

Issue 001 / June 2022



TYNDALE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
God's Truth Prevails



tyndalian times



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Book a School Tour

Tours are a great way to get a first-hand insight into everything that makes our students Tyndalians. Our passion is to be intentionally Christian, intentionally inclusive, and intentionally excellent in all that we do. It is our pleasure to welcome prospective Tyndalians to join us for a Scheduled Tour.

Read more about our School Tour dates for 2022 on our website. Head to tyndale.sa.edu.au and navigate to your specific Campus, Enrolments and Tour Now.

*We are a
faith-driven
community.*

From our Head
of Schools-
Mike Potter

At the heart of Tyndale is the desire to provide an outstanding educational experience within the context of a loving community of faith. But what does this actually look like? As a School Group, we have chosen the imagery of the Oak Tree (from the prophet Isaiah) to exemplify our commitment to this heartbeat.

Our Tyndale Oak Tree has eight branches that reflect our commitment to our community – we want to be:

1. **Intentionally Christian** – where faith is expressed through the unconditional love, mercy and grace that God offers to each one of us
2. **Intentionally Inclusive** – where each person is not only welcomed into the community, but deeply valued for who they are
3. **Intentionally Excellent** – where everything we do is done well, with clean hands, and purity of heart
4. **Community** – where each person at Tyndale has a deep sense of belonging and being known
5. **RISE** – where the notions of Respect, Integrity, Service and Excellence are embedded in all that we do and embraced by each person
6. **Pastoral Care** – where our staff are more than just teachers or administrators but are also deeply committed to the genuine care of each person in the community
7. **Life Long Learning** – where every person sees education as a highly regarded continuum, striving to continue to learn, to grow and to understand; and
8. **Well-being** – where we recognise and care for the whole person, knowing that well people learn well

This is our heartbeat. This is our hope for our Schools.

Building for the future

Capital works

Salisbury East

Junior School Administration

The Junior School Administration area catered for Junior School families from 2004; however, due to significant growth, the area became too small – in fact the staff room was not big enough to accommodate all Junior School staff!

The concept of a new Administration building gained momentum in 2018 when Greenway Architects were engaged to commence the design phase. The Junior School was able to achieve their vision of not only having a space which could fit all of their staff but be in a space which had street frontage and made it easier for visitors to find. Pascale won the tender and commenced work in January 2021. The Junior School team moved in during the second week of the October holidays ready to commence Term 4 in their new space!

On Friday 19 November 2021, we held the Official Naming Ceremony for the new facilities, honouring some Tyndale staff who have contributed much to the School over many, many years:

- Holmes Centre – new Junior School Office and Student Services. Named for Mr Graeme Holmes who retired after 34 years of service, including as Junior School Principal;
- Zerna Centre – previously known as the Learning Support Centre. Named for Mr Mark Zerna who pioneered learning support at Tyndale and advocated for families for over 17 years; and
- Buscumb House – previously known as the Reception/Year 1 Area. Named for long-serving teacher Catherine Buscumb, who began working at Tyndale in 1984; our youngest Tyndalians still benefit from her warm and welcoming nature today.

It was like taking a trip down memory lane with many old and familiar faces in attendance who have been pivotal in outworking their God-given calling to make Tyndale the community it is today.

Graeme, Mark, and Catherine were honoured by selecting a small number of special guests they wanted to attend and celebrate this memorable event with them. The event included a short programme of prayer and speeches, before tours of each facility were conducted by current Junior School Leadership staff members.

The event concluded with afternoon tea in the Collaborative Learning Area, where many stories of the 'olden days' and laughs were had. Although COVID restrictions limited our guests, we were thankful to honour and celebrate these Proud Tyndalians who were and will continue to remain active participants in our Tyndalian story.



Murray Bridge

New Junior School Building

Our brand-new Junior School facilities have brought a great sense of expectation for our students. This is in terms of access to excellent facilities, improved research possibilities and greater scope for learning. These facilities are also a real boost for our Junior School staff working in state-of-the-art buildings which bring new opportunities for teaching.

Walking through the building gives one a feeling of freshness and openness with lots of light streaming in through generously appointed windows. This is accentuated by high ceilings that allow for lots of air flow and a sense of spaciousness.

The classrooms are set either side of a large Learning Hub (Resource Centre/Library) centrally located to allow for easy access for students. When it is convenient, this also provides the perfect breakout location for students. Our SACE students also enjoy the opportunity to venture to the Learning Hub where they can study in the comfort of lounge chairs or sit at tables.

In all, our school is richly blessed to have five new classrooms, a Learning Hub, toilets, and much needed office and meeting space. The classrooms are occupied by our Year 2 to Year 5 and Small Class students while the office is occupied by the Junior School Pastoral Care Leader. The meeting area has provided somewhere for our ELC staff to have lunch as well as a space for service providers such as speech therapists, occupational therapists, and psychologists to meet students.

Strathalbyn

Property Master Plan

A master plan is a once in every 5-10 years opportunity for an organisation to consider carefully and thoroughly the fitness for purpose of its buildscape, grounds, facilities and services. This will be the first time the Strathalbyn site has had a master plan. We are excited to consider that, as we move closer to having two classes at every year level, we will approach the target capacity of 500 students attending the School. New purpose-built learning spaces will enable future students to excel in their learning.

Currently, the draft includes:

- A new library for all students, ELC to Year 12
- A new cafe spilling out to a Student Plaza
- New dedicated bus drop-off and parking spaces
- New Nature Play areas
- Five new classrooms for Junior School (2) and Senior School (3) students
- A complete refit of the current library to house two new Junior School Small Classes for students with learning needs
- An expanded Wellbeing Centre and Counsellor office space
- Refurbished Middle School classrooms

Reaching amazing heights!

Old Tyndalians

Salisbury East

Timothy Phillips

(Class of 2014)

Works in the space industry where he has achieved great career success.

He had this to say about his time at School: 'Tyndale provided a healthy support system during my development and provided me with the knowledge to follow any pathway I liked. I was always interested in science, and found a passion for Physics in Senior School, especially the topic of Kinematics. Mr Kikuchi (Year 12 Chemistry) was a fantastic teacher and always went above and beyond to ensure I had understood the necessary teachings throughout my final year of school.'

If Timothy could give any encouragement to Senior School students today, he would say: 'If you are truly passionate about something, never do it half-heartedly. Learn all you can about it and get your hands dirty. In my experience, this passion and hands-on experience is way more attractive to employers than good grades. On top of that, understanding that the knowledge you gain from a good education and the ability to learn fast are some of the most underrated tools you will ever have! Having these tools, as well as a mindset to never stop learning, will immediately put you above the pack in whatever you decide to do. Combining passion, drive, and the ability to never stop learning will take you so far!'

Strathalbyn

Malcolm Worthing

(Class of 2019)

Malcolm embodies Tyndale RISE values of Respect, Integrity, Service and Excellence.

He was a Class Captain in his senior year, and received Runner Up Dux honours at the school, validating exactly what the Tyndale community is about. Malcolm said he thoroughly enjoyed his time at Tyndale and thanks the school for supporting him in his endeavours.

Since completing his formal education at Tyndale, Malcolm has since written and published a book titled, *Birds of the Hindmarsh River Trail*. He worked on the book for three years, taking every photo and writing about each bird he came across. He hopes the book will help raise awareness for the area of Victor Harbor.

'I hope that my book will instil a sense of appreciation for our rich and diverse local environment within the Fleurieu Peninsula and further encourage members of our Fleurieu community to help preserve it for generations to come', Malcolm said.

Currently, Malcolm is studying a double degree of Bachelor of Science (Biodiversity and Conservation) and a Bachelor of Design and Technology Innovation (Plant Biology).

Murray Bridge

Alana Heathcote

(Class of 2020 - Dux Runner Up)

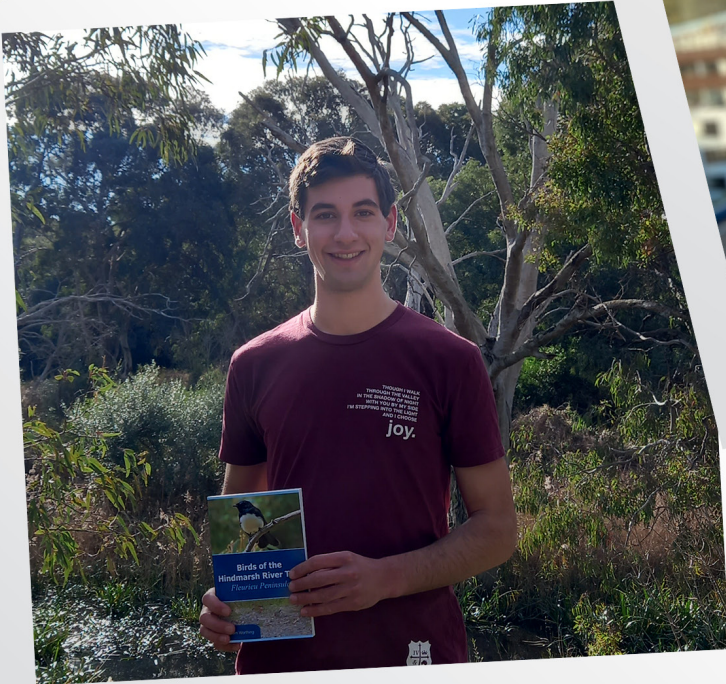
Alana is currently studying a Dual Bachelor in Accounting and Business at CQ University.

The subjects of English and Maths have helped her a lot throughout studies at University. She shared that, 'English has allowed me to be articulate with my academic writing and Maths has helped me to understanding the different accounting equations and how they all work together.'

If Alana could give any encouragement to Senior School students today, she would say, 'You can do anything that you set your mind to. As long as you are willing to put in the effort, you will be able to further your learning, and yourself as an individual within society.'



Timothy Phillips



Malcolm Worthing



Alana Heathcote

Making a huge difference

Murray Bridge
Campus

Intentionally Christian

Chaplain Matt Nichols

At the commencement of Term 3, Mr Matt Nichols joined us in the role of Chaplain. Matt is a real plus for our School and has made himself an integral part of the team that serves to educate the next generation of leaders in our community. His sense of humour mixed with a strong desire to ensure that students are comfortable and enjoying School is fast making him a very special part of our staff.

The role of Chaplain at Tyndale Christian School - Murray Bridge is to engage with students in various ways. This might simply mean joining in with classroom programmes and to be with students while they work, but mostly to take an interest in them. (This does not include any educational role.) A Chaplain can also engage with students during lesson breaks and is available to organise a game or simply chat.

Matt has developed a great rapport with the students in this school through meeting them to the point where they now feel most confident. His ability to listen and empathise means that students feel that there is somebody interested in them. We see the greatest benefit of this when students approach Matt with the intention of relating to him in friendship and to get support.



Community

Bringing Shepherds Together

We are an intentionally Christian School and have seen a growing number of students further exploring their relationship with God. For some this has led to the additional step of committing their lives to Jesus Christ. We are delighted to play this role in many students' lives, but our heart is to see these young people embedded in a relationship with their heavenly Father within the context of a local church, where they can be equipped and empowered for the future that He has for them.

This is the reason we wish to continue to join with our local churches and build on our relationship by holding a morning tea for local Pastors. Our hope is that this would also provide opportunities to better support those students who already come from our local churches. We value the time and effort local churches take to organise events for both children and young people and would welcome the opportunity to promote these youth programmes and special youth events at our Chapel Services and Assemblies.

Lifelong Learning

Small Classes

We are excited offer a Small Class as part of the suite of educational offerings at Tyndale Christian School – Murray Bridge.

Our Small Class was launched in 2021 and is designed to cater for students with mild intellectual disability and/or complex learning needs. We have a designated Small Class Teacher and Education Support Officer with the required ratio of educator to students at 1:4.

We see this as an opportunity to better serve our community of current students and families by catering for those who may learn best in a highly supported learning environment. Our aim is to see all students in our School achieve the very best level that they can.

The classroom will be in our new facility with access to the Learning Hub and other classrooms. Specialty resources will be added to the classroom depending on the requirements of the students.

This is an exciting initiative for our School community and the wider Murray Bridge city. It puts us in the unique space of being able to cater for whole families with a wide range of educational needs for their children.



Shining
our light!

Strathalbyn
Campus



Intentionally Christian

Tyndale is more than a school; it's a community. Our desire is for parents, staff, and students to experience a strong sense of belonging that encourages them to be participants rather than spectators.

Mr Cheesman indeed demonstrated his role as an active participant when preaching at the Church of Christ Strathalbyn. Mr. Cheesman was invited to speak by Pastor David Williams after our Pastor's Morning Tea. We appreciate this opportunity as we seek to invest in the community at Church of Christ Strathalbyn while growing in God's word together.

A further invitation was extended to Mr Cheesman whilst attending a Men's Shed Event (Rotary Club), which saw him invited by Paul and Laureen Newsham to be a special guest on Life FM's Sunday Night Talk programme. It was a great time of robust discussion regarding the role of Christian education in today's society.

Community

Tiny Tyndalians is a playgroup learning model where parents and caregivers engage in play activities and experiences with their child. We have experienced staff and volunteers facilitating the programme who are always available for conversations with parents and carers to discuss their child's progress, and in doing so, we maintain that connection with the families and make them feel a part of the family here at Tyndale.

Tiny Tyndalians runs twice a week and engages children from birth to preschool age (0-4) in a play-based learning environment.

These sessions provide opportunities for early socialisation, enhancing your child's growth and development, providing connection and community for parents, and providing familiarity with the Early Learning Centre and the School.

It is the perfect transition for your child, ensuring an easy and comfortable move into the start of their schooling. After all, with already existing friendships and support, the start of their education will be made much simpler and stress-free.

Tiny Tyndalians is the perfect opportunity to connect with other families in the Adelaide Hills community.



Lifelong Learning

At TCS Strathalbyn last year we strategically chose to spend more time dedicated to improving the quality of our teaching and learning by creating the Learning Leadership Team (LLT). This newly formed team of leaders is able to explore the questions and creative opportunities we have as a learning organisation. We defined our

purpose as, 'Researching, designing, implementing and evaluating current and future practices to support lifelong learning for all members of the Tyndale Strathalbyn community.'

What excites us is that the LLT are focusing on the growth of all people, not just teachers and students. We are serious about being the most excellent school that we can

become and are working out how to do that across all aspects of our operations with a strong focus on the classroom. As part of our early work establishing the LLT, we invited staff and parents to a number of learning events. These events enable us to gather input from members of our community to plan for future initiatives.

So many stories to tell!

Salisbury East Campus

Intentionally Christian

The Middle School Easter performance was a confronting piece which symbolically demonstrated how Jesus nurtures and loves us, protects our hearts and minds, and waits for us, throughout our lives. If we get tempted by things of this world, He is ever constant and present to help us overcome.

The team that performed this piece needed to risk being vulnerable on stage. Through their performance, one could sense that they felt the weight of what the drama meant. The representation of God's love and strength was tangible. What an honour to bring together something to touch the hearts of staff and students.

Lifelong Learning

Equipping students for their future is important and in 2021 we are proud to launch our Senior School PLUS Pathways:



Tertiary+

Harnessing academic aspiration to prepare students for success in tertiary study



Employment+

Enabling students to develop 21st century skills, attributes, and competencies to seek employment post-school



Trades+

Empowering students in their trade pathway of choice with a tailored SACE plan and hands-on vocational training



Arts+

Fostering students with a passion for the Arts, to unleash their creativity in multiple dynamic mediums



Sports+

Taking students' interest in sport to the next level, with a distinct focus on health and human performance

The Tyndale Curriculum is broad and versatile. Subjects can be chosen from across focus areas to tailor a course that suits individual learning interest and post-school direction.

Community

The Junior School Musical, *The Lions the Switch and the Warm Robes* was successfully held in 2021 amidst the uncertainty of developing COVID-19 risks. Adhering to enforced COVID-19 restrictions we were still able to run the event unaffected. Once again, the children put on an incredible show. The addition of Mr Andrew Hawkins and Mrs Dani Potter to this team has seen the standard of performance significantly increase.

The Junior School Musical is now an incredibly valuable foundation and platform for launching students into the theatre life and programmes at Tyndale.

Through theatre-focused drama classes for our Year 3 and 4 classes, students begin to learn stagecraft, voice projection, and dramatic arts in preparation for the Junior School Musical.

Students have the opportunity to audition for lead roles, ensemble or backstage support while also experiencing the sacrifice, commitment, and teamwork that comes throughout the 8-month preparation. Students learn that every person plays a critical role in bringing the whole production together.



Student Life Comes Full Circle

Old Tyndalian Journeys

Community

Our desire is for parents, staff, and students to experience a strong sense of belonging that encourages them to be participants rather than spectators.

Lifelong Learning

Instilling a desire for knowledge that inspires our children to create an incredible future for themselves and those around them, leaving behind a legacy that continually rebuilds, restores, and renews lives to the glory of God.

Intentionally Christian

Committed to God's centrality in our community. Where the worth of every individual is recognised and where the Gospel of Christ inspires us to love and serve.



Murray Bridge

Alicia Kuhlmann

Alicia Kuhlmann grew up in Murray Bridge and began her schooling in the first year the School opened, the year 2000. She saw many changes occur over the years until she finished her primary schooling in 2007 and went on to high school at Tyndale Christian School – Strathalbyn (previously Murraylands Christian College). In 2018, Alicia began working at Tyndale Christian School – Murray Bridge as an Education Support Officer. To Alicia the Tyndale saying is true, that wherever she goes she will always be a 'Tyndalian'.



Salisbury East

Jodie Headland (nee Styling)

Staff Member of Tyndale Marketing Team, Jodie, attended Tyndale from Reception all the way to her graduating year 2002. Jodie has a Bachelor in Marketing and recently returned from maternity leave after the birth of her third son.



Strathalbyn

Alexandria Williams

Alex attended Murraylands Christian College in 1999 and 2000; now her two children are students at Tyndale too. 'For me coming back to see if the school was suitable for my daughter and son, it was a no-brainer. Both my children have flourished academically, emotionally, and spiritually.'

*End of
an era!*

Bruce Hicks, Murray
Bridge Outgoing
Principal (2013-2021)

*Bless you,
Bruce!*

'It was late in 2012 when Mr Ken Allen, then Head of Schools, had a conversation with me about the prospects of working at Murray Bridge as Principal. I was not sure about the idea because at that time I lived a half an hour's travel time on the opposite side of Strathalbyn. I did take on the job in the belief that I had been a principal previously and could lead for God.'

'My intention was to lead the school into a safe position in many ways. I wanted students to feel safe, and the whole school community to feel valued. I wanted to develop a culture of aspiration (a 'can do' attitude) and give people a sense of ownership of the school.'

'I came to these intentions through prayer and listening to the community that I was to serve.'



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