



CEDAR COLLEGE

BRANCHING OUT

WINTER 2021

THE OFFICIAL CEDAR COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

25 YEARS AGO...

Sometimes it feels as though time moves too fast! A student starts in Reception, and in what feels like the blink of an eye, they are graduating from Year 12.

It's certainly hard to believe that in 2021, we are celebrating Cedar's 25th year. On the other hand, the paddock-surrounded land that we began a school on, back in 1997, sometimes seems like a lifetime ago! We could never have imagined what would take place over those 25 years, and we are looking forward to marking the occasion in a number of special ways, over the coming months.

The Cedar College Resource Centre is currently displaying 25 years of Cedar's history, as we recognise and remember the incredible journey that we have all been a part of.

Since that first day of school, thousands of students and families, along with hundreds of teachers, have



become a part of the Cedar College story. There have certainly been many changes since those teachers taught their first lessons in 1997! With new facilities added almost every year, the school landscape is vastly different from those early days.

Our History Timeline celebrates highlights and events from each of Cedar's 25 years, and will also be on display for our Alumni Reunion, on September 16, 2021.

The timeline, complete with information and photos, is also presented online on its own mini-site at: cedarcollege.sa.edu.au/25years.

Peter Thomson
Cedar College Principal

IN THE PICTURE

While the Cedar College Sports Centre will be familiar to graduates from 2011 onward, the above view, taken from Meadowbank Terrace, would be new to many.

The new two-storey High School building was completed in 2021, and sits next to the Health & PE classrooms, which were opened in 2014.

The Alumni Association

"Branching Out" is sent to all graduates of Cedar College. It's our way of connecting with an ever-growing Cedar community. This newsletter is available online at cedarcollege.sa.edu.au/alumni.



To connect with us further, email alumni@cedarcollege.sa.edu.au, or like us on Facebook.

[Facebook.com/CedarCollege](https://www.facebook.com/CedarCollege).

New in 2021

HIGH SCHOOL FACILITIES GROW

WE LOVE SEEING THE SURPRISE ON OUR GRADUATES' FACES WHEN THEY RETURN FOR A SCHOOL TOUR, AND ARE AMAZED AT THE CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THEIR TIME AT CEDAR.

Students who have spent more than a few years at Cedar College, have likely grown used to seeing new facilities being built around them. 2021 has been no exception.

After a number of years of planning and building, students and staff alike were excited to finally use the latest extension to the High School Creative Arts building.

The main focus of the new extension is to meet the needs of our Canopy department (formerly known in the High School as CLIC), which occupies most of the ground floor. The name, Canopy, refers to the department's purpose; Cedar Anticipating New Opportunities for Potential in You, and also to the broader idea of the growth, protection, nourishment and beauty that a forest canopy provides.

Purposeful and Flexible

The new facility has been purpose-built with two teaching classrooms, a kitchen classroom, as well as facilities for visiting therapists, meetings, and small group work.

The new Arbour is open at lunchtimes for the use of our broader student community. Additional office areas are included for Canopy staff and Pastoral Care, and there is also provision for a garden teaching space, which will be

developed this year. The rooms have been named after individuals who have overcome challenges and disability, such as the Spencer Room, which is named after Octavia Spencer, a well-known actress who also has Dyslexia. Flexible furniture options have been chosen, facilitating collaboration with peers and staff.

The new facility has already received an enthusiastic response from students and a positive take-up of the lunchtime program. We are thankful for the provision of such a wonderful space, which will further enhance our programs involving life-skills, academic support, and pastoral care, beyond what was previously possible.

Room to Move

Upstairs, there are four new flexible teaching spaces and valuable storage space for the Drama department.

These spaces can be merged into two larger teaching spaces via moveable walls. Each of the four spaces are fitted with data projectors, including software to mirror staff and student devices, built-in audio systems, and WiFi access. Also upstairs, is a teachers' office and much-needed space for Senior School lockers.

For students in the High School, this has also meant new teaching spaces for Humanities, easier access to our High School Chaplain, and extended facilities for the drama department.

Cedar Alumni will have the opportunity to visit the new facility during the 25th Anniversary Reunion evening - we hope to see you there!



YOU'RE PART OF THE STORY

Calling all Alumni (that's you!)

No matter which decade is yours, if you're part of the Cedar College story, **you're invited to our 25th Anniversary Alumni Reunion, on Thursday September 16, 2021 between 5pm - 9pm, at Cedar College.**



SCAN TO RSVP

All attendees are required to **RSVP** online, either scan the QR code or visit: cedarcollege.sa.edu.au/reunion25 - hope to see you there!

And while you're online, **why not update your contact details, and tell us a little about your story** - we'd love to feature more stories in the next issue of Branching Out. Update your details at: cedarcollege.sa.edu.au/alumni



Recruited by Port with the 5th pick in the 2018 AFL Draft, Connor has been a formidable force in Port's forward line since his debut in 2019.

Connor recently took time out from his busy schedule to chat with Branching Out.

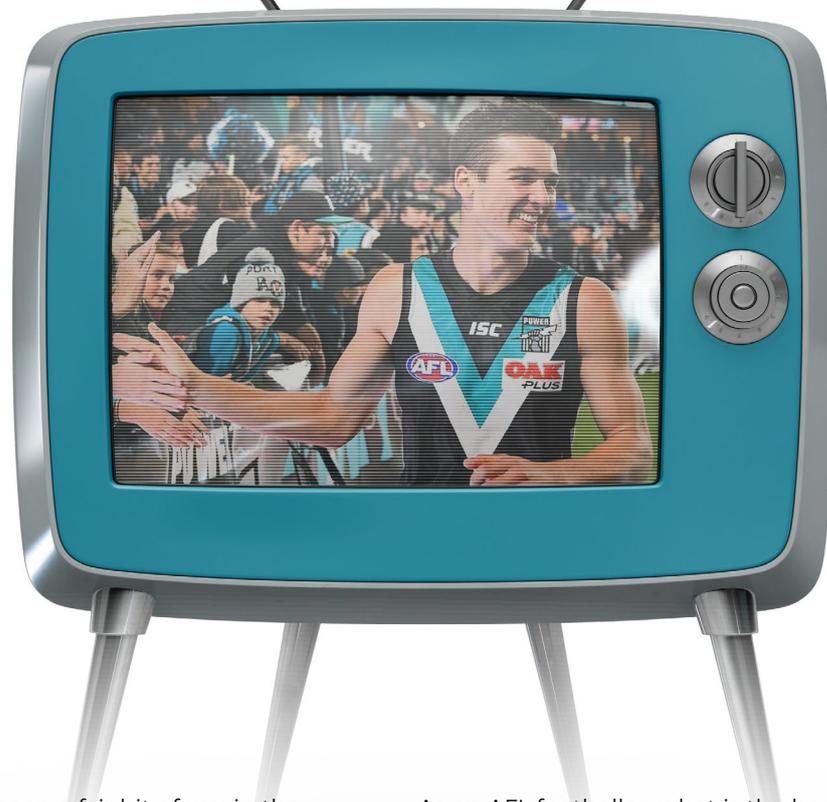
Hi Connor, thanks for taking the time to speak with Branching Out. It's hard to believe that it was only a few years ago that you finished High School!

Can you give us a brief overview of your journey from Year 12 Cedar student, to becoming one of Port Adelaide's most recognised players?

■ **My journey was pretty simple! It consisted of a year of uni and playing for North Adelaide Seniors, in my draft year. I was then lucky enough to be drafted to my home State and debut the next year, in Round 1.**

In just a few year as a professional footballer, you've been a runner-up in the NAB Rising Star, received Brownlow votes, and were Port's leading goal kicker in 2019 – has it all come easy for you, or has it been due to a lot of continual hard work?

■ **It definitely doesn't come easy, as much as being an AFL footballer is a dream come true, it's an extremely taxing job. It can be physically demanding for most of the year, and most of the battle is just staying healthy and not getting injured!**



We've seen a fair bit of you in the media, (you even danced on the Grand Final Footy Show!), how do you cope with all the attention and media commitments that come with being an AFL player?

As an AFL footballer, what is the best part of your job, and what is the worst (or least exciting) part of your job?

■ **The best part of the job is getting to spend every day with a bunch of**

ROZEE



< Connor,
Class of 2018.

A FOOTBALL JOURNEY

THE EXCITING #20 MID-FIELDER AND CEDAR ALUMNI, CONNOR ROZEE, SPEAKS ABOUT HIS JOURNEY FROM SCHOOL TO PLAYING IN THE AFL.

■ **The media is just something that comes with being a recognised person. Unfortunately I am not the biggest fan of some outlets, although it is always important to portray a positive image of the club, and [also] personally.**

We're looking forward to seeing more of your exciting game play during 2021, how do you prepare, to ensure that you are able to give your best, each week?

■ **I have a routine that I stick to each week, getting the same amount of sleep, hydration, diet and recovery in before a game is vital. It allows me to feel good before each game.**

your mates striving towards the same goal. The worst part is negative media and expectations put on players.

You've visited Cedar a couple of times over the last few years, and even helped us raise money for the Cancer Foundation. What's a favourite memory from your time at Cedar?

■ **My favourite memories from Cedar are spending time with my mates every day, there are too many to count, but the more time goes by, the more I actually miss school!**

The cast from 2015's "Wonderland" >



A Little Dramatic

A BRIEF HISTORY OF HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA PRODUCTIONS AT CEDAR COLLEGE

Few events have the ability to evoke emotions and memories as long-lasting as a those of a school drama production.

For Cedar College, the drama journey began in 2008, with the first senior drama, "The Glass Menagerie". Directed by Miss Zimmermann, the drama paved the way for the next production - Pride & Prejudice - directed by Mr Hill in 2011.

Absurd to Poignant

Between 2012 and 2016, Mr Nowak put his creative twist on five productions, including the quirky "Wonderland", which was the only performance to be presented off-campus, at the Parks Theatre. In 2016, the first production in the new Creative Arts facility took place, three one-act plays titled "The Social Commentary".

Creative Spaces

The 2017 production of "Fiddler" saw a return to musicals, under Mrs Briggs, and two years later, "Earnest", directed by Mr Rose, was a comedy favourite.

The tradition of senior drama continues to create lasting memories at Cedar, and we look forward to many exciting productions in the years ahead.



2008



2011



2012



2013



2014



2015



2016



2017



2019



WHEN THINGS CLIC

BRANCHING OUT SITS DOWN
WITH CLIC TEACHER, MRS JENNY
MARSHALL, TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT HER 25 YEARS AT CEDAR.

Hi Jenny (Mrs Marshall to many), thanks for being a part of our 25th Anniversary Alumni newsletter. I thought we'd start by asking you to cast your mind back *before* Cedar began. What were you doing and when did you begin at Cedar?

■ Before starting at Cedar, I spent 20 years teaching at State schools. I started off my teaching career at Semaphore Park Primary and we divided in half to start a brand new school, West Lakes Shore Primary. And I was there for about 13 years before I moved to a school in Salisbury. During those years I taught Year 5 and 6, but mostly Year 7s.

In 1997, Cedar began, and during the first year I was still part-time at my other school, but came in and shared Mr Thomson's Year 3/4/5 class, so that he could do his Principal work.

Most students would probably remember you as a CLIC teacher, but when you first started at Cedar, what were your early years like, and what were you teaching?

■ In the first year we had a Year 3/4/5 class, the second year I had a Year 5/6 class, and then a Year 5/6/7 class. In that class, there were only nine students and Miss Dix was my student teacher.



< Mrs Jenny Marshall, Cedar College teacher 1997 - present.

You might think it's easy to teach a class of nine, but it was also quite difficult. I taught hockey back then and it was very hard to make up two teams to play hockey! but we had lots of fun and I really enjoyed it.

Over the years I ended up being a Year 6 or Year 7 teacher, until we started the Middle School. I went up to Middle School and taught the Year 7/8 class with Allan Fjording. I looked after the literacy teaching and Allan looked after the Mathematics and Science teaching. Then, after that year, I decided my life was really in Year 6. I was always interested in helping

students who were struggling, and around 10 years ago I started working on the learning needs program, which we eventually called CLIC.

Students would mostly see you as just a teacher, but when I see how much you care for each student, I think that your job is much more than that. How has working at a Christian School given you opportunities that you otherwise wouldn't have had.

■ I guess I love seeing the 'light' come on when someone 'gets it'. I like helping students and building up a really good relationship with them, so that they enjoy working with me. Sometimes there are students that are finding things tough, and you just love seeing them smile and helping them understand things.

The fact that I could also pray together with my students, was such a massive difference from the school that I came from. It actually took me a while to get used to the Christian school pattern, but when I had my own class, I started to enjoy being able to give more input into student's lives and being able to pray for them, and being able to talk about Easter and Christmas properly.



So, I think it probably took me a good two or three years to get used to teaching in a Christian environment and being comfortable with it.

“ I guess I love seeing the ‘light’ come on when someone ‘gets it’.”

I’m sure that being a teacher is not always easy! What are some of the struggles that you’ve faced during your time as a teacher, and how would you encourage those who are still studying, or just beginning a career as a teacher?

■ I think it’s good for a Christian teacher to experience teaching in a State school before they come into a Christian School environment. It’s so different, and I think you get a better perspective of what’s really going on in the world.

We are so blessed here at Cedar. We started off with just some empty buildings and we have been blessed beyond imagination. I never imagined, 25 years ago, that we would have the facilities that we have now, like my new CLIC building, and it just blows my mind!

Everyone knows Mr Marshall at Cedar, as he runs around and fixes things at super speed! Is he just as energetic and unstoppable at home?

■ Yes he is!... [laughs] ... He always has to be doing something or fixing something! We make a joke when we go away at Christmas time to a holiday house and say “What’s he going to fix here?”. But occasionally he will come home from work a bit sore and tired and will put his feet up and recover!

Finally, What is one of your favourite memories from Cedar over the 25 years that you’ve been here?

■ There are so many! We had one year in Upper Primary where we got a chance to get an egg hatchery. We had 12 eggs, and we watched those 12 eggs hatch under the heat lamp. It was during Science Week, and we’d

hear a little crack and the students would stop working to watch this little egg open up and a chicken come out.

Then the different classes in the school would come and visit. That was a real highlight, and the students absolutely loved it.

I also really enjoy watching the students that I worked with in Primary

School continue on and finish off Year 12 really well. I just love watching students that I’ve been with since Reception do so well in High School and graduate - it just makes my heart sing! And, of course, getting my new CLIC building was probably the biggest highlight! I got to help design it all too, so it was built exactly how I wanted it, and it’s really nice.

Thanks Jenny, for giving us a glimpse into your life here at Cedar. I’m sure there would be many students who would want to thank you for all that you have meant to them over the last 25 years!



New in Primary School

A familiar sight in the Primary School since Cedar began were the transportable buildings, near the asphalt courts.

These original buildings have slowly been replaced, with the final one removed in 2019, making way for the new Primary School CLIC and Science facility.

Opened in 2020, the teaching area is spacious, with various areas to suit different groups of students. Outside is the sensory garden with a water feature, various plants, fairy and dinosaur garden pots, and a sensory path.

The CLIC facility has three small rooms (blue, green and purple) where Occupational Therapists and Speech Therapists work with students. The “Aquarium” is a place where students can have some quiet time listening to soft sounds, or just relaxing in a bean bag with a weighted animal or blanket.



WHERE ARE YOU NOW?



LOCHIE,
CLASS OF 2017

Hi Lochie, we've seen you around the college a fair bit in the last few years – what have you been up to since 2017?

■ **Since the completion of my schooling I have been studying a Bachelor of Education (Primary) at the University of South Australia.**

What are some of the challenges that you have experienced during the move from school into university?

■ **Something that I have found challenging has been using my time in an effective manner. Another thing that I have found challenging has been working out “adulthood” in general really! It's such a big world out there, and trying to work out my place in it has been challenging, and exciting.**

I think you've got quite a few teachers in your family – was the decision to pursue a career in teaching an easy one? What made you choose this path?

■ **Yeah, for sure! My mum is a teacher and she modelled the life of a teacher in a way that attracted myself and two of my older brothers to the profession. I have always enjoyed teaching, as well as helping others to achieve their best.**

What advice do you have for those who are struggling or wondering whether to continue their studies?

■ **Studying, in general, is not a walk in the park at all! I came into uni during my first year thinking that I would breeze through it with minimal effort. But I soon realised that with that mind-set comes pain and heartache, when the fail grades come. So, my first year at uni was really difficult for me, as it took me a while to work out how invested I had to be in order to thrive and enjoy my studies.**

The advice I would give would be: Persevere - battle on through the

tough subjects, and ask for help and guidance from others in your course and your tutors, to help you get by. It's really worth it in the end!

What are some things that you've learned, having experienced being on the other side of the teacher's desk?

■ **Having conducted my practicums at Cedar, I've learnt so much about the time and effort that educators put in to create engaging lessons and activities that guide students in their learning. I have had wonderful mentor teachers that have modelled what it means to be a caring and compassionate teacher, which is what students need. Experience like that cannot be bought.**

What are some of your favourite memories from your time at Cedar?

■ **I will never forget the camps and sports carnivals that I went to with my friends. I have developed lifelong friends from my schooling at Cedar**



and I will never forget the memories we made on those camps and carnivals. We often laugh about the wonderful memories my friends and I have from our schooling. If I could, I would go back to Year 12 and relive all of those memories again!

Thanks for catching up, with Branching Out - all the best as you finish your studies!

NOW & THEN

THE PRIMARY SCHOOL GREEN AREAS HAVE CONTINUED TO CHANGE OVER THE YEARS



During the 20th Anniversary (2016) new seating and paving was added, and between 2016 and 2020, the new CLIC/Science facility, along with Nature Play areas, have significantly changed the look of the Primary School, while retaining the green play areas.

