

REFLECTIONS

Term 2

As we constantly refine our practice at Navigator College it is important to stay in touch with current research and trends in education. The field of neuroscience has much to say regarding how we learn and what implications this has for the profession of teaching.

A common theme in brain research is that learning is more likely when stress is low and learning experiences are relevant to students. In addition, when classroom activities are pleasurable, the brain releases dopamine, a neurotransmitter that stimulates the memory centers which increases focused attention.

“When students are engaged and motivated and feel minimal stress, information flows freely through the affective filter in the amygdala and they achieve higher levels of cognition, make connections, and experience “aha” moments. Such learning comes not from quiet classrooms and directed lectures, but from classrooms with an atmosphere of exuberant discovery” (Kohn, 2004).

With the focus on brain research and neuroscience we are in a position to lead a transformation regarding what teaching and learning looks like. Our mission statement of striving to be a Christian community where individuals are inspired as learners, flourish as people and care for the world around them, reminds us that we are constantly striving for increased engagement in the learning process, motivated and attentive students and active contributors to the acquiring of skills and knowledge.

Stephen Jude
PRINCIPAL



Inspiration begins with a devoted teacher who brings learning to life. Staff are passionate about their field of expertise and actively seek to create an atmosphere of exuberant discovery. They plan lessons that are stimulating and challenging and seek to stretch the thinking of learners.

A well nurtured disposition towards learning is also necessary. Learners who actively seek to make connections, who are able to see the relevance in what they are learning and are able to apply the knowledge to real life problems thrive.

Timely feedback is also critical as learners develop new neural pathways that are stronger and more powerful than old ones. By focusing on and practicing new behaviours, this process of myelination allows the brain to develop these neural pathways. Feedback, delivered timely and effectively supports this process.

As we continue to ask the question, How can we do this better? There is the opportunity to use science and latest research to inform our actions. In the case of Neuroscience, creating an atmosphere of exuberant discovery amongst our students is a vital ingredient.



**NAVIGATOR
COLLEGE**

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JUNIOR SCHOOL

Our incredibly capable and dedicated PYP teachers provide a safe and guiding road, but increasingly it is the ELC and Junior School learners who are in the driver seat for their learning at Navigator College. Learner agency is central to learning. We want our students to be active, lifelong learners. Learners who are always encouraged to use their voice, make choices, and take ownership of their learning.

Christian Studies - Actions for Love and Service: All learners in Year Five were allowed to choose an action that displayed love and service across the Navigator College community. They could choose an action that supported learners, staff, grounds or the environment.

Public Places Year Two learners took pride and ownership in designing and creating their own public spaces in their classroom environments. They were all rostered on and looked forward to having 'their day'. Throughout the day there was an opportunity for the learners to utilise their public place for a purpose.

Reception - Year One Play Space: Our Reception and Year One Learners are in the process of redeveloping their play space. Learners were given the opportunity to voice, choose and take ownership of what they would like to have in their play space. They have voiced what will support their play during play times. Some ideas were garden beds, a sandpit and mud kitchen, loose parts play, paths and balancing logs.

Ally Barclay
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



“Our learners are guided through learning opportunities that are engaging, relevant, challenging and significant. Learners are encouraged to use their imagination and initiative where they construct meaning and make sense of the world around them.”

ROMANS 12:2

Junior School Important Dates: Term 3

Principal's Tour: Thurs 1st August, 12.00pm

Year 3 Camp: Thurs, 15th and Fri, 16th August

Junior School Swimming : Year 3, 4 and 5 - Mon, 16th September – Fri, 20th September

Junior School Swimming: Reception, Year 1 and 2 - Mon, 23rd September – Fri, 27th September



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Throughout Term 2 the Middle School has further embraced the cause of taking learning beyond the classroom, into our community, and connecting with our local people, organisations and environment. On reflection we celebrate the culture of adventure and expedition that is becoming a trademark of the Navigator Experience.

Connection with Community It is a privilege to connect with our community; leaning in to the collective knowledge and skills of our city. Term 2 has seen students learn from members of the Barngarla people about land use and Lutheran connections and collaborate with Barngarla artists on the SA Water Pipeline painting Project. We have learned from Marine Parks, Natural Resources and National Parks personnel, experienced The Fresh Fish Place, Wool Spinners Club and been empowered by Paul Bartley from SAPOL and Yarredi Services staff about online responsibility and relationship values.

Adventures & Expeditions: Some of the opportunities where learning has 'hit the road' have included Koppio Museum, 2040 Film Screening, Lincoln National Park, Shelly Beach Marine Park, Big Swamp & Tod River, EP Seafoods Mussel farm boat tour and Year 9 City Week Adelaide Trip.

Pedal Prix & Celebration of Learning: We celebrated the courageous efforts of our Year 6 & 7 Pedal Prix team who stretched well into their growth zone in the Adelaide event. Our culminating Middle School Celebration of Learning and Music Showcase gave an appreciation for the rich learning on and off campus in all learning areas. 2019...Just an incredible adventure.

Andrew Jericho
HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL



“...and then I realised, adventure is the best way to learn” (Anonymous).

Middle School Important Dates: Term 3

- Principal's Tour: Thurs 1st August, 12.00pm
- Pedal Prix Murray Bridge: Fri 20th - Sun 22nd September
- Science and Engineering Challenge: Yr 9 & 10 students - Tues, 30th July (Whyalla)
- Year 6/7 Boys Netball and 6/7 Girls AFL: Tues 6th August
- Year 8/9 Boys/Girls Touch Football: Fri, 16th August (Tumby Bay)

FLOURISH

PSALM 72:7



SENIOR SCHOOL

Beyond the Classroom: Learning is much more than what happens within the 4 walls of a classroom, or the grounds of the school. Students have sought opportunities to develop skills other than content knowledge outside of the physical boundaries of the school. Here are a few of the highlights from Term 2.

Australian Secondary Schools Culinary Competition: For the first time Navigator College entered the Australian Secondary Schools Culinary Competition held at Regency TAFE in Adelaide. They were extremely well prepared by our Food and Hospitality teacher, Mrs. Sonia Ford, with expert tips from local Chef Tony Ford. Without too much expectation, other than to do their best and enjoy the experience, the team received 2 of only 3 Gold medals awarded (for a score of 90 points or more). They also received a silver. This placed them 2nd overall, and only fractionally behind 1st place. An outstanding effort by the students involved: Lily Gassner, Emma Turner, Trinity Spalding, Hailey Munckton, Chloe Dyer and Hannah Richardson.

Indonesian Visitors As a part of our partnership with SMA GKPS School in Indonesia, we again had 2 students and 1 staff member visit with us this term. They shared their culture, including singing and dancing, as well as helping us with our Indonesian pronunciation! This reciprocal arrangement continues to build our relationship with SMA GKPS, and provide amazing opportunities for both of our schools to grow. We are looking forward to our trip in September with 15 Year 11 students.

Student involvement: Senior Students are finding ways to support, serve and care for our world. Sam Veitch was again invited to attend the YMCA Youth Parliament in Adelaide over the Term 2 holidays, Emma Turner was a recipient of the 'New Holland Food and Fibre Education SA Full STEAM Ahead scholarship' and attended this early in Term 2, and Allyce Fatchen attended the Rotary Achievement in Citizenship conference in Canberra. Well done to those girls for being involved in these opportunities.

Retreats: The Year 10 students spent 2 weeks out of school in a different learning environment. Each week saw a group of students either bushwalking in the Lincoln National Park or learning in the workplace via Work Experience. Being able to grow spiritually in a difficult environment with your peers, or learn about what a potential career might be post-school, is a great opportunity. Many employers provide great feedback about Navigator College students, and we were once again pleased to hear about the amazing experiences had by our Year 10s. Well done to those students.

Vocational Education and Training (VET): With more and more students electing to incorporate a VET component into their SACE, it was exciting to see students from all over the Eyre Peninsula come to Navigator College to complete an intensive week of the Certificate III in Fitness. This course is run by our Student Pathways Coordinator and previous Gym owner Guy Bagshaw. It was great to hear the students learning about the best way to help people gain and maintain their health through physical activity. The Navigator College Staff have also been put through their paces in some of our morning briefing sessions!

Jamie Fewster
HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL



“Students are finding ways to support, serve and care for our world.”

CARE

PSALM 8: 6-8

Senior School Important Dates: Term 3

Principal's Tour: Thurs 1st August, 12.00pm Science and Engineering Challenge: (Year 9 & 10) Tue, 30th July
 Open Mixed Badminton: Wed 7th August Open Boys/Girls Basketball: Thurs, 15th August
 Senior School Subject Expo: Thurs, 15th August Year 10/11 Course Counselling Day: Fri, 16th August
 SSSA Year 10 Mixed Badminton: Thurs, 22nd August SSSA Open Girls Football: Wed, 18th Sept
 Service Learning Trip: Indonesia - Mon, 23rd September - Mon, 7th October