

Crossways Newsletter

Term 4, Week 9 2024



CROSSWAYS SCHOOL CALENDAR

School

Week 9 (Wed 11/12)	Pancake Breakfast @ Breakfast Club
Week 9 (Wed 11/12)	Last day of term for Students
Week 9 (Wed 11/12)	Celebration of Learning 6pm-7pm
Week 9 (Thu 12/12)	Last day for Staff

CROSSWAYS E.L.C. CALENDAR

Kindy

Week 9 (Wed 11/12)	Kindy Last Day
Week 9 (Thurs 12/12)	Last Day for Staff

Principal's Word - Greg Miller



Dear Crossways Lutheran School Community,

As we approach the final days of Term 4, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the year that has passed and the joy and anticipation of the Christmas season ahead. It has been an incredible journey, filled with learning, growth, and countless moments of inspiration.

This week, I am reminded of the words in Luke 2:11: "Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." This verse captures the heart of Christmas—the celebration of the greatest gift ever given, the birth of Jesus. Along with the shepherds, angels, and wise men, we too rejoice in this miraculous event. The wise men's gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh were symbols of honor, devotion, and faith. As we exchange gifts this Christmas, let us remember that Jesus Himself is the greatest gift we could ever receive—a gift of love, peace, and eternal hope.

The Value of Resilience

Our focus this week is on resilience, a quality that has been especially important throughout this year. Resilience is about being strong in the face of challenges, learning from mistakes, and staying positive even when things don't go as planned. It's a skill that helps us grow, adapt, and thrive.

For students, resilience means persevering with their studies, facing difficulties with courage, and bouncing back when things get tough. These final days of term are an opportunity to reflect on the resilience they have shown throughout the year and to celebrate their achievements, no matter how big or small.

Parents and caregivers, I encourage you to acknowledge and celebrate your children's resilience. Your support and encouragement play a vital role in helping them develop this essential life skill.

Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to all the families who attended our Community Carols Service on Sunday. It was a beautiful evening of music, joy, and fellowship, and it was wonderful to come together as a school and local community to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Your participation made the event truly special.

Christmas Holidays

As we prepare to break for the holidays, I want to wish all our students and families a safe, restful, and joy-filled Christmas season. May your time with loved ones be blessed with laughter, peace, and the love of Christ.

Thank you for being part of the Crossways community in 2024. It has been an honour to walk alongside you through this year, and I look forward to what 2025 will bring.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Blessings,
Greg Miller
Principal, Crossways Lutheran School



CROSSWAYS
LUTHERAN SCHOOL

4 Smith Rd Ceduna SA 5690
admin@crossways.sa.edu.au
PH: 8625 2873 FAX: 8625 2689

www.crossways.sa.edu.au

Visit our website

Terena Evans - Deputy Principal



Step Up

Last Friday the whole school moved to their new learning space for 2025, to meet each other. As mentioned I will be working in one of the 5/6 Classes next year with Narissa Bailey Monday to Thursday, and Friday's will be my day with the students. It's been a long time since I have had a home group and I am really looking forward to working with Narissa, Melissa Spann and Christine

McIlwraith, (the other 5/6 home group teacher) and Jane McGuinness our class LSO. I also can't wait to get to know the students better and form awesome relationships with lots of fun learning.

On Friday lesson 2, we started with combining both classes for some activities on the oval. We finished the session running a class bingo so students could find out a little more about each other, and having some Christmas sweet treats. I hope all the students are looking forward to coming back after a nice, big break! We also will be attending our 5/6 Aquatic camp together at the end of Term 1 which is usually fantastic weather and a camp enjoyed by all.

Have a blessed Christmas and safe travels to those moving around. We wish those leaving Crossways the very best for their next chapter and hope Crossways will always hold a special place in your heart.



Janette Cook - Curriculum



I can hardly believe that we are nearly at the end of the school year.

This year, the Junior School teachers have implemented many changes within the classrooms to ensure that we are delivering effective, rigorous lessons in a calm and supportive environment. Let's reflect on some of the achievements in the Junior School this year:

- We have rolled out the Initial Lit program as our core instruction for literacy across Foundation to Year 2. We have seen good results from our students this year and are already looking forward to how we can do it even better next year.
- The MacqLit program has been delivered to nearly 30 students this year; supporting them to build their reading skills and confidence. Our results have been very positive and we intend to continue this program next year.
- The 3/4 classes have implemented a fluency routine as part of their core practice. The effectiveness of this routine is strongly supported by research and teachers have taken on this practice with gusto.
- Teachers have taken part in three writing moderation sessions to improve our skills in assessing student writing and building our capacity to identify focus areas for individual students.
- We have trialled a new Maths resource within the classrooms with positive feedback from staff.
- Students have taken part in camps, sleep overs and excursions to build relationships and broaden their experiences.
- Staff and students have had heaps of fun learning together and getting to know each other. It is such a gift to work with these young people and we feel very blessed to be in this position.

Much to celebrate and still much to do. We are all excited about what next year holds and how we can continue to improve our practice. Our goal is always to increase academic outcomes for all our students, so let's see what next year brings.

Thank you to all the families and carers for your support with your young person's learning journey. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Merry Christmas and see you all next year!

Frew Halbert - Duke of Ed / SACE



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Our Year 9 students have undertaken the Duke of Ed program this year which has a big focus on citizenship and volunteering in the community. Students set their own goals based around the following categories: Physical Recreation, Skills, Voluntary Service and an Adventurous Journey.

This year we were able to tie in the Adventurous journey with our trip to Canberra. Students undertook activities in challenging and unfamiliar environments, with an agreed Team Goal and in a small team of 4 to 7. These activities developed team work skills, communication, confidence and required creative thinking. Upon completion of the award at Bronze, Silver and Gold level it is also recognised at SACE level with students gaining points for community recognition.

SACE

At Year 10 our students study the first compulsory SACE subject, EIF- Exploring Identities and futures. EIF is a Stage 1 subject that supports students to learn more about themselves and explore their aspirations and future.

EIF prepares students for a different way of thinking and learning in senior school. As students begin their SACE journey, they build the knowledge, skills, and capabilities required to be thriving learners and are empowered to take ownership of where their pathway leads, exploring interests, work, travel and/or further learning. Students have worked on developing an area of strength or interest to showcase their capabilities. Some of their topics have been:

Creating an artist portfolio and the process of doing a commission artwork. What is involved in organising a girls football match between two schools. Designing and painting a skateboard deck. Improving on braiding hair. The journey of a solo musician, mentoring a student in drumming lessons and Exploring acrylic painting techniques with landscape painting.

Images below show Kaliah Lennon-Gray's commissioned artwork.



Sara Veerhuis - Music News



It has been a wonderful term for music at Crossways! Our choirs started by learning a mix of classic and modern Christmas songs, finishing the term with community performances at the Senior Citizens, Seaview Village, Busy Fingers, the Christmas Markets, and the Community Carols. It's been heartwarming to spread festive cheer while dressed in fun, seasonal headwear!

The Treble Teens (Middle School Band) also performed festive tunes at the Ceduna Foreshore Hotel last week. They enjoyed a special celebratory lunch as we farewelled two founding members, Shia and Chase. I wish them all the best as they move on to Emmanuel College next year.

But the musical excitement isn't over yet! We're looking forward to ending the year on a high note (pun intended) with our choirs performing at the **Celebration of Learning this Wednesday at 6:00 PM.**

Over the Christmas break, I encourage all parents and caregivers to nurture their children's musical interests. Exposure to music helps to enhance their understanding of pitch, rhythm, and diverse styles, while also offering positive emotional benefits.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas, and I look forward to another amazing year of music at Crossways in 2025!

Yours in harmony,

Sara Veerhuis





Crossways

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Working Together Towards a Brighter Future

Local Church Services

DECEMBER CHURCH DATES

- 15th December—Anglican 9.30am
- 22nd December—Denial Bay 7pm
- 24th December - Ceduna Christmas Eve 6pm
- 25th December—Anglican Christmas Day 9am
- 29th December—Uniting 10am



CROSSWAYS LUTHERAN SCHOOL
WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND OUR
CELEBRATION OF LEARNING 2024



WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER
TIME 6.00PM - 7PM

TO BE HELD UNDER THE JUNIOR SCHOOL CANOPY

**WISHING ALL
CROSSWAYS
FAMILIES A VERY
MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND A
SAFE HOLIDAY**