

# The SASY Scoop

---

	Issue No. 16   Term 4 Dec 2023	
--	--------------------------------	--

---



Our bi-annual SASY Showcase in Term 4 was a vibrant celebration of the growth and accomplishments of students involved in various programs and individual learning this past semester. The week-long event highlighted the diverse talents, interest and achievements of our cohort. Members of the public had an opportunity to immerse themselves in our school and experience what makes SASY different, through the eyes of our young people. A truly special celebration of our incredible students!

---

## In this issue

### page two

- A note from the CE
- A very SASY Christmas!

### page three - Inspire Hub

### page four - Connect Hub

### page five - Empower Hub

### page six - Ignite Hub

### page seven

- Looking to the future of SASY
- 100 Bucks 'N' Running

### page eight

- SASY Assassins Term 4
- Long Tan Award

### page nine - Photos

## Open hours 2023/24

For those who need support during the school holiday period between December 2023 and January 2024, we are staffed and open for young people on the following dates between 10am-3pm:

### 2023

Tues 19/12, Wed 20/12 & Thurs 21/12

### 2024

Tues 2/1, Wed 3/1 & Thurs 4/1

Tues 9/1, Wed 10/1 & Thurs 11/1

Tues 16/1, Wed 17/1 & Thurs 18/1



---

## A note from the CE

Hello SASY Community,

As we come to the end of another school year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude and appreciation for all of your hard work and dedication. This has been an exceptional year, and I am proud of everything that we have accomplished together.

First and foremost, I want to thank the students for their hard work and commitment to their education and personal wellbeing. Your achievements this year have been outstanding, and I am confident that you will continue to excel in the years to come.

I also want to thank the staff for their tireless efforts to provide quality support and education to SASY's students. Your dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed, and I am grateful for everything that you do.

To the SASY Board members, thank you for your guidance and support throughout the year. Your leadership has been invaluable, and I appreciate the time and effort that you have put into making our school a success.

I would also like to thank the parents and carers for their support of the school and their young people, including being involved in the numerous parent/carer nights we have held. Your contributions have been instrumental to many young people's success, we are grateful for your partnership, and look forward to continuing to collaborate next year.

Finally, I want to recognise the contributions of our stakeholders, including community members, local businesses, and people who have donated their time or resources. Your support has been critical to our success, and we are grateful for your commitment to SASY.

This year, we have worked hard to connect with each other and build a strong sense of community. We have come together to celebrate our successes, build our capacity, and support each other through challenges. Our school is defined by the character of our students and staff, and we are proud of the culture that we have created together.

As some of you may know, I will be leaving my role as Chief Executive of SASY early in 2024. I have accepted a new role in Victoria, where together with my family in tow, I will be taking on a new challenge within the

>

regional health sector. I want to express my appreciation for the opportunity to work with such a great team, and I am confident that the school will continue to thrive in the years to come.

As you read and enjoy this newsletter, please note that there are many fantastic highlights to celebrate, therefore the content in these pages is just the tip of the iceberg of what has been a great year.

Thank you again for a wonderful year, and I wish you all the best for the future.

Sincerely,  
David Wild | Chief Executive

## A very SASY Christmas!

On the last Wednesday of term, SASY staff and students celebrated the festive season with a group lunch at Thorndon Park. There were presents, games, a big lunch with all the trimmings and even a special visit from Santa!

This is the fourth time SASY has celebrated Christmas as a whole community and it was a great way to connect with one another before the holidays began. Thanks to everyone who worked tirelessly on making this event special and meaningful for our young people. Our community are what makes SASY so great, and we can't do what we do, without all of you!





# INSPIRE HUB



What a year it has been for Inspire!

We have had new students start in Inspire and have had staff from all 3 Hubs help support Inspire young people - it has been a year of change! However, we have continued to support and grow young people towards their learning and wellbeing goals, and we have been prepping those Middle School young people who will be moving over to Senior School for 2024.

Some highlights from the year are:

- Welcoming Inspire's new Youth Worker Jess who has quickly formed lasting young people relationships as well as becoming a valued member of the SASY community.
- The whole school RUOK Day in partnership with Bike SA. It was great to see young people connect with peers they usually wouldn't as well as strengthening their current peer connections.

- Reconciliation Week / NAIDOC Week with seeing young people being immersed in First Nations culture, history and deep appreciation for land, sea and community.
- And last but not least, SHOWCASE! What an amazing event that occurs twice a year at SASY! An event where young people get the opportunity to showcase their hard work throughout the year in a public exhibition.

On a personal note, it is my last year in Inspire as Team Leader (for now) before I move to the position of Team Leader of Connect for 2024. I wanted to take the time to thank the young people of Inspire for making my time memorable as well as feeling vulnerable enough to share with me your journeys and stories.

I also want to thank the amazing Inspire staff for helping make Inspire the team it is today, it has been a

L : LAWN BOWLS IN ALT SPORTS  
R: SCULPTURE DURING FREE-TIME

pleasure to also share with you in your stories and journeys and I wish you all the best for the Hubs you're in for 2024.

I want to make one last special mention to all the Middle School Young People who are moving to Senior School for 2024. Inspire wishes you all the best in this exciting chapter at SASY. We have every faith that you'll continue on the hard work that you've been making towards your wellbeing and learning throughout your time in Senior School.

Enjoy your holidays and we'll see you all again in 2024, with a new Inspire Hub team to boot!

WORDS BY NATHAN  
TEAM LEADER IN INSPIRE







## CONNECT HUB

Wow, what a massive year for the Connect crew, one filled with constant growth and countless highlights.

Looking back to this January, it is incredible to reflect on how far we have come as a team.

Connect is the starting place for many young people who come to SASY and the beginning of what we hope will be an exciting journey. It is a privilege to be a part of the team which welcomes young people into this special place where we work to build connections, develop confidence, and create lasting memories.

In 2023, this has included large scale events, such as the middle school Adventure Kangaroo Island camp, the Special Assistance School (SAS) Network eSports day, SASY Showcase exhibitions, and a significant increase in young person engagement in SASY's varied and tailored 'inLAB' learning programs.

It has also consisted of achievements which may feel smaller, but are just as important. These are the smiles, the laughs, the games of UNO, the amazing individual artworks, and the daily interactions which all help to build the supportive atmosphere which is at the heart of what makes SASY so special.

Well done to all involved, the Connect team and the wider SASY community are very proud of you. Enjoy your break, I hope it is positive, and we look forward to seeing you back at SASY in the new year.

L: CONNECT SHOWCASE  
R: ART THROUGH THE AGES PROGRAM

***"Connect is the starting place for many young people who come to SASY"***

WORDS BY HARVEY  
TEAM LEADER IN CONNECT



## EMPOWER HUB



2023 for Empower has been a year of many achievements, adventures and most importantly, lots of laughs.

This year has been one of change, with the Empower Hub settling in to building 29 after spending the last few years upstairs in building 30, which is now home to the students and staff of Connect and Inspire.

We welcomed many new staff and students into our Hub throughout the year and got to know some of the people who we would now consider our friends.

This year saw the introduction of many Stage 2 SACE subjects such as Photography, Physical AF, Research Project, Visual Arts and many more. The introduction of these programs into the Empower Hub gave students more opportunities to excel and further their SACE journey.

The Music program achieved a lot this year, with the programs band '8 Day

Reign' performing at multiple venues across Adelaide, including two performances at the Royal Adelaide Show. They also got the opportunity to record two of their covers at a professional recording studio!

The students involved in the Adventure program travelled far and wide, including locations such as Moana, Flinders Ranges and Port Augusta. These camps gave students the opportunity to exercise their teamwork, problem solving and life skills.

Many of our students successfully completed their compulsory SACE subjects including Literacy, Numeracy and Research Project. Empower also had many students complete their Barista course and RSA courses with flying colours.

One of the biggest highlights of the year was the SASY Formal in which all the senior students came together for a night to celebrate all of our



L: EMPOWER'S 'YIPPEE' SUCCESS WALL  
R: FILMING FOR SASY X STREETLINK VIDEO

collaborative achievements, eat delicious food and dance the night away.

2023 has been such a great year for the Empower Hub and we can't wait to see what the future holds for all the students and staff members. Thank you everyone for a lovely year!

WORDS BY EMPOWER YOUNG PEOPLE  
IMMI AND ASH





What a year 2023 has been for our Ignite young people! There have been so many incredible achievements I barely know where to begin.

Our students have done so many wonderful things, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Some highlights of the year include:

- 100% of SACE Visual Art students receiving passing SACE results with one student, Sarina Fry, winning the City of Salisbury Watershed Art Prize for a sculpture she created.
- 100% of all Music students receiving passing SACE results and the school band 'Eight Day Reign' performing at the Adelaide Show and SASY Showcase.
- Attending the Term 3 camp to the Eyre Peninsula where they worked with camels and other animals.

- Running the Dungeons and Dragons program.
- Building bikes and going for long rides in Bike Kitchen
- Dancing the night away at the SASY Formal in November.
- Having fun at the end of Term celebration at the bowling alley.

Just to name a few!

When reflecting on the year, the word I keep coming back to is 'bravery'. Bravery is a tricky idea to grasp and sometimes you may not even realise what you are doing is a brave thing.

Whether it has been pushing yourself outside your comfort zone to attend a program, jumping on a bus and going on camp 4 hours away or making the choice to ask for help, these are all acts of bravery. We have a lot of brave young people in Ignite, and it's been an absolute privilege to work with them this year.

L: IGNITE FORMAL COLLAGE  
R: SENIOR SCHOOL BOWLING EXCURSION

*"Our students have done so many wonderful things, both inside and outside of the classroom."*

WORDS BY ANDY  
TEAM LEADER IN IGNITE



## Looking to the future of SASY

As a Special Assistance School (SAS), SASY sits within an evolving and unique section of the education sector, as it is a non-government school with a specific categorisation (SAS). Thus, it is important for our leaders to keep their fingers on the pulse, remain visible and advocate for our school and SAS sector in Government and amongst change-makers.

Early in the Term, our C.E. David Wild visited Parliament House in Canberra to present at a forum of Principals, education experts and politicians to discuss the challenges faced by young people in education.

We also had two very important visits this Term from members of Government. The Honourable Blair Boyer MP, Minister for Education, Training and Skills visited SASY for a tour and to learn more about how SASY operates from staff and students. We also had Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia visit! It was exciting to share our school and show why SASY is so special, and why the SAS sector is so needed in South Australia.



TOP: FORUM ON 'SCHOOLS THAT RE-ENGAGE YOUNG PEOPLE' IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA  
BOTTOM: VISIT FROM THE GOVERNOR

## 100 Bucks 'N' Running

SASY has been participating in the '100 Bucks 'N' Running' event for the last 2 years and this year is no exception. A mixture of Middle School and Senior School young people have expressed their creativity and imagination in the collaborative art exhibition where their artwork has been displayed at Erb N Flo Cafe on Sturt Street in the city.

The premise of the show is all artists are given the same canvas with pre-stencilled outline and it is up to the artist to design it as they wish. Members of the public are then able to purchase the anonymous artwork at a base cost of \$100 which is then provided in full to the artist if sold. It has been spectacular to see the creativity and difference of expression between SASY young people and we can't wait to see what 2024 holds!



TOP: GROUP WORKING ON THEIR PIECES  
BOTTOM: A BLANK CANVAS EXAMPLE

---

## SASY Assassins Term 4

What a year it has been for the SASY Assassins! Despite facing many challenges, including injuries, missing outfits, and the temporary closure of the Ice Arena, they have shown incredible resilience and determination.

They finished the year strong by winning 3 games and drawing 1 at the final tournament, proving their ever improving skills and teamwork. We also got to see some fabulous first goals from a few players.

Most of the team also participated in the Spectacular this year, modelling to raise funds for the program. They wore some stunning outfits and did a great job strutting their stuff. Most importantly, you could see from the crowd just how much fun they were having. We are all very proud of them, they have all demonstrated great growth and improvement.

Several players also won awards for their leadership and improvement over the year. They are not only great athletes, but wonderful examples of the inclusion at the very core of SASY. Congratulations to the SASY Assassins! All of SASY are so excited to see what the players and team accomplish in 2024.



WORDS BY GRACE  
PHOTOS BY STUDENT KASEY

## Long Tan Award

Earlier this Term, the Australian Defence Force awarded our student Tiffany who won the Year 12 Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award. This prestigious award recognises senior school students who display outstanding teamwork, leadership qualities and values which align to those of the Australian Defence Force, who have a long history of comradery and mate ship in the Navy, Army and Air Force.

This young person has been volunteering for 2.5 years at a not-for-profit non-government organisation called 'Puddle Jumpers' and more recently this year for Scouts SA. They have led other students on camp in the Adventure Program and in the Ice Factor Program and peers have sung praises for their help, leadership and support.

The presentation took place on site at SASY and was a very exciting achievement for this young person and we are so proud of them! Congratulations!



TIFFANY WITH C.E. DAVID WILD  
AT AWARD CEREMONY



