundraising goal and raised \$607 in support of men's health.

At the end of Term, staff have once again donated to Food for Change to help give people in need access to food over the festive season.

A hub of activity

An overview of Term 4 in our four Hubs

Term 4 has been jam packed with activities and exciting news! Some of the highlights include:

- Five new staff who joined our team
- Our ice hockey team 'The SASY Assassins' coming a tied 3rd place in the tournament
- Student podcast 'Puff n Pass' publicly launched and available on major streaming platforms such as Spotify
- Students graduating Year 12
- Forming a Reconciliation Action Plan committee and formalising SASY's commitment to reconciliation
- Formalising SASY's new, holistic approach to learning and wellbeing named 'The SASY Way'
- 29 Chesser Street approaching completion
- SASY first ever 'Thank You' Breakfast for stakeholders
- Launch of the SASY Alumni Program

And of course, this wasn't even everything our staff and students got up to!



Skating through school

by Teacher, Grace

It was another very successful and big term for the SASY Assassins, our resident Ice Hockey team.

Alia, Ash, and Bianca got to model clothes from Ryderware and O.R.T.C in the Ice Factor Spectacular at Adelaide Oval. It was a wonderful event, and it was amazing to see our young people steal the show on the catwalk. Altogether the evening raised over \$9000 towards the Ice Factor program. As a thank you for participating, all three student have or will receive their very own pair of Ice Hockey Skates from Power Play Sports.

We also created the design for our new Assassin's logo, which was a joint effort from team members and staff.

In Week 8, the same students participated in the Term 4 tournament. We again joined with Wirrenda Wolfpack, and our joined efforts led to the Assassins / Wolfpack coming in a tied third place!

A brilliant effort for young people so new to the sport. A massive congratulations is in order to Ash, Alia, and Bianca for their efforts this term, and for the dedication, resilience, and teamwork they've demonstrated and developed this term.

The Ice Hockey program will be returning In 2022 and students are encouraged to come and try and The SASY Assassins are always looking for more team members!

A note for 2022

Some of our plans for the new year

As we enter another school year, we have many exciting new developments to share with our community! This of course includes the return of our current students and staff, as well as the addition of 50 new students and 8 new staff starting in Term 1.

We are also opening the newly refurbished 29 Chesser Street building which will house our Wellbeing Centre as well as classrooms and the Connect Hub, the rollout of our improved project based learning program and adoption of our holistic pedagogical framework, aptly named "The SASY Way."

Due to the ongoing uncertainty that COVID-19 brings, our school continues to undertake all direction from SA Health and the safety of our students, staff and wider community remains our top priority. As we return in Term 1, covid-level cleaning will continue to occur across all sites, our staff are all fully-vaccinated, physical distancing will be enforced when appropriate and external visitors are reduced to minimise exposure. Students are encouraged to seek information regarding the virus and vaccinations from medical professionals and staff are available to accompany any students to appointments when required.

Date/s for re-opening the school will be confirmed soon upon advice from SA Health, however all group activities such as excursions and whole-school assemblies have been postponed at this time. SASY will communicate with all students and parents/carers prior to the start of Term 1. Stay safe and we will get through this together!