TATACHILLA LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Issue Date 5 November 2026



Term 4, Week 4, 2026

Important Dates

Remembrance Day chapel service

Wednesday 11 November

Old Scholars' Reunion, Class of 2006 and Class of 2016

Friday 13 November

Year 12 Valedictory service

Thursday 19 November

Year 6 Graduation ceremony and dinner

Tuesday 1 December

Final day of school

Wednesday 9 December

Upcoming Events

Old Scholars' Reunion

Venue: Tatachilla Lutheran College - McLaren Vale

Date: Friday 13 November

Time: 5:00pm - 7:30pm

5 November 2026

Celebrating the Class of 2026 Tatachilla style



Our wonderful Year 12s — the Class of 2026 — completed their final week of schooling with us on 23 October. And what a week it was, filled with laughter, fun activities, special events, and a few tears.

The week was especially momentous for our Year 12 students who completed their entire Reception to Year 12 journey at Tatachilla. To mark this milestone, our junior students created individual portraits of each Year 12 student and wrote heartfelt messages to mark the end of their school journey with us. The special keepsake celebrates the connections and memories made along the way.

We held our traditional, fun-filled Year 12 Colour Run which tops off the cross country and relay day for the whole college. There was plenty of laughter as our Year 12s, including our Class of 2026 cross country year-level champions Max and Maya, were covered in colourful chalk, creating some fantastic memories and photo opportunities.

The final week reached a crescendo at a special chapel service. Our graduating students received a standing ovation as they entered the gym, followed by a candle-lighting ceremony and final speeches from our 2026 College Captains. Our students then planted

their Class of 2026 tree — a vibrant Illawarra Flame Tree — which will grow alongside those planted by previous graduating classes. Continuing a much-loved tradition, our graduates received a guard of honour send off, cheered on by Tatachilla students from other year levels.

The final week follows a momentous year for the Class of 2026 which included the Year 12 Retreat, the 2026 Formal, not to mention high achievements among the cohort across academic, arts, vocational subjects and sporting endeavours.

We wish these wonderful young adults every success as they step into the next chapter of their lives. At the Valedictory Service later this month, we look forward to celebrating our Year 12s one last time.

Final week of Year 12: Class of 2026

Our Year 12s celebrated their final week at Tatachilla Lutheran College with special events and activities.










5 November 2026

Year 12 Art Exhibition inspires our community



We welcomed over 60 people to the opening night of our Year 12 Exhibition ‘Bloom’. The special event showcased the work of our hardworking creatives. The Year 12 artists presented their final practicals, accompanied by statements that provided insight into their inspiration, idea generation, practical techniques, and evaluations.

The exhibition showcased nearly six months of work and harnessed the visual arts to bring the students’ passions, inspirations, and values to life. The exhibition also features a poster which is a collaborative student artwork that provides insight into the diverse nature of the cohort.

Many families were bowled over by the exceptionally high standard of work and the Year 12 cohort’s artist talent. The evening also provided an opportunity to recognise some exceptional achievements and included award presentations.

Award winners

- Principal's Choice Award: **Eva** 'Of People and Place'
- High Commendation; **Charlotte** 'Frozen in Time'.

The artworks will be on display in the Tatachilla Lutheran College library from 28 October to 11 November. Voting for People's Choice will continue until Monday Week 5.

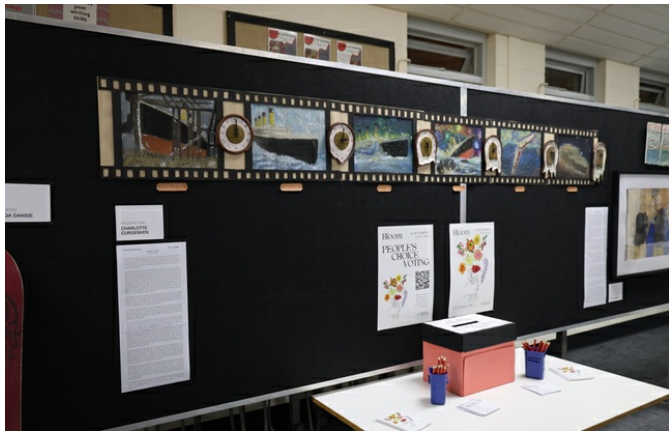
Showcasing Tatachilla's Year 12 artists











5 November 2026

Tatachilla student’s true South Australian style is the pageant winner



Year 5 student **Riley** is the proud winner of the 2026 National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant Mini Float Competition. Riley’s design *Sandy Christmas* features a cool koala enjoying hot chips on the beach.

Her *Sandy Christmas* concept was one of 600 entries in this year’s mini float competition themed: *The Simple Pleasure of a South Australian Christmas.*

Riley’s design wowed the competition judges with its fun, colour and sense of community

that captures the South Australian festive season and the spirit of the Christmas Pageant event.

As part of her prize, Riley recently received an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of Star Dust Castle where her winning 2026 mini float was unveiled.

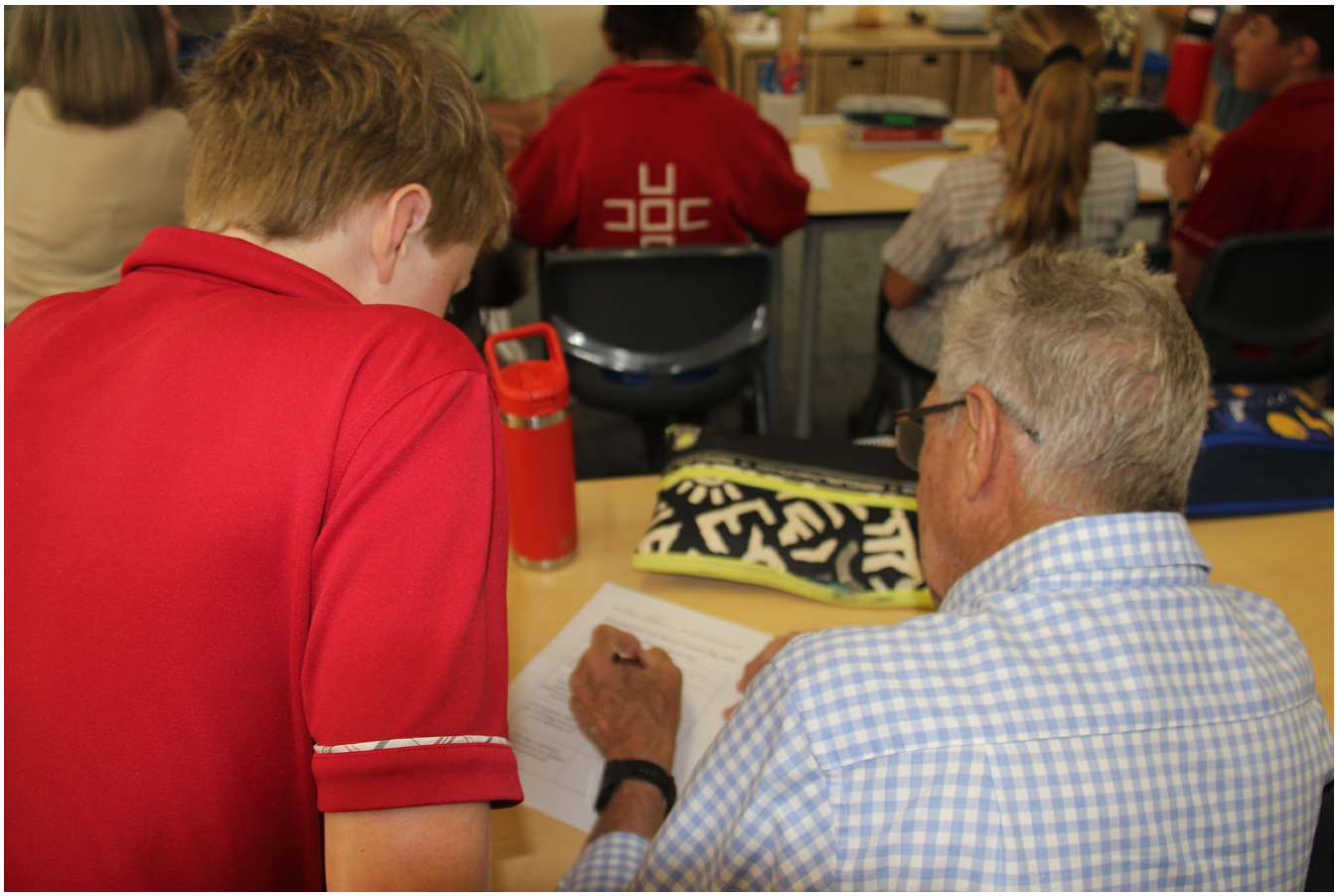
Our talented junior years student will also receive a reserved space to watch her Sandy Christmas mini float weave its way through the streets of Adelaide at the 2026 National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant on Saturday 14 November.

Congratulations to Riley on her wonderful achievement!

Photo credit: National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant

5 November 2026

Giving thanks on Grandparents and Special Friends' Day



Last Friday, we had the pleasure of welcoming guests into the junior years to celebrate Grandparents and Special Friends' Day. It was a wonderful opportunity to open our classrooms and school community to the special people who play such an important role in the lives of our students.

Our guests enjoyed spending the morning visiting their grandchildren's classrooms, sharing in their learning and gaining a glimpse into their school day. The morning continued with a delicious morning tea of freshly baked muffins, baked by our own Year 9 Food Technology students, followed by a special assembly, providing further opportunities to connect, celebrate and create lasting memories together.

We recognise and deeply value the important role grandparents and special friends play in the lives of our children. Their love, wisdom, encouragement and unwavering support help

shape young lives in countless ways. We are grateful for the stories they share, the guidance they offer and the special bonds they nurture across generations.

Days such as these remind us of the importance of connection, belonging and the relationships that make our school community so special. Bringing generations together strengthens the sense of connection we share and creates a culture where everyone feels valued and welcomed. Thank you to all our grandparents and special friends for joining us and for the wonderful contribution you make to the lives of our students and our wider school community.

Grandparents Day in pictures



5 November 2026

Spotlighting mathematical problem-solving success



Selected Year 6 students recently took part in the 2026 Australasian Problem-Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO), joining more than 150,000 participants in four challenging

mathematical competitions.

The program encouraged students to apply their mathematical knowledge creatively, develop problem-solving strategies and explore different approaches alongside their peers. It was a wonderful opportunity to extend their mathematical thinking and build confidence in tackling complex challenges.

Congratulations to **Fede**, who achieved the highest overall score for 'Team Tatachilla' – an outstanding accomplishment! **Fede** and **Zara** were also recognised for achieving results in the top 25% of all participants. A special mention also goes to **Nouveau**, who received an Endeavour Award in recognition of her outstanding effort and commitment to problem-solving throughout the year.

Well done to all members of 'Team Tatachilla' for their enthusiasm, perseverance and achievements!

Team Tatachilla 2026
Charlie, Jacob, Fede, Archer, Nouveau, Albrecht, Mitchell, Zane, Remy, Sarah, Zara and **Noah.**

5 November 2026

Running with determination: House cross country and Ekiden highlights



From individual achievements to team challenges, our students have enjoyed a fantastic season of running, demonstrating determination, resilience and wonderful school spirit at both the Ekiden Relay and the Tatachilla House cross country event.

House cross country and relay

Our annual House cross country was a wonderful celebration of participation, perseverance and House spirit, with students from Years 1–12 taking to the course and showcasing their determination and sportsmanship.

There were some outstanding performances, including **Blake**, who broke a cross country record in the Year 10 race, and **Charlotte**, who set a new record in the Year 3 girls' race. Congratulations to both students on these fantastic achievements!

The much-loved Years 1–12 House relay came next, with the competition particularly close heading into the final races. Topaz claimed victory in the boys' relay, while Emerald took out the girls' relay.

The final House standings were:

Emerald – 288 points
Sapphire – 288 points
Topaz – 266 points
Ruby – 194 points

A huge thank you to all staff and students who contributed to the success of the day. From the runners giving their best on the course to the enthusiastic supporters cheering from the sidelines, it was wonderful to see such encouragement, participation and House pride.

Ekiden Relay

On Thursday 15 October, 16 students from the middle years competed in the Ekiden Relay, a team-based long-distance running event. Together, the teams tackled a challenging 19.2-kilometre course, encouraging and supporting one another along the way.

With a new venue and course this year, and beautiful conditions for running, students enjoyed the opportunity to challenge themselves, demonstrate teamwork and compete alongside other schools.

Both teams achieved excellent results, with the girls' team finishing 9th and the boys' team finishing 12th. Congratulations to all our runners for their efforts, sportsmanship and team spirit!

Year 7–9 boys' team:

Ryan, George, Ethan, Lachlan, Shay, Tommy, Hayden and **Declan.**

Year 7–9 girls' team:

Katie, Hayley, Aylish, Mila, Zara, Lola, Ruby and **Adi.**

5 November 2026

Preparing for the world of work



Our Year 10 students have been embracing valuable opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills and build confidence as they begin to consider their future pathways beyond school.

Work experience

During Week 3, our final group of Year 10 students completed their work experience placements at businesses across South Australia. Students received fantastic feedback from employers and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to develop practical skills and gain valuable insights into an industry of their choice.

We are incredibly grateful to the local businesses who partnered with the college this year, providing our students with meaningful real-world experience across a diverse range of industries.

Mock interviews

Last term also saw the second round of mock interviews for our Year 10 cohort. Students applied for a specific job, preparing a resume and cover letter before putting their interview skills into practice. Dressed in professional interview attire, students demonstrated the confidence and skills they had developed through their Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) studies.

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in securing their mock interview positions:

Kayla, Evie, Asher, Mia, Harrison, Isobel, Wil and **Kabe**.

A special thank you to the local businesses and employers who generously volunteered their time and expertise to support this valuable learning experience:

- **Kelly Hickman and Vikki Arnold – Evolving Pathways**
- **Kerri Vowels – Flourish Psychology and Consulting**
- **Frances Buckingham, Dylan Hopkins and Nikki Buckingham – Flinders University**
- **Ashleigh Turner – Grant Thornton**

We greatly appreciate their contribution to preparing our students for future pathways and the world of work.

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