



# ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## Fortnightly Newsletter: 16th September 2022

Volume 6, Issue 25

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### From the Principal



Dear valued members of our school community

### Enhancing a positive, inclusive, respectful culture

Enhancing = to make greater or better

Positive = a desirable or constructive quality or attribute

Inclusive = not excluding any of the parties or groups involved in something

Respectful = Being respectful means you act in a way that shows care for how your actions may impact others.

Culture = the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society

(source: <https://www.bing.com> – accessed 14 September 2022)

It's not often that I start my Principal's message with an internet search – but I thought on this occasion I would give this a go to see exactly what pops up as choices for me. Try it. You might find a range of choices that you prefer to the definitions that I have chosen above. This task reminds me of one of my beautiful students who once said to me “Mrs Kadis – I appreciate all these choices, but please help me to pick the meaning that is the best one for me to best understand the meaning of this word.” This exercise

reminds me as the leader of our fine school that predominantly specialises in teaching English language proficiency to students learning English as their second language – how much our existing knowledge and values determines how we choose to interpret this phrase “enhancing a positive, inclusive, respectful culture”. It’s human nature to pick and choose what lines up more closely to our own personal values and cultural experiences. What we have learnt in our home and at school is ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ behaviour.

Adelaide International School is 6 years old – we are a new school and a great school. It takes time to develop a culture that is clearly understood by everyone in our community. It takes time for us to reflect on the meaning of each of these words, in the context of our school community. It takes time listening to each other and getting to know each other. Our teachers bring great expertise to the classroom. Through our daily wellbeing lessons, each teacher is committed to developing a school community that enhances a positive, inclusive, respectful culture.

I invite my teachers to reflect about what this looks like for them in their classroom. I ask my parents and guardians to talk to your child about what this looks like at Adelaide International School through their eyes. Talk to your child about what we can do further to support them. Let us know. We will continue to raise Student Agency at our school, through our newly formed Student Representative Council. We look forward to sharing more with you as this develops – through collaborative conversations between our staff and student representatives.

All the best always. Email me if you need my assistance at: [gina.kadis@ais.edu.au](mailto:gina.kadis@ais.edu.au)

Gina Kadis  
PRINCIPAL

## From our Wellbeing Facilitator

### Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

As an international school, we pay great respect to different cultures, and one of the ways for us to celebrate cultural diversity is to celebrate traditional festivals from all over the world. On the 9 November, all students and wellbeing teachers gathered to celebrate one of the most important Chinese festivals – the Mid-Autumn Festival. We went through the history of Mid-Autumn Festival and introduced mooncakes, which are the bakery product traditionally eaten during the festival to all our current students – from Italy, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Thailand and China. Moreover, we also shared some traditional mooncakes together to enhance the experience. Overall, students enjoyed the event and here are some comments that students wrote about the experience:

Xuan:

***“I enjoyed this event because it allowed me to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival in Australia too, it made me feel like home. I shared mooncakes with my classmates and friends, and I look forward to celebrating festivals from other countries with my classmates and friends in the future.”***

Leonardo:

***“I’m not Chinese and I never experienced this party or festival, but I think it is a great festival. I ate the mooncake, and it was pretty great. It is a good thing that we celebrated it even if we are not in China. I recommend the next time to give this festival celebration even greater importance”.***





## Decision-making

Having responsible decision-making skills enables students to identify, analyse and solve problems more confidently when they encounter challenges in school and in life. When students are experiencing complex and confronting situations, students need to know how to act correctly and understand the consequences and impacts of their own actions. To support your children with developing decision-making skills, we invite you to research and discuss the following age appropriate topics with your child, using these educational resources provided below:

- Online safety
- #GameOn - Students ([studentwellbeinghub.edu.au](http://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au))
- Alcohol and drugs
- I'm a young person - In category Mental ill-health ([headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au))
- Make healthy choices about alcohol
- Make healthy choices about alcohol - ReachOut Parents
- Consent
- Murray Mallee Community Legal Services - Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre ([mflegalcentre.com.au](http://mflegalcentre.com.au))

If you would like more support and resources about decision-making, please do not hesitate to contact the Wellbeing facilitator at Adelaide International School, Ms Sally Xu at [sally.xu@ais.edu.au](mailto:sally.xu@ais.edu.au)

### **Australian Mathematics Competition**

Three of our talented mathematics middle years and SACE students recently were invited to take the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) this year, which was held on 3 August 2022. This prestigious nationally recognised competition attracts many talented students of Mathematics to tackle the exciting problem solving questions set by talented Australian Mathematics teachers. It has been my honour to meet a number of these talented teacher assessors over the years. I know how passionate they are to stretch the young minds of all students in Mathematics. The format of this Competition is as follows: it is an engaging 30-problem competition that demonstrates the importance and relevance of mathematics in students' everyday lives.

We received the results from the Australian Mathematics Competition organisers this week and we are pleased to share the results with the community. We are so proud of our students. They performed well in the competition. We would like to congratulate the following students for their achievements and efforts:

***Year 12 SACE student – Master Junbo Yu, Certificate of Credit***

***Recent EAP-Middle Years graduate – Master Nogu Lan Kieu, Certificate of Credit***

***Year 11 SACE student – Master Shengxuan Fu, Certificate of Participation***

Well done to all the students who participated and we look forward to having more students participating in AMC next year – boys and girls!

# Year 12 Graduation News

## YEAR 12 GRADUATION DINNER

Invitation Letters have now been distributed, in addition to this newsletter. Please email Kitty Shao on: [kitty.shao@aeg.edu.au](mailto:kitty.shao@aeg.edu.au) if you have not received this Invitation Letter.

**We are delighted to announce that we have secured the talented educator Dr Lynda MacLeod, School of Education, University of Adelaide as our Keynote Speaker.**

On the same day as the graduation ceremony, the Graduation Dinner will be held at Adelaide Pavilion (on the corner of King William Street and South Terrace) from 6.00 pm to 8:30pm (Adelaide time), organized by Ms Sally Xu. All Year 12 students, family members, homestay guardians, members of the Board and staff are welcome to attend the event. If you wish to attend, the total cost for each attendee is \$100 including a 3 course meal (selected by our student leaders) and non-alcoholic drinks package. Please contact Ms Sally Xu at [sally.xu@ais.edu.au](mailto:sally.xu@ais.edu.au) for more information.

## YEAR 12 GRADUATION CEREMONY

On 3 November 2022, the graduation ceremony will be held at MIDDAY (Adelaide time), organized by Ms Zara Phillips. Details of the graduation ceremony will be sent to the families in the next few weeks by Ms Phillips. If you have any questions about the graduation ceremony, please contact Ms Zara Phillips at [zara.phillips@ais.edu.au](mailto:zara.phillips@ais.edu.au)

# Teaching and Learning News

## Year 12 Update and information about upcoming Graduation Awards

We are heading into the examination period for Year 12 and most courses are getting close to being finished. We are looking forward to honouring the achievements of our graduates at these two events: the Graduation Ceremony and the Graduation Dinner. The Graduation Ceremony is onsite at Adelaide International School. Students, families and homestay families are invited to attend the Graduation Ceremony. At this event, you will see each graduate accept their Graduation completion certificates and outstanding students, their respective awards.

Our students are eligible for the following awards at this Graduation Ceremony 2022:

***Dux of School Assessment Award***

*– for the strongest student in the school assessed parts of courses.*

***Greatest Progress Award***

*– for the students who have shown the greatest improvement.*

***Effective Student Award***

*– for the well-organised, efficient, proactive and hard-working student.*

***Community Award***

*– for the student who is a great member of a group, inclusive and positive as well as helpful and kind. This student does make positive changes and encourages others to do the same.*

Students will be presented the awards and reflect on the year in a short ceremony.

After the release of full SACE Completion Results, including SACE November examinations and moderation procedures for non-examinable SACE subjects, the school will determine the overall Dux of the 2022 class and present this award in early 2023 at our “High Achievers Assembly”.

The Graduation Dinner: For this event the students, families and friend will join teachers at the Adelaide Pavilion and enjoy a formal 3-course meal. This event is our more formal event of the year and we enjoy each other’s company, and wish our students well for their coming examinations. I am looking forward to seeing you at both events and wish everyone a lovely mid-Autumn festival. Please RSVP to both events by following the instructions on the invitations.

### **Student Photos**

Year 12 photos were taken on Tuesday the 13th of September (Week 8 of this term).

These photos are used in the newsletter, for awards and for the final ceremonies as we celebrate during the graduation dinner and ceremony. Thank you students for participating well. Parents may wish for a copy of a photo. Please contact our front office staff Ms. Kitty Shao [kitty.shao@aeg.edu.au](mailto:kitty.shao@aeg.edu.au) if you wish to order a photo. All photos are taken by a professional photographer.

### **Schools online accounts**

Please make sure you have replied to Ms. Phillip’s emails over the last two weeks.

#### **Have you sent Ms. Phillips your non school email address?**

SACE Board of South Australia runs an electronic “Schools online” system. As the SACE Coordinator for Adelaide International School, I must have each student’s non-Adelaide International personal email address. The SACE Board of South Australia will not be able to forward your official academic transcripts and certificates without this contact. An incorrect or deleted email address may affect you getting offers from university. This is why we need this and check it is all operational, so we can help you in December after result release with regard to support/queries you may have.

### **Year 12 Examinations final Examinations**

**Change of date** – the Trial Examination date has changed due to the public holiday in Australia announced over the weekend, national mourning day, to pay our respects to the late Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II, Australia’s Head of State.

***The new date for the Year 12 Mathematical Methods examination is now Friday 23 September beginning at 9.30 am.***

***Have you purchased your “SACE permissible cable-connected only ear phones”*** so you can do the electronic-examination in Stage 2 EAL? You will need these for the trial examination in Week 9 (next week) and for the real examination in November.

Please be ready for the busy time ahead. Plan to work hard to prepare for examinations and plan for time to look after your wellbeing.

Kindest,

Ms Zara Phillips, Director of Teaching and Learning



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