Access Gazette

Providing OAC students with a voice and access to school news.



- Gripping Writing Pieces
- Beautiful Artwork
- Eye-catching Photography
- Interesting Articles

Access Gazette

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The school year is coming to a close, and it has been filled with so many wonderful things. We had come in days and excursions, we started new student groups and continued with old ones. We made new friends and we say goodbye to others. We want to congratulate all of our students and teachers for making it through the year. Especially our Year 12s. Good bye and good luck. We wish you all the best for your future! With that, we bring you Edition 7 and our final edition for 2023.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

Open Access College and our associated campus,
The School of The Air at Port Augusta, covers
more than Twenty-five Indigenous Nations.
In the spirit of reconciliation, Open Access College
acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of
country throughout Australia and their
connections to land, sea and community.
We pay our respect to their Elders past and
present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

OAC Mural completed in 2022 by OAC students with guidance from Cedric Varcoe, a proud Ngarrindjeri and Narargga man.

Writing Pieces

Disclaimer: If you find any content within this magazine uncomfortable please chat with your Student Wellbeing Leader or visit <u>Beyond Blue</u>

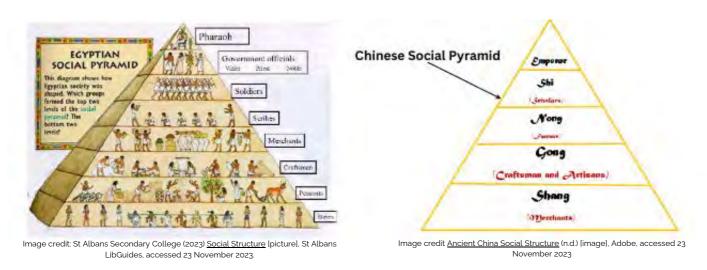
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Elodie Y8

Ancient Civilisations

COMPARING AND ANALYSING

In this article we will be exploring the differences and similarities between ancient civilisations. We will mainly be focusing on ancient Egypt and ancient China, looking at and comparing their social hierarchies.



As you can see in the pictures above, the Egyptian pyramid has eight classes, the Pharaoh, government officials, soldiers, scribes, merchants, craftsmen, peasants and slaves. The Chinese pyramid has five official classes, and a sixth unofficial class. The classes are the Emperor (leader), Shi (scholars, warlords, governors and landowners), Nong (peasants/farmers), Gong (Craftsmen and artisans) and Shang (Traders and Merchants). There is also an unofficial sixth social class which is the slaves, they are unofficial because only around 1% of the population were slaves and they were usually only owned by extremely wealthy people.

The first similarity is the top layer of both pyramids, which are the Emperor and the Pharaoh, who are quite similar to each other. Both an emperor and a Pharaoh are people with extreme power. They are the rulers of the country and the people with the single most power. Both are considered to either have the mandate of heaven or to even be a god themselves.

Elodie Y8

Ancient Civilisations



COMPARING AND ANALYSING



A second similarity is that both civilisations have essentially the same kinds of classes or groups of people in their societies, such as scholars, merchants and craftsmen. An interesting thing to note, however, when comparing the ancient social hierarchies of Egypt and China is what they value. They value or place honour on different things. The Egyptian pyramid is based more on how much money you have and how well educated you are, whereas the Chinese one is based more on how much you work and what you provide. For example, the Egyptians placed soldiers, scribes, merchants and craftspeople before peasants, because they are all wealthier and/or better educated. However, in the Chinese pyramid, the peasants are placed above all of those classes, because they work the land, they provide food for the country and they work for their living, unlike merchants who simply buy others' work and resell it, which is considered less honourable and less important.

There are many big similarities between these two civilisations but there are also some differences, mainly smaller cultural differences. Some of these differences are religion, money, fighting styles, and medicine. The ancient Egyptians had a more standard and unchanging religion which was polytheistic and they worshipped their Pharaoh. The ancient Chinese also followed a polytheistic religion, but mixed it together with ancestor worship, Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism. The ancient Egyptians didn't have a currency for a long time, compared with China who already had an established currency. Their fighting styles were also different, with the Egyptians using big sticks and the Chinese doing martial arts such as kung fu and tai chi.

In conclusion, ancient Egypt and ancient China have many similarities, such as their rulers and the kinds of social classes they both had in their societies. However, there were also significant differences in the hierarchy of the social classes based on what they valued differently, and in aspects of their culture such as religious beliefs, currency and fighting styles.

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PSYCHOLOGIST'S SPOT

Great mental health tips from Sasha, one of our OAC Psychologists.

GOOD MENTALLIEALING SENTIFICATIONS

The holidays can be great because YAY no classes! But they can also be tough for a lot of us, particularly if you have developed some great routines or great relationships with your classmates and teachers.

Here are a few things you can do to support good mental health in the holidays.

Practice self compassion



The holidays, in particular Christmas holidays, can be a difficult time for some families. Some kids have lost family members or Christmas has been full of fights and bad memories. If this is you, you can feel like you're the only one going though this at a time when everyone else is "happy." I promise you aren't alone in that feeling.

Be kind to yourself and your family if this is a tough time. Perhaps ask yourself what you would say to a friend in this situation? Or what is one thing I can do to be kind to myself today?



Your teachers and I arent silly, we know you are going to stay up late and sleep in doing all the fun things! BUT delaying your sleep schedule into daytime sleeping can be really hard to reverse when its time to come back to school. Poor sleep is also linked to depression and overthinking before bed.

Good (enough) Sleep Routine

Do your best to keep a sleep schedule that doesn't have you sleeping too much in the daytime (e.g., getting up at 9 or 10am instead of midday). If you notice your sleep schedule start to creep too much in the daytime, try going to bed half an hour or one hour earlier to get it back on track.

Take a proper break



Your teachers take a break for a reason! We want you to do the same. The school year is really tiring and hard and you need to take breaks to fill your cup ready for next year.

Try your best not to think about school and plunge yourself into your other interests.

Perhaps there's a hobby you've always wanted to try like nail designs, tik tok dances or the ukulele!



Staying connected



Holidays can mean a lot of time inside playing videogames and watching movies.....which is great for a while but can get lonely pretty quickly. We know that social connections have a massive impact on our mood. Ever had an event and you REALLY didnt feel like going, but once you left you felt great?! This is the power of connecting with other young people.

The last few weeks of school could be a great time to be brave and ask another student to hang out in the holidays!

If you find yourself feeling isolated in the holidays remember Headspace has group forums you can jump on talk with other young people. Kidshelpline and Lifeline also have online chat services.

Animal Facts Meerkats



By Keira, Year 11



Scientific Name	Suricata suricatta
Family Name	Herpistidae
Classification	Mammal
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Lifespan (In Wild)	10-15 Years
Weight	720 - 730g
Size	25 - 30cm (plus 18 - 25cm tail)
Top Speed	32km/h
Diet	Omnivorous
Habitat 	Desert
Social	Packs of up to 40
Location	South Africa

Animal Facts Meerkats



Fun Facts!

- 1. Meerkats are **immune to some types of venom**. They can eat scorpions and snakes without any risk.
- 2. Meerkat **pups** are cared for by their entire pack, not just their parents. Other adults in the pack will help with feeding, protection and babysitting.
- 3. Meerkats **enjoy sunbathing**. They often bask in the morning sun to warm up and prepare for the day.
- 4. Meerkats **don't need to drink**. They have adapted to dry environments and can typically obtain enough water from their diet, particularly insects. They do still drink, especially on hot days, but can survive without it.
- 5. Meerkats have a **designated lookout** to watch for predators while the rest of their group searches for food. They communicate with alarm calls to alert of any potential dangers.

Photos!













Article and photos credit: Keira (Y11)

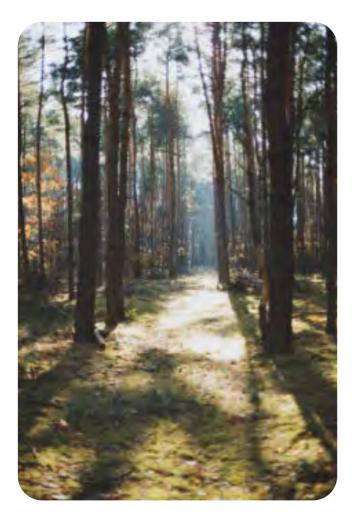
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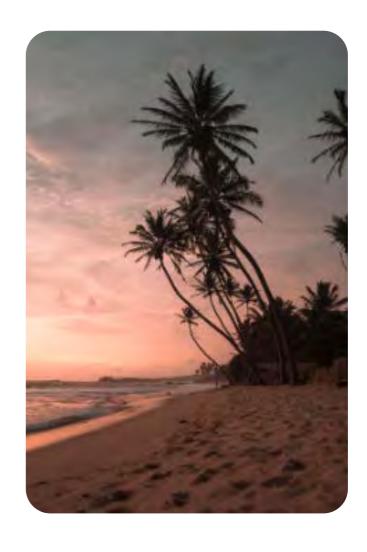
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Poetry Pieces

Elodie Y8





Sunlight shining through, Peace and rest in store.

Sunset and pink clouds, Pine needles across the floor, Cold, soft, sand under my toes, Wind whipping my clothes.

The pieces of poetry correspond to the pictures above them.

Elodie Y8

Throughout the Seasons

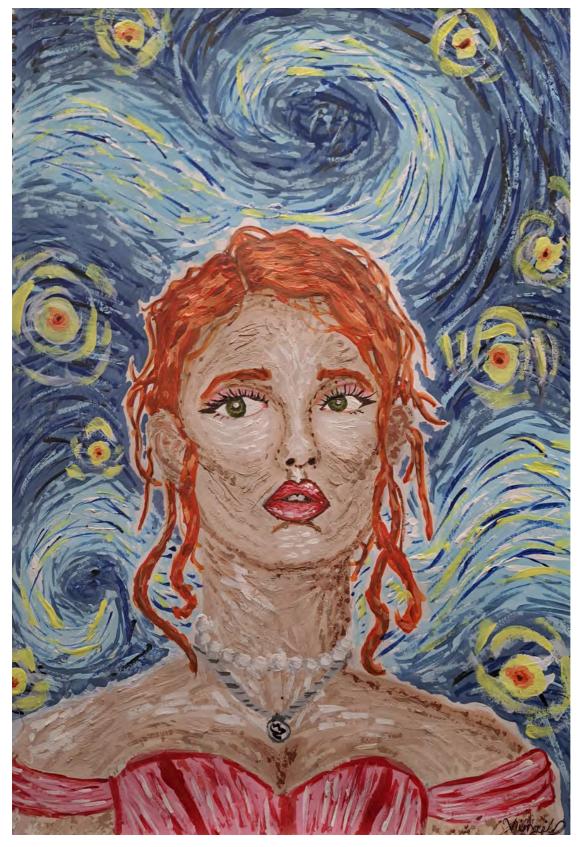
THE WORLD COMES ALIVE
THE PLANTS GAIN THEIR LEAVES
BABY BIRDS ALIGHT
FROM THEIR PLACE IN THE TREES

THE WORLD BATHED IN YELLOW
STROLLING ON THE SAND
WATER LAPPING AT MY TOES
THE OCEAN SO BIG AND SO GRAND

WALKING AND SMILING
THE WORLD A BLEND OF COLOURS
THE LEAVES CRUNCHING
THE BLEAK SKY THUNDERS

THE COLD BREEZE ON MY FACE
ALL THINGS DRESSED IN WHITE
A MAGICAL PLACE
A WORLD OF PURE DELIGHT

Artwork



Virgil Year 10

Subject:

Appropriation of *Starry Night* by Vincent Van Gogh

Medium:

Acrylic and gouache





Keira Year 11



Ella Year 9

Subject:

Exploring Style

Digital Artwork:

Influenced by artist, Reko Rennie





Arja Year 10

Subject:

Exploring Style

Digital Artwork:

Influenced by artist, Reko Rennie

Hayley Year 10

Subject:

Image Manipulation

Digital Artwork:

Mini Planet





Izaak Year 9

Subject:

Exploring Style **Digital Artwork:**

Influenced by artist. Reko Rennie

Alyssa Year 10

Subject:

Image

Manipulation

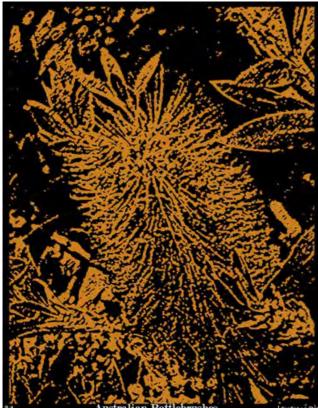
Digital Artwork:

Mandala





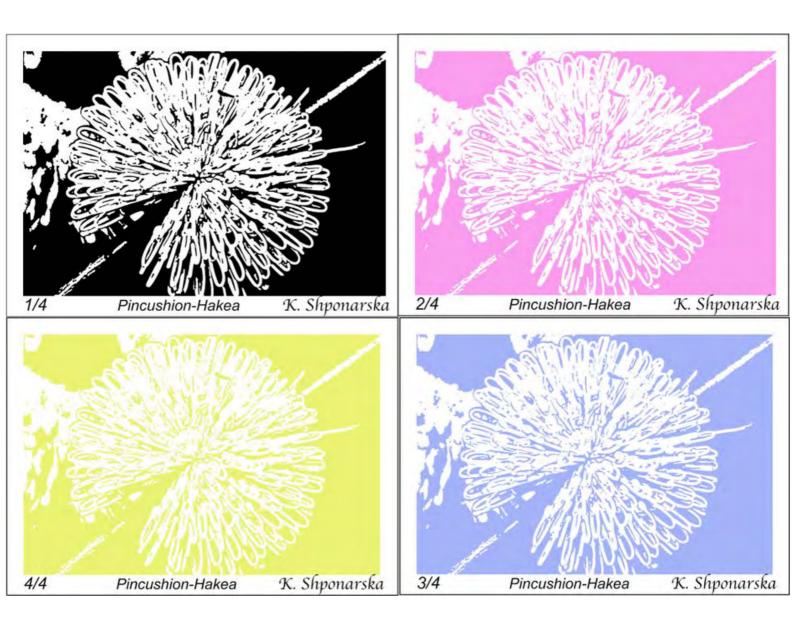






Jeremiah Year 10

Subject:
Exploring Style
Digital Artwork:
Australian Bottlebrush Prints



Karina Year 10 **Subject:**

Exploring Style

Digital Artwork:

Pincushion-Hakea Prints



Krissy Year 8

Subject:

Mixing it up

Artwork Drawing:

Elements of Art with Symbolic Meaning

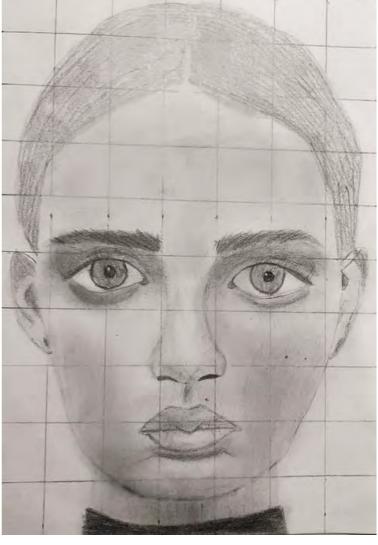
Hannah Year 10

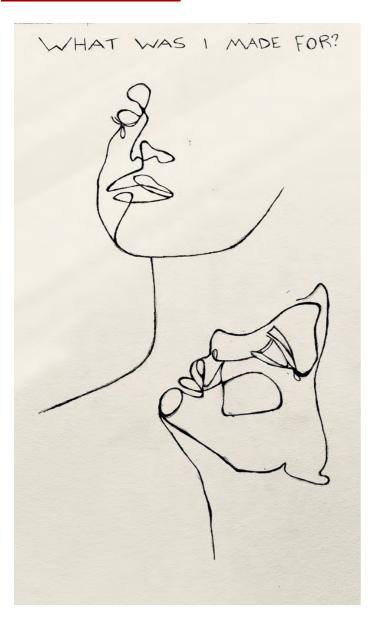
Subject:

Art Skills

Artwork Realism:

Portrait Drawing





Charlie Year 11

WHAT WAS I MADE FOR? (2023) Pen, A3

This artwork was inspired by the song What Was I Made For by Billie Eilish. This artwork represents a crying woman from the music video for the song What Was I Made For.

SPRING DAYS (2023) Watercolour, acrylic paint, pen A3

This artwork was inspired by the watercolour artist Carrie Alderfer, I really enjoyed her style of art and wanted to make something similar.

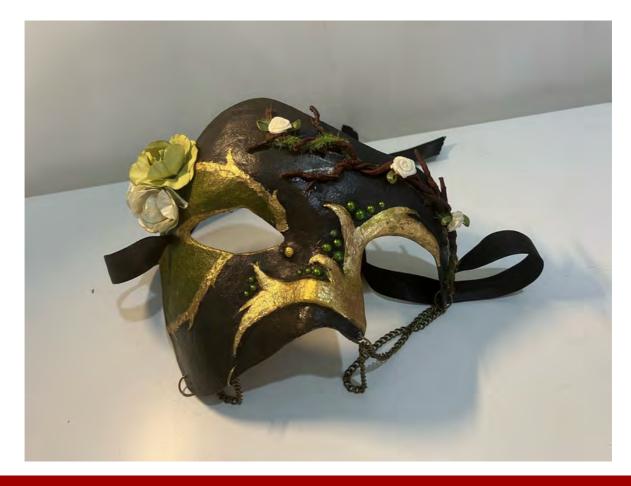




Keira Year 11

Mask designed for the OAC Senior Formal

Theme: Secret Garden





Phoenix Bean Year 11

Mask designed for the OAC Senior Formal

Theme: Secret

Garden

Photography

Elodie Year 8

Landscape



Portrait







Bird's Eye View



Leading Lines

Balance and Symmetry



Rule of Thirds



Macro





Horizontal

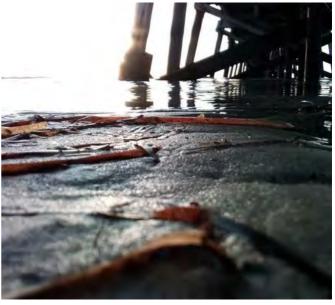


Elodie Year 8

ading Lines

PHOTOGRAPHY | NOVEMBER 2023











Rikki Year 11



Phoenix Bean Year 11

My Camping Trip to Rawnsley Park Station, Hawker, Flinders Ranges was a photographer's dream and a trip to remember. The park was filled with wildlife, sheep, cliffs, trees, gorges and stunning scenery of Wiplena Pound that served as ideal subjects! While exploring the park I couldn't help but be amazed by the rugged landscape and the beauty of The Flinders, we experienced an epic rain and lightning storm, the most amazing starry night sky while sitting around the camp fire, and played with torches to make some fabulous light photo effects. I enjoyed playing

around with different angles and techniques, hoping to capture the true essence of The Flinders Ranges in my photos. I think I was able to achieve that goal!

OAC Events

SEMESTER 2 EVENTS

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World Teachers Day

THANK YOU COMMENTS!

On Friday the 27th of October, it was World Teachers' Day. As a thank you to our teachers and support staff at Open Access, students across the college have sent in messages of thanks to their teachers.

I would like to thank Ann for being my teacher she has help me a lot. - Amber

I want to say thank you to my teachers for making my learning fun and interesting. They make the lessons interactive and the tasks creative. One of my favourite things about my teachers is that they are funny, and we genuinely have a good time in class. This makes we want to come to class and motivates me to learn. - Aida

I appreciate how my maths teacher Zhong, Shan breaks down the work when we don't understand and continues to break it down until we finally understand what to do. I appreciate how Alysha my digital communications teacher was willing to spend one one-on-one time to help me catch up in lessons. - Chelsea

The teachers at OAC have helped me learn by simplifying instructions so I can understand them and being willing to give extensions if I need one. My favourite thing about my teachers is that they are always friendly and greet everyone at the start of the lesson. - Oliver

Tanya Aldous, a very kind and patient teacher. Is always there to support all of her students even when they're very slow learners (such as me for example). I appreciate everything you've done. - Charlotte

I like ruby's class most because she makes it fun and I feel respected

Hi, I don't have much to say, and honestly its always like that, but I do just want to say thank you. To all the teachers that have taught me, thank you for the possibility to learn, and for being there as I learn new things and helping me if I get stuck. For answering my questions, and giving me guidance, being respectful and good people, you guys have helped me significantly, so thank you.

I really feel safe and comfortable talking to all my teachers because they understand and listen to me, and it always feels like im talking to a good friend. Class is always super fun because of this and I really like how many cool things we can do in class cause of how laid back my teachers are:) - Ella

Dear Ann Ruckert my message goes to you. I feel that Ann has helped me in so many ways and even though I haven't met her face-to-face she has never failed to help me. There have been moments when I needed her help and she never failed to help me she always replied to my emails. When we are in class she will always make sure that you are okay. Ann has helped me when I struggle with my learning she explains everything so well and clearly. So thank you, Ann you have made me feel so welcome at OAC since I arrived. Being the new kid and not knowing all the work was a bit intimidating but you helped me out when I was behind. Ann ensured everything was okay and that we had time to catch up. Janessa

Thank you to Gabrielle Mundie for always supporting me through my assignments. She is always polite and understanding of things that happen outside of school, that may affect a student's learning. - Maddy

I'm so grateful for all my teachers for helping me get back to some kind of normal schooling, although it's still been a bit stressful. Sometimes I wish they would be a bit clearer with instructions. Thank you OAC teachers.

My teachers are great because when you are struggling with work you can always ask for help and they are great at what they do - Jayde

Thank you all for being great and making these classes a safe and relaxed space, where I never feel judged but rather a student who is cared for. - Manny

Thanks to all teachers that have had me at OAC so far for constantly encouraging students like me about checking in and reminding, explaining in difficult but expanded ways. Thanks for participating in my needs. - Lyla

Thank you to all the teachers at Open Access College for helping me to extend myself and for replying to all my questions and concerns.

I am grateful to all the teachers that have tought me through my 12s years of education, I have really enjoyed it and can't wait for my next chapter in life. Thank you to all the teachers -Eryn

Dear Alison Zogopoulos, you're always so cheerful in class, and understanding of how your students might be feeling.

Thank you for teaching Advisory this year, and for your positivity throughout the year.

Thank you to all the staff at OAC, since becoming a student here I have been able to enjoy the little things, gain confidence in my learning and meet amazing people! I am so thankful for the things that the staff do for the students, come in days, excusions, games etc.

Thank you OAC Staff! - Phoenix/Bean

Thanks everyone for helping me through the year, I highly appreciate your tolerance. I was recently diagnosed with a chronic illness, I'm extremely grateful for all of your flexibility and reliability in this time of difficulty. Truly, thank you all for being here. - Christopher Thank you to all my OAC teachers for answering my questions and just being amazing teachers. I especially want to thank my English teachers Gabby (from 1st semester) and Grace (from 2nd semester). Before I came to OAC this year I hated English, but Grace and Gabby made each lesson fun and welcoming, and somehow English was the one lesson I looked forward to the most each week. Each lesson was fun, full of energy, and had a really nice atmosphere because of their happy, comforting, and understanding attitudes. They both seem really passionate about the subject which made each lesson interesting and not boring at all. They also care a lot about all their students. Grace teaches with so much energy, life, and enthusiasm that you're always laughing at something she says or the examples she makes up on the spot. She also takes the time to get to know each student individually and shows genuine interest in everything we share with her. She even remembers what each one of us said the week before and asks us how that thing we said the week before is going. Gabby and Grace alike make sure before each lesson they have a chat with each person in the class to see how they're going. Even if someone comes in late during the lesson, they welcome them and see how they're doing, as well as filling them in with a bit about what they missed. They both talk to people with genuine interest and enthusiasm making everyone feel like they belong. They're lovely people to be around and I'm especially grateful that they were my teachers. From hating English and not being able to wait for year 12 when I didn't have to do it anymore, to now choosing it as a year 12 subject, I have Gabby and Grace to thank. Have a great teacher's day and thank you for everything you do! - Courtney

The OAC staff care for the wellbeing of their students and make them feel included.

They have conversations and understand nobody can be perfect!
Since joining OAC it's been a lot easier to do the work and I don't feel as pressured. - Alex

I can't speak more highly of the staff at OAC!

My children finally feel welcomed, listened to and accepted for who they are in their school environment. Their wellbeing, attendance and grades have all increased.

I can't thank the staff enough, you're all amazing at what you do!

-Meg (Parent)

Thank you for all of your support; each of you has gone above and beyond in teaching me this year. I am very grateful, thank you all :) - Ari



SENIOR FORMAL

Phoenix/Bean, Year 11

The Year 11 and 12 Formal at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre was a remarkable event that left everyone in awe. The Secret Garden theme was a perfect choice and the Student Leaders Group did an outstanding job in planning and executing the event. The Star Room, with its large windows and stunning view of the courtyard, was an ideal location for such a magical night. The Student Leaders Group had been planning The Secret Garden Formal since the very beginning of the year, from figuring out what theme to what colour the chair sashes would be. Throughout the big night, there was a wandering photographer, photo awards, a DJ and mouth-watering food!

The decorations were breathtaking, with twinkling lights, greenery, and whimsical outfits that created fairytale-like а atmosphere. The guests were equally impressive in their costumes, with flowing gowns and elaborate masks that perfectly captured the spirit of the theme. As guests arrived at the formal, they were greeted by the sight of a stunning forest masquerade. Students and teachers alike had put a lot of effort into their costumes, with many opting for elaborate masks and flowing gowns that perfectly captured the spirit of the theme.

Throughout the night, the students danced the night away to the beats of the DJ, taking breaks only to snap pictures with friends at the photo booth or to grab some mouthwatering food, and the guests had a great time trying out the various delicacies.

Towards the end of the night, the Student Leaders Group presented awards to students and teachers who had made outstanding masks, costumes, and dance moves and made everyone feel welcome. It was heartwarming to see so many deserving students and teachers recognised for their hard work and dedication.

Overall, The Secret Garden Formal was a huge success, and it was an event that will be remembered for years to come. The Open Access College can be proud of the Student Leaders Group, whose hard work and dedication made this event a remarkable one.

Adelaide's Annual Pride March!





Open Access College joined the Adelaide Pride March!
Open Access College painted the town with colours of love,
acceptance, and unity! This was not just an event, but a celebration of
LGBTIQA+ identity, history, culture, and the power of inclusiveness.
This was our chance to stand tall, shoulder to shoulder, and support
the vibrant LGBTIQA+ community. We shouted it loud and clear:
inclusivity and diversity are our strengths! Your dedicated teachers,
support staff, and fellow students marched together as one! Together,
they created a memory that will shine forever.

NEO Art Gallery of South Australia Neo Teen Takeover

OCTOBER NEO EVENT

Phoenix/Bean, Year 11

Neo Teen Takeover:

Students from OAC have put their superhero capes on and joined the party! NEO was celebrating the launch of Tarnanthi at AGSA with guest curator and talented artist Ray Mudjandi. The night was packed with exhibitions, workshops, and ideas from the coolest youth and arts-led groups in the state. Students had to get ready to unleash their creativity with zine-making, badge-making, friendship bracelets, and so much more. Plus, rocked out to the beats of Violet Harlot, Last Minute, Aston Brian, and more while munching on free grub from a food truck.



Credit: Art Gallery of South Australia

<u>Dressing up as the Powerpuff</u> <u>Girls for NEO:</u>

I had a blast at NEO with my friends
Keira and Mischka. We decided to
dress up as the Powerpuff Girls, with
me as Buttercup, Keira as Bubbles,
and Mischka as Blossom. Our friend
Alex went all out and dressed as a
combination of all three – the
Rainbow!

It was a fantastic night filled with creativity and great company. I got to catch up with some friends from OAC and make some new acquaintances. We spent hours getting ready, doing our makeup, and laughing together. When we arrived at the AGSA (Art Gallery of South Australia), we were a bit unsure of what to do, so we tried a bit of everything. It was an unforgettable night that I'll always cherish.

NEO EVENT AT ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

JOIN THE NEXT NEO EVENT IN DECEMBER

NEO IN COLOUR

Celebrate Tarnanthi and Vincent Namatjira: Australia in Colour!

NEO is a unique event that brings together people from all walks of life to enjoy an evening of fun and creativity. Whether you're a music lover, an art enthusiast or simply looking for a good time, NEO has something for everyone. With live performances from local and international artists, delicious food and drinks, and a range of activities to keep you entertained, there's never a dull moment at NEO.

One of the things that makes NEO so special is the creativity and innovation that goes into each event. From the carefully curated themes to the unique installations and interactive exhibits, every aspect of NEO is designed to inspire and delight. Whether you're exploring the latest art exhibitions or dancing the night away to your favourite tunes, NEO is an experience like no other. So if you're looking for a night out that's a little bit different, why not check out NEO? With its vibrant atmosphere, exciting performances and endless entertainment options, it's sure to be a night you'll never forget!

- with Olivia Callaway, Ms Expectations, Ratvioli, Halftime Oranges, and Outer Suburbs performing from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- → Poster-making session with Rachael Anderson inspired by Tiger Yaltangki's work at The Studio.
- **Karaoke**Sing an ACDC classic in front of Tiger Yaltangki's posters.

- **"I Café** with a variety of snacks, including vegan and gluten-free options. Choose from Fairy Floss Galore or savory snacks.
- A relaxation zone offers a chance to relax and walk through Japanese landscapes. Earplugs and earmuffs are available from the cloakroom.
- **Photobooth** where you can take pictures with your friends.

- **Dress up** colorful for the theme.
- Create a pop-up world inspired by Vincent Namatjira's works with Claire Wildish.
- **Q Build and decorate a cardboard fort** in the courtyard with the 2023 Neo Ambassadors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NEO FOLLOW THIS LINK: HTTPS://WWW.AGSA.SA.GOV.AU/WHATS-ON/ONGOING-PROGRAMS/NEO/

OAC Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov **24**

> Last day of Year 11 classes

05

Last day of lessons YR 7-10

06

Awards Ceremony

DEC 07 Middle Years Come in Day

DEC 15 DEC 18 Year 12 results released

Check out the school website for exciting events and latest news:

https://www.openaccess.edu.au/events



- Join us for the Middle Years Come-In Day! \(\begin{aligned} \begin{aligned
- Mark your calendars for a day filled with thrilling adventures on 07/12/2023 as we embark on an action-packed Come-In Day that's sure to be a highlight of the school year! The day will run from 9:00 AM-2:30 PM and be filled with a range of activities.
- ₫ Get ready to unravel the mysteries of science with mind-blowing experiments!
- E Immerse yourself in the world of languages and expand your horizons!
- Unleash your creativity through arts and crafts, where imagination knows no bounds!
- The Get moving with a variety of sporting activities that promise fun and teamwork.
- Nurture your well-being with fun and engaging activities to ensure your inner self shines.

This day is more than just learning; it's about forging lasting connections. Meet your teachers and connect with friends whilst celebrating the end of a successful school year.

Stay tuned for more details, and let's make this Middle Years Come-In Day one for the books!

To inquire for more, contact Year Level Manager, Ruby. Easthopeswan 650 @schools.sa.edu.

Teachers Journey

As some of our students prepare to step into the big wide world, we believe it's essential to celebrate the uniqueness of each journey. To support and inspire our students, a team of teachers have come together to share their personal journeys. Whether you had a clear plan from the very beginning or are still navigating your path, everyone has their own unique story.

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a new video series called 'Teachers Journey', where a different teacher's story will be highlighted each week.

In the first of our ongoing series, we are delighted to introduce Laurence, who teaches English, Media, and Music.

In the second of our ongoing series, we are delighted to introduce Sasha, who shares about her not-so-straight path of getting to where is now.

Check out the videos from Laurence and Sasha on the Open Access Website!







Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Edition 7 of the Access Gazette

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DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR WORK IN THE GAZETTE?

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are looking for:

- Artworks
- Music
- Creative Writing
- Science Facts
- Articles
- Anything you would like to share!

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO:

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