INSIDE CBC Issue 4 • Semester 2 • 2024



The important role of sport in a well-rounded education

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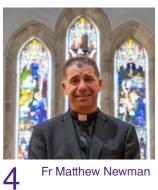




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Christian Brothers College acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Custodians of Country throughout Australia and pays our respects to them, their Culture and their Elders past, present and future.



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We believe that through quality education in a supportive environment, extensive opportunities, and the values we instil at CBC, our boys have the 'world at their feet'.

Our statement,

'THE WORLD BEFORE US'

encapsulates this core belief.





Principal's Message

At CBC, we understand the profound impact a thriving community has on a student's educational journey. We believe it's about more than just attending events or raising funds; it's about fostering an interconnected network of support that nurtures our students' academic, social, and emotional growth.

We recognise that building strong relationships within the school community takes time and dedication. It requires consistent effort to foster trust and establish credibility with students, staff, and families alike. Our approach emphasises authentic connections with students and their support systems, creating a unified team working towards their success. When teachers, parents, and students collaborate, a powerful synergy emerges, leading to improved outcomes for everyone involved.

Research confirms the value of a strong school community. Students in such environments tend to be academically motivated, engaged in social issues, and equipped with essential social and emotional skills. These benefits extend far beyond graduation, shaping responsible and compassionate adults.

At CBC, we actively cultivate community engagement by recognising the essential roles of both parents and teachers. We work together to instil positive attitudes about learning, build confidence, and ignite a lifelong love for education. Our dedicated support groups, including the Parents & Friends Association and the CBC Alumni Association, play a vital role by providing opportunities for connection, celebration, and giving back.

The impact of their generosity is undeniable. From fundraising events that provide essential resources to initiatives that enhance the school environment, their contributions leave a lasting mark on our students' lives. The Educational Support Fund and the installation of fans in the gym serve as tangible examples of what can be achieved through community collaboration.

We deeply appreciate the selfless commitment of our volunteers. Their dedication, whether through long-term involvement or recent contributions, enriches the CBC experience for every student. They are the cornerstone of a vibrant and inclusive community where our boys flourish.

At CBC, we're not just building a school, we're developing connections that nurture, inspire, and empower. Together, we're shaping a brighter future for our students, one where they graduate not only with knowledge but also with the values and resilience to make a positive impact on the world.

David Johnston



MORE than a GAME

The important role of sport in a well-rounded education

At CBC, sport is a key component of our educational philosophy. CBC offers 14 sports across the year, ensuring boys have access to a range of sporting activities. We are the only city school with a rowing program boasting two locations: the River Torrens and West Lakes. As well as this, students participate in an annual Intercol competition with Blackfriars, a tradition spanning 18 years.

CBC's partnership with Tottenham Hotspur Football Club makes our soccer program one of the most sought-after in South Australia. CBC students receive advanced coaching in a 12week training program with a Tottenham Hotspur coach. There is also an opportunity to travel to London for additional coaching at the THFC Training Centre.

We provide these opportunities because, as an all-boys school, we recognise the significant role sport plays in contributing to the shaping of our students into well-rounded individuals.

Physical fitness is an important benefit of participating in sport. Regular exercise promotes overall health and enhances cognitive function. Research, including a review in *Frontiers in Psychology*³, shows that physical activity improves concentration, memory, and classroom behaviour, leading to better academic performance. Team sports provide an opportunity for collaboration and communication. Whether on the oval, pitch or court, students work towards shared goals and are supportive of one another. Furthermore, research in *The Journal of Educational Psychology*² indicates that students involved in team activities develop better social skills, building a sense of community and belonging. Other lifeskills such as discipline, perseverance and emotional resilience are also enhanced through participation in sport.

Our coaches and senior players act as role models, guiding our students in both athletic skills and life lessons. This mentoring builds resilience, leadership, and accountability. Studies such as those published in *Developmental Psychology*¹, show that positive mentoring can boost self-esteem and academic motivation.

In addition to the well-documented benefits of sport on academic and personal development, participating in competitive activities fosters emotional intelligence and stress management skills. At CBC, students learn how to successfully navigate the highs and lows of competition, managing both success and setbacks. This ability to handle pressure translates into academic settings, where students face challenges such as exams and deadlines. Learning how to manage stress, stay focused, and remain resilient under pressure equips CBC students with tools that benefit them well beyond their school years.

Sports at CBC

Athletics Badminton Basketball Cricket Cross Country eSports Football Rowing Soccer Swimming Table Tennis Tennis Volleyball Water Polo

Moreover, sports at CBC promote a strong sense of discipline and time management. Balancing athletic commitments with academic responsibilities teaches students how to prioritise, set goals, and manage their time effectively. This skill set is crucial not only in school but also in future professional environments. The structured nature of regular training sessions and competitions instils habits of punctuality, preparation, and persistence, all of which are essential for long-term success in any field.



Research shows students who participate in sport perform better academically and exhibit greater emotional resilience

- Developmental Psychology Study on Mentoring: Citation: Eby, L T, Allen, T D, Evans, S C, Ng, T W, & DuBois, D L (2008). Does mentoring matter? A multidisciplinary meta-analysis comparing mentored and non-mentored individuals. Developmental Psychology, 44(2), 527–540.
- The Journal of Educational Psychology on Teamwork: Citation: Johnson, D W, & Johnson, R T (2009). An educational psychology success story: Social interdependence theory and cooperative learning. The Journal of Educational Psychology, 101(4), 1024–1036.
- Frontiers in Psychology Review on Physical Activity and Cognitive Function: Citation: Hillman, C H, Erickson, K I, & Kramer, A F (2008). Be smart, exercise your heart: Exercise effects on brain and cognition. Frontiers in Psychology, 1, 1–16.

FR MATTHEW NEV MAN JOINS THE CBC FAMILY

This year, we welcomed Fr Matthew Newman to the CBC family and took the opportunity to learn some more about him

Tell us what inspired your spiritual journey?

My family wasn't overly religious; however I remember from a very young age I had a strong faith in God. As a three-year-old, I recall wandering into a church on my own one Sunday morning. However, it wasn't until I attended Rosary Catholic School Primary School in Prospect, that I first experienced aw Mass. It was epic for me, and from that moment on I wanted to be a priest.

What do you find most rewarding about your role as a priest?

For me, it's the awesome privilege of being involved in the lives of people at their most important moments. Whether it be the excitement of a wedding, the joy of a baptism, the sadness of a funeral or general encounters after Sunday Mass, I'm constantly drawn into people's lives and this is very special and an awesome privilege for me.

Is there a particularly memorable or impactful experience you've had during your time in ministry?

The most profound experiences I've had were officiating funerals for young people, particularly a 21-year-old and a 12-year-old. Both ceremonies were large and deeply emotional, and it was incredibly difficult to contain my own feelings. More recently, I've had the privilege of performing weddings for former students from city-schools where I've served since being ordained. This has been a rewarding reminder of the lasting power of connection.

What role do you believe the Catholic Church plays in today's modern society?

In essence, the Catholic Church serves as a spiritual and practical force for positive change, addressing both the material and spiritual needs of society while advocating for a world rooted in justice, compassion, and human dignity. Local churches continue to be a welcoming place for all, offering a sense of belonging and support to their communities. In addition, the Catholic Church provides quality, engaging education for one in five students across Australia. The Church also offers health and aged care services to the sick and vulnerable. Through these two areas of mission, we are reminded of God's love for all people and His desire for us to thrive as human beings, created in His image and likeness.

Tell us more about your role at CBC? What will you be doing at the College?

Primarily my role is a sacramental one. As Chaplain, I get to celebrate Masses throughout the year with the entire College, and each Wednesday before school I hold a Mass in the Senior Campus Chapel for the wider CBC



All I ever wanted to do is remind every student, teacher and staff member that they are loved by God

community. I also make scheduled classroom visits and have helped a number of Year 11s with their Research Projects. Both have been valuable experiences, but I would have to say attending the winning footy match at this year's Intercol was definitely a highlight!!

What do you love about working at CBC?

I guess what I love about being at CBC is the opportunity to share the beauty and wonder of God's love with everyone.

How will you create an inclusive environment that respects the diverse beliefs of all students?

Fundamental to our belief in God, is that we are all made in His image and likeness. This is key to inclusion because of my background and experience of working in the regional areas of our state, I have the ability to talk and interact with anyone, whatever their belief and faith. I believe communication is vital in fostering an inclusive environment for all. The Catholic Church encourages inclusivity through dialogue, shared values, and genuine respect for diverse beliefs, creating welcoming spaces and partnering on social justice issues to ensure all feel respected.

If you could leave a lasting impact on the College community, what would it be?

All I ever wanted to do in the schools I've worked at is remind every student, teacher and staff member that they were loved by God. This is what I hope shows in my ministry at CBC.



A new chapter

Mr Simon Nardecchia, Teacher and Head of Transition, takes on a new role as Wellbeing Coordinator developing resilient learners for the future

Since 2020, Simon Nardecchia has been an integral part of the Christian Brothers College community, working passionately across middle and upper-primary classrooms. His dedication to fostering holistic growth – academically, socially, and spiritually – has left a lasting impact on students and colleagues alike. 'I believe in helping students strive for personal excellence, not just academically but in every aspect of their lives,' Simon shares.

In 2022, Simon assumed the role of Religious Education Coordinator at the Junior Campus – a position where he embraced the challenge of making religious education both contemporary and relevant. He also supported students on their sacramental journeys, coordinated Masses and liturgies, and even took on a leadership secondment at St Thomas School as APRIM during Term 2. 'Stepping out of my comfort zone and learning to work with a new cohort was invaluable,' Simon reflects. 'It was rewarding to leave the faith and identity space in a better place than when I started.'

This year, Simon has embraced the role of Acting Middle School Transition Coordinator, guiding students as they make the often-daunting shift from primary to secondary school. 'Helping new students transition smoothly into our school, as well as assisting students moving from Junior to Senior Campuses, is something I've been passionate about,' he explains. 'This work helps ease anxiety and fosters a sense of belonging and readiness for the challenges ahead.' Looking ahead to 2025, Simon is eager to step into his new role as Wellbeing Coordinator, where he will collaborate with the Junior Campus Leadership Team to monitor our students' overall development. His vision for the role is clear: 'I am most looking forward to working with a broader range of staff, students, and families to build resilience and wellbeing support for our boys. It's about creating an environment that supports their growth as happy, healthy, and resilient learners.'

In addition to his leadership in wellbeing, Simon is also a dedicated member of the Engage with Asia Committee, working to develop our students' intercultural intelligence. 'We plan initiatives and curriculum links to support growth in intercultural understanding which allows our boys to appreciate the value of diversity and other cultures,' he explains.

As if his contributions to CBC weren't enough, Simon is also pursuing a Master of Educational Leadership, further enhancing his skills to better serve the CBC community. 'I am always striving to learn more so I can contribute in meaningful ways,' Simon says with characteristic humility.

With his holistic approach to education and a commitment to the wellbeing of students, Simon Nardecchia is set to continue making a lasting difference at CBC.

Mr Nardecchia with Junior Campus students

The opportunity to support our students in being happy, healthy and resilient learners was highly appealing and sounded like a rewarding experience

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CHRISTIAN BROTHERS COLLEGE







The inaugural CBC MusicFest, held on Friday the 13th of September, and was a resounding success!

Replacing the previously held Cabaret, the vision was to showcase all our music ensembles across both Junior and Senior Campuses to create a relaxed atmosphere full of music, food and drink.

Consisting of three sessions – the first commenced from the Music Space and featured the Senior Concert Band, the Junior School Rock Bands, Junior Concert Band and Percussion Ensemble, and the wonderful debut performance of the Year 4 Immersion Program.

The Jazz Combo – set up on one end of the Eastern Yard – provided brilliant sets of improvisation that delighted families as they moved between areas and sessions.

The second, or acoustic, session of the afternoon took place in the Edmund Rice Chapel, which many parents had not visited before. It featured the Guitar Ensembles from both the Junior and Senior Campuses, and all the choirs: B-Vocal (Years 3-4), Festival Choir (Years 5-6), Vocal Project (Years 7-12) and Vocal Ensembles (Years 10-12). It was a special occasion, with the beautiful sounds bouncing around an overflowing Chapel.

The final set of the night was the party session - Big Bands 1 and 2 were joined by Wakefield (Rock Band 1), The Chiccanes (Rock Band 2) and Undercooked (Rock Band 3) to rock the Eastern Yard. The finale of the festival was a special event where Big Bands 1 and 2 combined to perform *Positive Vibrations;* a song they had workshopped with the Hot Potato Band earlier in the year. A highlight of this was the battle scene between the saxes and brass instruments.

Our first festival was a triumph, and two aspects stood out as significant achievements: the tech being run entirely by students, capably led by Cooper O'Loughlin in Year 12; and the number of Junior Campus students who stayed all the way to the end of the night, alongside their families.

My thanks to all involved in making our first MusicFest a success!

Ms Alexandra Khafalgi





















THE TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR TRAINING EXPERIENCE LONDON TOUR



For two weeks in November, a group of 16 students and three staff members embarked on the inaugural Tottenham Hotspur Training Experience Tour in London. This unique opportunity offered participants the chance to step into the shoes of a professional soccer player, immersing themselves in the rigorous and exhilarating world of elite sports training.

The journey began on Friday, 1 November, as the group landed at Heathrow Airport in London. There, they were warmly welcomed by the Tottenham Hotspur International Development Team, who set the tone for what would be an unforgettable experience. Arriving just before the weekend provided an added bonus – the students were able to attend their firstever English Premier League match, watching Tottenham Hotspur take on Aston Villa. The electrifying atmosphere of the stadium, the roar of the fans, and the fast-paced gameplay left a lasting impression.



'The atmosphere, the fans, it was crazy... the game itself was unreal to watch, I couldn't believe I was there.' - Anthony Brooksby, CBC student

The training kicked off in full swing on Monday, 4 November, under the guidance of Matthew Sharman, Tottenham Hotspur's International Development Coach. This jam-packed program included intensive drills and workshops that emphasised the fundamentals of soccer, highlighting the critical importance of mastering basic skills. From footwork to strategy, each drill was carefully designed to develop technical proficiency, game awareness, and tactical insight.

>>> ITINERARY >>> ARRIVE LONDON >>> THFC TRAINING >





The skills and insights gained from the Tottenham Hotspur Training Experience were invaluable for the students, many of whom aspire to advance in their soccer careers. This experience provided a glimpse into the life of a professional athlete and reinforced the dedication, discipline, and resilience required to succeed at the highest levels of the game.

As the week concluded, the students left with not only improved skills but also memories and lessons that will last a lifetime. The success of this first Tottenham Hotspur Training Experience has paved the way for future tours, and we eagerly anticipate returning next year for another exciting chapter in this journey.

One of the week's highlights was a masterclass with Tottenham Hotspur legend, Ledley King, the club's ambassador and former First-team Captain. Known for his skill and leadership on the field, King provided invaluable coaching to the students, sharing technical advice and personal experiences. This session was an inspiring moment for the students, as they received specialist coaching and were exposed to advanced training techniques, pushing them to reach professional standards. It was a rare opportunity to gain insights from someone who has succeeded at the highest level of the game and the boys were captivated by his words and guidance.

The students' hard work and learning were put to the test through two friendly matches against Tottenham Hotspur's local partner schools. The boys emerged victorious in both games, defeating Harrow School 2–1 and dominating Haberdashers' School with a 6–1 score. These matches showcased their growth over the week, demonstrating the value of teamwork and individual development in achieving success. The students were able to apply what they had learned in training, from positioning and decision-making to persistence and team dynamics.

Throughout the week, the students continued to engage in focused training sessions aimed at supporting their individual development. In addition to technical drills, they participated in workshops covering crucial topics such as health and nutrition, strength and conditioning, and leadership skills. These sessions emphasised the holistic approach required to excel in sports, highlighting the importance of mental and physical wellbeing alongside technical ability.



>> THFC TRAINING >>> SIGHTSEEING >>> LIVE MATCH >>>

Students' Life-Changing Journey to the Philippines

This was the eighth immersion by staff and students in the 16-year history of CBC's involvement with the Philippines. The 2024 Immersion had these objectives: to experience the culture, learn about the life of a typical Filipino student, interact with the disadvantaged youth and elderly, and act in service of others.

Our first port of call was to San Blas Academy on the island of Negros. The students stayed at the school and immersed themselves in the culture of the school. They experienced different sports programs, traditional games, foods, school times and their inter-house competitions. The school further provided external activities which were equally valuable. These included a visit to an indigenous Filipino community where they saw traditional basket weaving techniques, rice planting and harvesting, and mangrove planting to encourage the conservation of the environment.

The next stop was at Kabankalan where they attended Mass, met with the Bishop to learn about his ideas for future CBC immersions and our involvement with local Catholic schools. This gave our students a much greater perspective of the educational needs in Negros. We then visited 'Bugasan ni Edmund' or the Rice Bowl of Edmund. This was significant in that we were able to reconnect with the Christian Brothers who helped set up this organisation before they left the island. The organisation sells rice at cost price to the disadvantaged. Our group also interacted with students with deafness from Anawin Special School.

The last leg was a flight back to Manila, on the island of Luzon to visit the parish of Santo Niño, in Caloocan City. The students met their Filipino foster families. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn about their lives. While there, they immersed themselves in the local parish community, working particularly with the elderly and the young, and taking part in a food support program. Perhaps one of the more challenging things they did was to spend time with street children and to understand what a key organisation like the Kuya Centre, do to help these children.

It was a profound journey for the students which I am sure changed their outlook on the world and gave them an appreciation of what they have back home.





The highlight of the Philippines Immersion was the experience of meeting new people who will remain our friends for life. Visiting all the homes of our buddies was wonderful and everybody was so happy and welcoming. - Alex Short

I will never forget the experiences I had and the friends I met along the way. I felt connected on a spiritual level with the land and the people. - Edward Thornton

It really has given me the perspective that I'm very lucky and that worrying about small things is nothing in comparison to their situation. You just have to try your best to be happy in whatever situation you are in. - Max Woolford













BLUE HORIZONS

Breaking down barriers for better mental health

Director of Teaching and Learning, David Salamone-Violi explains how CBC embraces Blue Week to develop positive men's mental health with a week of education, activities and fun!

From 9–13 September, our school proudly facilitated Blue Week, a dedicated initiative aimed at raising awareness about mental health, with a particular focus on men's mental health. Throughout the week, a series of events and activities were organised to educate students and staff, reduce the stigma surrounding poor mental health, and promote a supportive community environment. The week commenced with yoga and stretching sessions on Monday, followed by mindfulness and meditation practices on Tuesday, emphasising the importance of physical wellbeing and mental tranquility. On Wednesday, both staff and students wore blue attire in support of Beyond Blue - Australia's renowned mental health organisation - raising funds to aid their vital programs addressing depression, anxiety, and suicide prevention.

Midweek, the school observed 'R U OK? Day', encouraging open conversations about mental health among peers. The rowing competition between the Houses encouraged student teamwork and camaraderie. The week culminated with a mental health trivia challenge and a poetry competition providing creative outlets for students to express their thoughts on mental wellbeing. Notably, the Year 12 Health and Wellbeing class played a significant role by facilitating initiatives focused on men's mental health issues. One group highlighted the impact of nutrition on mental health by preparing a nutritious kangaroo and vegetable stir-fry, demonstrating how accessible healthy eating can benefit mental wellbeing. Another group addressed unrealistic body image and the pressures men face to 'fit the mould' by discussing the detrimental effects on self-esteem and mental health. A third group ventured off-campus to enhance social connectedness among community members, underscoring the importance of relationships in men's mental health. Through these comprehensive efforts, Blue Week succeeded in fostering a more informed and empathetic college community regarding men's mental health challenges.



- Making healthy meals
- Selling blue doughnuts to raise money for Beyond Blue
- Making a gratitude board.
- Mindfulness and Yoga sessions

SCIENCE ALIVE

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK – CREATING, INSPIRING AND Exploring the Amazing World of Science









Every August, National Science Week is celebrated at CBC. During this fun week, our science laboratories are abuzz with engaging, experimental activities, making it a hub of discovery during break times. Science Week is designed to spark students' interest in science by showcasing its vital role in shaping our world and highlighting the diverse career opportunities it offers.

Students were engaged with captivating demonstrations involving dry ice and highly reactive Group One metals. They were hands-on with slimemaking and had fun creating the rapid reaction that makes Elephant's Toothpaste – a foamy substance created by the rapid decomposition of hydrogen peroxide using diluted potassium iodide as a catalyst. These activities entertained and educated, making science tangible and surprising.

Our older students at the Junior Campus focused on Chemistry, enjoying fun experiments that showed how chemicals interacted.

Science Week at CBC is a great way to create a deeper understanding of the scientific principles that govern our world. CBC's annual week-long celebration emphasises the importance of scientific discovery and innovation, inspiring students to not only explore and appreciate the wonders of science, but to recognise the value of science in education, thereby preparing our students for success in the future.



Exciting new program guarantees student success!

Christian Brothers College and Flinders University are proud to announce an exciting collaboration to offer the Higher Education Pathways Program. This program offers students a unique and integrated learning opportunity that provides a clear pathway from secondary to higher education. By completing the requisite components, including the Research Project Stage 2/Activating Identities and Futures (AIF), the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), and other specific subjects, students are guaranteed entry into several specialised programs at Flinders University. These include the Sports Pathway at the Diploma or Bachelor level, and the Bachelor of Business Pathway. One of the standout features of this program is its accessibility, as students can gain entry to these degree programs irrespective of their Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Students must meet all necessary prerequisites to qualify, including a minimum B- grade in select Year 12 subjects.

Exclusive to CBC, the Sports Pathway (Diploma) is offered to students involved in the College's Soccer Program, providing a clear path for those passionate about sports. To ensure that our students can take advantage of this opportunity, the College provides students with mentoring for their subject selections from Years 9 to 11. Through the CBC *Advantage Line*, students can also meet Vocational Education and Training (VET) requirements by completing a Certificate III in Business or Sports Coaching. These qualifications are not only delivered on-site, they are exclusive to CBC, further enhancing the program's benefits.

This collaboration between CBC and Flinders University creates an accessible and supported route to higher education tailored to meet our students' academic and career aspirations.





Ms Tia Milohis with Year 12 students, Marcus and Andrew INTERCOL 2024 ///

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BLACKFRIARS

INTERCOL

Now in its 18th year, our intercollegian competition with Blackfriars is an annual highlight for our students. Whether they are competing in one of the 26 events or cheering from the sidelines, the week-long competition brings the College community together in healthy competition, strengthening friendships and providing lifelong-memories.

Sadly after seven years, CBC relinquished the trophy to Blacksfriars, but this didn't take away from the overall enjoyment and comradery of healthy competition between the schools.

A particular highlight was 1st XVIII Football match, where CBC defeated Blackfriars 111 to 42 points in an excitment-filled game.

FULLRESULTS



https://www.cbc.sa.edu.au/intercol/

BROTHERS

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Year 12s Last Day & Graduation A





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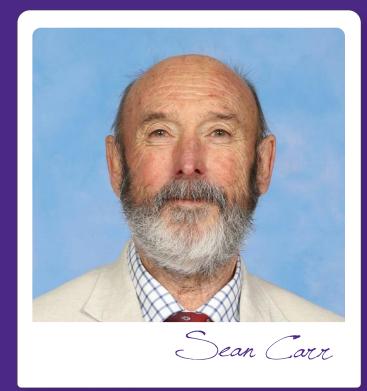
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Congratulations!



We are proud to announce one of our dedicated staff members, Sean Carr, has been awarded the EREA Charter Leadership Award for 2024 under the *Gospel Spirituality* Touchstone. This award recognises Sean's commitment to bringing the Gospel message to life within our school through involvement in the programs that connect students with faith and service.

Since joining the Senior Campus in 2022, Sean has been an asset to the Religious Education and Catholic Identity team. He has re-introduced the St Vincent De Paul Group's weekly food delivery program to Fred's Van, providing food for people in need in the Adelaide area. Through this program, students actively support local people experiencing homelessness, learning firsthand about compassion and giving.

Sean has also built connections with other faith communities by organising visits to Jewish and Islamic places of worship. This experience has broadened their understanding and respect for other beliefs, linking directly with Gospel values and our College value of Faith.

This work is supported by a dedicated staff body who actively engage with our programs in faith, spirituality, and service across the College. Congratulations Sean, on this inspiring achievement!

NEWSEVENTSNEWSEVENTS CBC ALUMNI

It's been a busy semester on campus with reunions, college tours and our reconstituted CBC Alumni Association holding its first AGM.

We would like to congratulate the following people on being appointed to the CBCAA Executive Committee:

President Nathan Byrnes (2013)

Vice-President Shaun Clarke (1979)

Secretary Jonah Brynes (2015)

Treasurer Nick Rosmini (2009)

Recent Graduate Representative Aidon Michalowski (2016)

Old Boy Representative Nick Rosmini (2009)

General Members Peter Nguyen (1994), Mark McGlaughlin (1974), Damien Keen (2003)

CBC Principal's Representative Stephen Clohesy The Events Coordinator position is open for expressions of interest – please contact the College if you are interested in learning more about this role.

We invite all alumni to take an active role in their association by nominating as a General Member and become involved in any capacity.

For all enquiries please contact

Stephen Clohesy - sclohesy@cbc.sa.edu.au



Denis (1958) and Peter (1950) Hennessy with Denis' grandson who will graduate in 2025.



CBCALUMNIASSOCIATIONAGM





CLASSOF1974REUNION

- de



CLASSOF2014 REUNION







STAYINTOUCH To stay updated with future events, please scan the QR Code

POSTCARDS FROM CBC ALUMNI

Adam De Pierro (2014)

As 2014 College Captain, Adam reflects fondly on his time at Christian Brothers College, crediting the school with shaping both his professional journey and personal growth.

After graduating, Adam pursued a Bachelor of Robotics Engineering (Honours) and a Master of Engineering (Electronics) – achievements that led him to join Lockheed Martin Australia's (LMA) prestigious graduate program. Now an accomplished Combat Management Systems Engineer on the Hunter Class Frigate Program for LMA, based in Osborne, overseeing critical components of Australia's next generation of warships.

Reflecting on his start at CBC as a Year 8 student in 2010, Adam recalls the initial transition from his local primary school. 'I remember feeling overwhelmed by the number of teachers,' he admits, but he soon formed lasting relationships with them. 'Those early connections allowed me to grow not only academically but also as a young man,' he says. 'The relationships I built with some of my early teachers continued to grow throughout my schooling. They were truly invested in us as individuals, not just as students.'

Adam describes his time at CBC as 'an overwhelmingly positive experience.' He particularly values the camaraderie and sense of brotherhood which he believes is unique to CBC. 'Supporting each other, cheering each other on, and representing the purple and white – that is what CBC was all about,'





reminiscing about interschool competitions like the Achilles Cup and Generations in Jazz music competition. 'Those experiences with my classmates, representing CBC together, really strengthened our bonds and made lasting memories.'

The CBC Music Program was a significant highlight of Adam's school years, providing him with opportunities to perform and express himself creatively. Through these events, Adam met students from nearby St Mary's College, including his now-wife of two years, Nicole.

Academically, Adam credits his maths and science teachers for encouraging his early interest in the field. 'Before CBC, I thought maths and science were just for nerds,' he laughs. 'But my teachers were so passionate, they helped me see that these subjects were not only interesting but could lead to a meaningful career.' These subjects ultimately guided Adam toward Engineering, a decision he made with confidence by the end of Year 12. 'CBC gave me the foundation to engage confidently in front of a crowd which has set me apart in the workforce.' he says.

For Adam, CBC was more than a school – it was a 'brotherhood.' The enduring friendships he built remain deeply meaningful. He says, 'If I have sons one day, I'd be proud to see them wear the purple and white.' His CBC experience embodies the College's commitment to shaping not just students but lifelong bonds and passions.



MY IDOL The world's champion miler, Herb Elliot, attended Aquinas College, run by the Christian Brothers in Western Australia. During his school days he won every crosscountry race he entered. Later, Percy Cerutty took him to his training camp at Portsea, Victoria. Since then he has won races world wide. He has proved himself a notable ambassador for He has written a book. "The Golden Mile" in

Australia. He has written a book, "The Golden Mile," in which he disagrees with the American way of in England and also runs for the Embridge He is coming home to run in the Empire ames in Perth next year. We hope he wins come. From the 1

D. FITZSIMONS, Grade VI.

I CBC Annual

1961

David Fitzsimons (1958)

David's brother Robert, and widow Marjorie reflect on his amazing dual career

David Fitzsimons, a talented civil engineer and champion athlete, made lasting contributions to both fields in his lifetime. He and his three brothers, Robert, Paul and Bernie attended CBC between 1952 and 1971 and all had a love for distance running.

David started at CBC in 1958 and soon discovered his athletic strengths at Sports Day – a few days before his eighth birthday – where he not only won the Under-8 Cup but, remarkably, came third in the Handicap Mile (1,600m). Earlier that month he had seen his brother Robert break the College record in the Under-15 880 yards (800m). David went on to break numerous school records and win several state championships, and upon graduating he held nine of the College's athletic records.

David was inspired, from a young age, by Herb Elliott, an old scholar of Aquinas (CBC), Perth; in 1958 Elliott achieved a new world record for the mile. David went on to win several national championships; he represented Australia in the 5,000m at two Olympics and two Commonwealth Games, and brought home the bronze medal for the 5,000m at the 1977 World Cup.

Professionally, Fitzsimons followed his dream of becoming an engineer, graduating from The University of Adelaide in 1972 with a Degree in Civil Engineering. Starting his career with South Australia's Highways Department, he quickly rose through the ranks, demonstrating exceptional leadership and strategic insight. In 1986, he earned a British Scholarship, gaining experience overseas that later enabled him to lead the Park

Terrace bridge project, now a landmark bearing his name. Renowned for his kindness, humour, and clear communication, he left a mark as Director of Statewide Operations.

Balancing his athletic and professional pursuits, Fitzsimons managed an active family life with his wife, Marjorie, whom he met at a friend's party in 1975, and their four children, Alexandra, John, Kate and Julia. His dedication to family extended to coaching his children's sports teams and being a steady presence at home despite his demanding career. His wife fondly recalls a comical moment during a European track meet where David mistakenly sprinted a lap early, delighting the crowd who thought he was breaking records, only to realise he had another lap to complete.

Throughout his career, David's family was his source of joy and support. He and Marjorie, who currently works as an Inclusive Education

Assistant at CBC's Junior Campus, raised four children together.

David's legacy continues through his family and his contributions to South Australian infrastructure. His life remains an inspiring testament to hard work, resilience, and an enduring passion for both family and community.







Kinesiology is a natural way to improve your

physical or emotional health learning ability or disability (Dyslexia, ADHD)

emotional balance for greater self confidence

anxiety or stress

performance in any area

to name a few.

measurable goal.

Kinesiology Balance supports you to create a

Muscle Monitoring uncovers what is out of balance in your mind and body and the corrections you need to balance your body mind. Nurturing Corrections can include Acupressure, Emotional Stress Release, and Brain Integration



Contact Jane Molnar for an appointment

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