Specialised Assistance School for Youth (SASY)

# The SASY Scoop

Issue No. 12 | Term 4 Dec 2022



SASY collaborated with Operation Flinders, Culturise and YouthInc to deliver an immersive event that reimagines employment pathways for young people, aptly named WTFuture? Held at Adelaide Showgrounds on November 17th 2022, our young people participated in multiple programs including featuring on the Adelaide Set podcast with What's Your Voyage.

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### SASYxTABOO

TABOO is a South-Aussie social enterprise that sells period products whilst advocating for menstrual health care and education world-wide, with profits contributing to ending period poverty. TABOO recently collaborated with SASY young people on a video to break the stigma of periods in schools and amongst youth. SASY is yet to publicly launch this video, but celebrated with our staff and students in Nov.



### A note from the CE

Hello SASY community,

Just like that, we are at the end of another successful year at SASY! I thank all the parents, carers, students and staff for being part of our community.

2022 was another challenging year due to COVID-19, however despite the obstacles that the global pandemic presented our community demonstrated adaptability, flexibility, initiative and compassion. Thank you.

This year the school has grown to 200+ students, employed 19 new staff, opened our newly refurbished 4th building, began our student meals program, and opened an onsite gym. It was also the year that SASY began consolidating our unique operating model, naming it the 'The SASY Way' which includes our holistic learning, trauma informed practice, inclusion, and restorative practices.

Additional highlights of the year include:

- 7 students graduated SACE Stage 2 Year 12 (the highest ever!)
- First SASY camps as part of the Adventure Programs
- Student market stalls
- First FUSE Cup video game tournament
- First SASY Showcase and SALA exhibition
- SASY ice hockey team winning the Spirit Cup
- Began onsite services with a job network provider and a nurse

SASY will again be open for a number of days during the Christmas holidays for young people to drop in as required between 10am and 3pm. These days are:

- Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd December 2022
- Tuesday 3rd, Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th January 2023
- Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th January 2023
- Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th January 2023

Other key dates can be <u>found here</u>. I want to take this time to particularly thank all the SASY staff that make our school what it is. Their tireless and heart filled approach makes the environment a safe and supportive space for students to be.

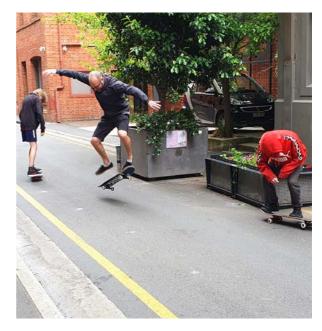
We wish you a wonderful and safe festive season and we look forward to 2023 and beyond!

A SPOT OF CHRISTMAS CRICKET

## Eat and be merry!

On the last Wednesday of term, SASY staff and students celebrated the festive season with a group lunch in the East Terrace Glover Playground. There were presents, a SASY Elf (Sally), games and of course, a big lunch with all the trimmings!

This is the third time SASY has celebrated Christmas as a whole community and it was a great way to connect with one another before the holidays began. There were too many good photos to share, so there's a collage on page <u>seven!</u>



CE DAVID SKATING ON CHESSER ST

Sincerely, David Wild | Chief Executive



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As a Hub this year, Inspire has had an everchanging journey, with many challenges and achievements along the way. The staff and young people of Inspire have demonstrated high levels of resilience, perseverance and, flexibility this year.

Inspire tackled COVID-19, staff reshuffles, and moving to a temporary location while upstairs 30 Chesser is being renovated, as well as the personal challenges our young people have faced. Amongst those challenges however, were many highlights.

12 young people have moved on to senior Hubs, and we wish them all the best for 2023 and beyond! Inspire has had the opportunity to go surfing, skateboarding, raft building, to escape rooms, Hahndorf Farm Barn, and many more places.

New friendships were formed, new experiences were created, and new skills were learnt.

We will never be able to include all successes every young person has accomplished this year, but we are going to try!

Inspire young people achieved success in sports, ranging from Ice Hockey to Softball, including winning the school's first ever sports trophy. Our young people started jobs and were accepted into training courses. Young people won cup art competitions, sold and displayed their artworks at SASY's very first SALA exhibition, and displayed their art at the SASY Showcase.

Some of our young people were involved in the school's first ever camp. They got to mountain bike, kayak, and introduced Inspire to their first-class pet, Butters the dog. Our young people have explored new creative mediums and seen their Lego skills in particular, flourish.

Skateboarding has continued to be an integral part of the Inspire experience.





YOUNG PEOPLE IN SKATEBOARDING & ADVENTURE PROGRAMS

Our young people built their own skateboards, and then spent the latter half of the year learning tricks with Free Mind Skate School.

Inspire wishes all the young people moving into senior Hubs or alternative pathways all the very best of luck! And we look forward to continuing to build relationships with new and current Inspire young people for 2023, along with all the exciting opportunities it will bring.

> WORDS AND PHOTOS BY NATHAN, TEAM LEADER & GRACE, SENIOR TEACHER







ADVENTURE & PIN CUSHION PROGRAMS

Ignite students had a hard start to the year with Covid isolations and staff needing to work from home and skeleton staffing onsite. Once we were all back at school, things looked up for our Hub!

This year we had so many great programs like Dig, where students learnt about plants and growing herbs and vegetables. Other programs included Pin Cushion where students created and sewed outfits and bucket hats and SASY Rollers, where students had fun at St Clair recreation centre, roller skating and exercising. We also had Design This Space where students designed how they would like the Ignite space to look.

Some of the achievements this Semester were the Operation Flinders trip, Pride Month celebrations and the Pixel Tournament which included another Special Assistance school, Youth Inc. Photography started in Term 4 and seems to be producing some incredibly talented students and impressive work. Ignite students also attended had the What the future Expo and had Pro Activ employment service starting to work with our students to support them finding employment opportunities. Music with Paige and Mario was a tremendous hit with some students creating songs and music.

The launch event of the Puff n' Pass podcast, in collaboration with Adelaide City Council and Connected Self was an amazing event and a great opportunity for students to celebrate the success of this podcast. This podcast, as mentioned in previous newsletters, is now available on Spotify and Apple Music. Season 2 will be available for streaming soon!

There was an overnight camp to Second valley as part of the adventure program, where students went fishing and shared stories and had fun. It was one of our first camps as a school and it was a big hit with staff and students. Over 20 students completed their numeracy this semester which is a huge positive! One student completed their Stage 2 SACE Research Project by working in the Labs n Life program which was a great example of providing learning opportunities to suit the individual. 5 of our students also gained employment this year!

The year was very successful with many new friendships formed between students and with supportive professional relationships formed between staff and students.

> WORDS AND PHOTOS BY EMMA, TEAM LEADER

### **Connect Hub**

Connect had a big year! One of growth and success with new programs, new students and new staff.

The Showcase in Semester 2 was a major success, with many students submitting their art and putting it on display. It was fantastic to see so many young people and parents/carers come along to see our spaces and our exhibit. There has been massive uptake in the Adventure Program this year, with key trips such as stand up paddleboarding, snorkelling, raft building, surfing, crate stacking at Mylor and kayaking to name a few! The Tokyo Drift STEM program was introduced, where students and staff built and raced remote control cars as well as CO2 Dragsters, where students designed and made drag cars. Midnight Ramen was launched, a creative art based program focussing on team work and collaboration and Humans Being Humans, an interactive program looking at the human body, relationships and behaviours. This particular program had high levels of student attendance and input and was an enriching experience for staff and students alike. We can't wait to see what 2023 has in store for Connect and wish you all the best over the break!



MIDNIGHT RAMEN & ADVENTURE PROGRAM



### **Empower Hub**

Just like all the Hubs, Empower had a busy year jam packed with programs, SACE and everything in between.

Firstly, we want to shout out the 7 SACE Graduates this year - Emmanuel, Oliver, Lia, Alex, Aaron, Shaylee and Khan. What an amazing achievement! We are all so proud of you and can't wait to see what you all do next.

After completing SACE, Empower student Khan received acceptance into the Academy of Interactive Entertainment to study a Diploma in Game Design and Production. Khan and other students at SASY participated in AIE short courses during Semester 2 this year.

Other highlights include the Science excursions to UniSA's Planetarium in Mawson Lakes and our Fork n Food cooking program which supported students to plan and prepare meals to then share as a class. Thanks to Disney, IP Publicity and the Adelaide Festival Centre, students in Literacy Masterclass got to attend 'Frozen the Musical' and '9 to 5 the Musical' at Festival Theatre for their English live performance review and analysis.

Throughout Semester 2, the First Responders project crew undertook a series of activities that investigated safety, health, and the community. Our young people interviewed a paramedic, completed their Mental Health First Aid certificates, became familiar with SASY safety protocols, and ultimately attained their Senior First Aid certificate.

Our young people also attended Street Smart High, an event that highlights the aftermath of car accidents and promotes road safety. Within the project, the young people engaged in literacy tasks such as writing safety procedures and understanding how to respond in an emergency, as well as numeracy concepts such as ratio with CPR and time in relation to treating burns. The young people said they enjoyed the experience and were happy to complete the project which not only helped them become aware community members, but also provided them with a handy addition to their resume.

It's been a huge year for our Hub and we are ready to rest and recharge, returning in 2023 to empower our young people to achieve their goals!

WORDS BY EMPOWER HUB



WORDS AND PHOTOS BY JODIE, TEAM LEADER



### The FUSE Cup

On the 2nd of November the SASY Middle School competed in its very first official eSports tournament, The FUSE Cup. The FUSE Cup is a League that focuses on Years 5 to 10 and has both online and live events for schools across Australia and Asia.

The FUSE Cup uses the Nintendo Switch as its platform, and they have regular tournaments for a variety of different games throughout the year. For this tournament the video game chosen was Mario Kart 8 Deluxe. SASY along with other schools such as CBC in Adelaide and Emmanuel College on the Gold Coast went head to head with hopes of winning the prizes of medals, gaming chairs and keyboards.

The tournament was online via teams and ran from 10.30am to 1.30pm. Each school had 2 to 4 teams playing in 4 heats, with the team that finished 1st in each heat playing in Semi Finals proceeded by a final. Our young people had an amazing time representing SASY via webcam and have said that they would be interested in the live event being organised at Pultney Grammar School in Adelaide next year. It was a great day and we're excited to see how the program grows in the future.







ADVENTURE PROGRAM WITH OPERATION FLINDERS

### Looking ahead to 2023

As we head into festive season, we wish everyone a restful and recharging break with your family and friends. Looking ahead to next year, there are some key dates for our students and parents/carers. These dates have also been communicated in a letter sent home.

School Holidays 2022-2023 Sat 17 Dec 2022-Sun 5 February 2023

#### Term 1 dates

Pupil free day - Mon 6 Feb Student induction (new 2023 students <u>only</u>) - Mon 6 Feb Term 1 starts - Tues 7 Feb Term 1 ends - Thurs 13 April School holidays - Fri 14 April-Mon 1 May

#### **Term 2 dates** Pupil free day – Mon 1 May Term 2 starts – Tues 2 May School holidays – Fri 7 July-Mon 24 July

**Term 3 dates** Pupil free day – Mon 24 July Term 3 starts – Tues 25 July School holidays – Fri 29 Sep-Mon 16 Oct

**Term 4 dates** Pupil free day – Mon 16 Oct Term 4 starts – Tues 17 Oct School holidays begin – Fri 15 Dec



WORDS AND PHOTOS BY CURTIS, TEACHER IN INSPIRE















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#### **TERM 4 SNAPS**

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