

# BELONG

Mancel College's monthly newsletter



October 2022



**MANCEL  
COLLEGE**

By  
Language  
Disorder  
Australia.

# News from the CEO



Dear Parents and Families

Welcome back to Term 4 of 2022! It has been an exciting start to the final term of the year as students in Years 3 to 6, and the staff working with them, could finally move into our new building.

It was wonderful to see how excited everyone was as they explored the new spaces and have started to feel at home in what is a wonderful space to learn and work. We expect the landscaping works alongside the building to be complete by mid-November, with the official opening taking place on Wednesday 16 November.

It has also been exciting to launch the new Mancel College uniform and to see a growing number of students wearing it with pride. I would ask families to support the college by moving over to the new uniform as soon as possible.

Without exception, every time I visit Mancel College I am impressed by the positive attitude, enthusiasm and kindness of our amazing students. Whether it be in the classrooms, on the adventure playground or just moving around the campus, they are an inspiration. They consistently step up to confront challenges, embrace new opportunities and push themselves to meet increasing expectations. This 'can do', positive determination is a mindset that we must actively build and nurture in children and young people, both as a school and as parents. It is this refusal to give up nor allow challenges to become barriers that will set them up for success and enable them to achieve their goals and aspirations both during their time at school and beyond.

On behalf of everyone at Language Disorder Australia, I'd like to warmly welcome Mr. Peter Foster to the team in the role of Principal of Mancel College. I know that Peter's experience, energy and passion are already evident across the campus, and that under his leadership the college will continue to thrive and develop. If you haven't had the opportunity to meet Peter yet, please make sure you introduce yourself to him over the coming few weeks.



Earlier this year, we published the Language Disorder Australia Strategic Framework 2022-2025. This key document sets out 8 strategic goals which will underpin our work across all areas of Language Disorder Australia, including Mancel College. [The document is available on the website.](#) Leaders and managers of each area of the organisation are now working with their teams in developing action plans which define clearly how they will deliver on each of these strategic goals.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for entrusting us with your child's education.

Every good wish 

**Mark Yeowell**  
CEO Language Disorder Australia

# News from the Principal



It has been a very busy and productive start to the final term at Mancel College. With our new building in the final stages of completion towards the end of the holidays and the first few weeks of term, our Years 3-6 students have now moved into their new state-of-the-art facility.

Our teachers and students busily moved their materials to the new rooms over one week and are now participating in lessons that have multiple areas for learning in each classroom. These consist of a main area, an inside breakout space which is perfect for reading, writing and further collaborative activities, a deck area and a large entry area which will have some wonderful tables and seating early in 2023. To walk through and watch the educational environment change before your eyes is wonderful - a place to challenge our students and build educational outcomes that can be built upon each year at the College. I have included a photo of the solar panels on the new building. In the coming months, we will be engaging our students in 'what it means to be a sustainable school'.

On Thursday 20 October, Mancel College took part in our global webinar called the **24 Hours of Change**. This was hosted at Independent Schools Queensland and included two students from Mancel College and two from Faith Lutheran Plainland. Hamish Michelmore (Yr 8) and Xavier Tuthill (Yr 9), represented the College outlining via livestream to the global educational community what should the future of education look like? The boys had many ideas that concentrated on individualised, collaborative education that developed the whole person for the needs of a future society. I outlined my vision and facilitated the discussion between the four students and questions that were posed by students and educators from around the world. Dr Paul

Browning, the Principal of St Pauls at Bald Hills, gave a fantastic presentation on his new school's pedagogy, the 'Realms of Thinking'. Mancel College will be aiming to be at the 'cutting edge' of teaching and learning in the future and to ensure that outcomes of every student work towards them becoming the best that they can be.

It was such a special event to see our graduating class of 2022 attend their school formal at the Indooroopilly Golf Club on October 7. The students looked amazing in their formal attire and enjoyed a delicious dinner over selected speeches from staff and representatives. The fun 'photo booth' was very popular with students, staff, and parents, capturing many fun memories of such an enjoyable evening.

It has been a very gratifying first month at Mancel College, working with so many wonderful staff and meeting the lovely students who create such a fantastic culture at the College. I look forward to the rest of the term, meeting many more families and students. It is a very exciting time for Mancel College and it is vital that we all work together for the best outcomes for our young leaders of tomorrow.

Please [email me](#) at any time to arrange a coffee and a chat. 

**Peter Foster**  
Principal





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Peter Foster

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# News from the Primary School



Wow! What an eventful and fun beginning to Term 4 in the Primary School. The highlight for everyone in Years 3-6 has definitely been the opening of the playground and the move to the new building. I'm sure you have enjoyed the many updates on Seesaw from classes and on the Mancel College Facebook page.

Our fabulous, purpose-built learning spaces will provide us with endless opportunities to further develop and enrich our curriculum delivery to meet the needs of our students. The corridors have been buzzing with the sound of talk and chatter of fun had on the playground at break time and climbing up the stairs!

The addition of our playground and going up and down the stairs will significantly increase the level of incidental activity and exercise for all involved. I believe this will have a positive impact on us all, including:

- a chance to have fun with friends
- build communication and social skills
- better self-esteem and confidence - social and physical
- better concentration for learning
- healthy growth and development
- improved fitness, including coordination and movement skills

The Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care Guidelines recommend children and young people do at least 60 minutes each day of moderate to vigorous physical activity that makes the heart beat faster. We are getting our steps up and our hearts beating!

Student feedback about our new building:

- Danika - 'This classroom is amazing. It is super good!'
- Noah M - 'I love the new cause I can write on them desks!'
- Chelsea - 'I like the air conditioning!'
- Nathan - 'I like the different shaped tables because you can make different groupings!'
- Charlie - 'I like the lockers and that they have doors on them!'
- Noa D- 'I love the moving blue chairs!'
- Katie - 'I like the secret TV!'
- Savva - 'I like the view from the balcony!'
- Orion - 'I like the fridge!' 

**Joanne Pearn**  
Deputy Head of College - Primary





$$\begin{array}{r} 51 \\ \hline 137 \\ + 14 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 112 \\ \hline 5 \\ + 67 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 42 \\ \hline 19 \\ + 23 \\ \hline 70 \end{array}$$

2 digit addition w/  
regrouping

SPENCER

# News from the Secondary School



There is no wi-fi in the forest, but I promise, you will find a better connection \*"

Author Unknown

Term 4 brings the Senior School into the camping season; the time when our students in Years 9-12 and Year 7-8 embark on a three-day, two-night adventure with their teachers and school assistants. While there is much excitement associated with these events, it is also normal for our students (and their parents and caregivers) to feel a little bit anxious too. As with any change to our routine, attending camp is about facing a number of new and different situations in a supported environment that allows our students to experience success and achievement away from the comfort and familiarity of Mancel College.

In a year plagued with COVID related delays, we have approached these camps with a positive mindset and a 'can do' attitude. Our teachers and school assistants have been instrumental in working with our students to demystify their upcoming camp experience. Having even a little bit of understanding as to the day-to-day of the possible activities positions our students to feel more aware and in control of what is to come. Conversations in classes work to normalise the unknown for our students, and the use of visuals

extends this process of alleviating anxiety and creating a sense of excitement.

For our students, they have also embedded the process of identity and connection to their camps within their curriculum; during their Arts and Technology sessions, they worked on a graphic design process that allowed them to vote in their preferred design for printing onto individual shirts. Being able to wear their own camp shirt on that first morning before the buses are packed and we depart, enhances the feeling of connection and belonging for both our students and the staff. United in our navy blue 'uniform', we can face all that the camp will ask of our students, working together as a team for the ultimate camp experience.

We invite everyone to follow our camping stories via the Mancel College Facebook pages, where we will look to provide as many pictures as possible of our students facing challenges, and reaching even higher to achieve their own personal successes. 

**Jo Bennett**  
Deputy Head of College - Secondary

\* Just a note to reassure our parents and caregivers: both our camp sites have Wi-Fi and the staff will be in constant contact.





CONNOR



Bestbrook 2022

DARNELL



Bestbrook 2022

ROBBIE



Bestbrook 2022

BILL



Bestbrook 2022

JAN



Bestbrook 2022

COACH



Bestbrook 2022

TORI



Bestbrook 2022

ELEANOR



Bestbrook 2022

MAKENZIE



Bestbrook 2022

COLETTA



Bestbrook 2022

TEAGAN



Bestbrook 2022

TONYA



Bestbrook 2022

SO



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JESSE



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AVIER



Bestbrook 2022

LINCOLN



Bestbrook 2022

YOOMI



Bestbrook 2022

JAXON



Bestbrook 2022

WILL



Bestbrook 2022

# News from the Allied Health Team

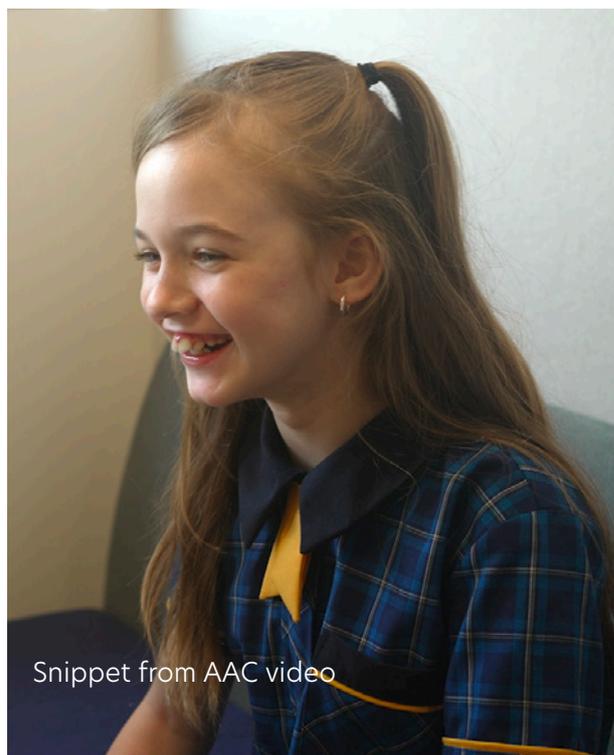


The month of October is a special month within the world of Allied Health, with the entire month dedicated to celebrating and raising awareness of AAC.

AAC stands for 'Augmentative and Alternative Communication' and refers to all methods of communication other than speech (e.g., gestures, signing, pictures, eye gaze, speech generating devices). 'Augmentative Communication' is when you add or supplement something. For example, you may add key word sign or pictures to your speech. 'Alternative Communication' is when you use a different way to communicate, for example, through a speech generative device. AAC helps students to express their thoughts, needs, wants, ideas, and helps them to understand communication attempts from others.

AAC is particularly important at Mancel College, where students might require assistance in accessing the vocabulary needed in the classroom. At Mancel College, we communicate in many different ways and use many different kinds of AAC all year round. This month, we are celebrating that and want to share with all of our Mancel College families some of the wonderful ways we use AAC. Some common examples you will find across the school include (but are not limited to):

- Speech generating devices. We have many systems and devices used by students across the college. Our Senior Speech-Language Pathologist, Lily Wilks, runs an 'AAC Club' which includes students within the College who use these devices. She refers to these as 'talkers' and utilises this time with students to build their confidence and independence utilising their 'talker' throughout daily life and within the classroom.
- Pictures, drawings, photos, and other visuals. Our college team integrate visuals throughout each day to increase the capacity of all students to communicate and participate in classroom and social learning.
- Key Word Sign. Key word sign is a simplified form of manual signing and a highly effective communication tool. It builds upon natural gesture and body language, which already



Snippet from AAC video

forms so much of how we communicate day-to-day. The team at Mancel College use key word sign to increase the opportunities for successful interactions with our children and young people, promote the extension of language skills and support to reduce frustration for our early communicators by providing another tool for expressing their needs.

I've included some day-to-day practical photos on the following page, demonstrating some of these wonderful ways in which we use AAC across the College. We are also working on our first 'AAC Awareness' short clip, so keep an eye on our Facebook page! 

**Chelsea Auld**  
Allied Health Service Coordinator



# Sports and Co-curricular News



"We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

*Walt Disney*

Our newest co-curricular offering is the Make&Meld club on a Thursday afternoon. Offering creative design and maker workshops, Make&Meld inspire creative thinking and problem solving, while teaching the skills required to use basic tools, exploring sustainable materials and having fun in a safe environment. Our students have spent the first two weeks at this club making bow and arrows and native bee hotels and it has been fantastic to watch them each personalise their project with their individual creative flair!

Thank you to the parents who let me know about different organisations such as this one. Can I invite you to be in touch if you happen to come across something that would offer a new opportunity for our students to expand their interests and discover previously hidden talents? I am always keen to explore the potential for new options as I grow and expand the co-curricular space.

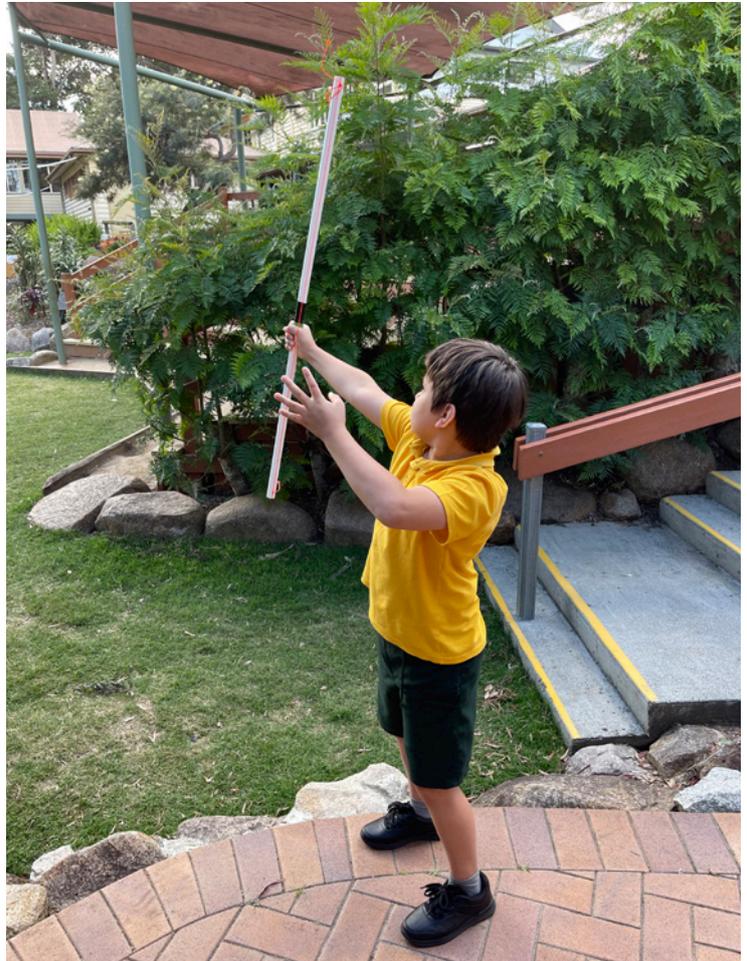
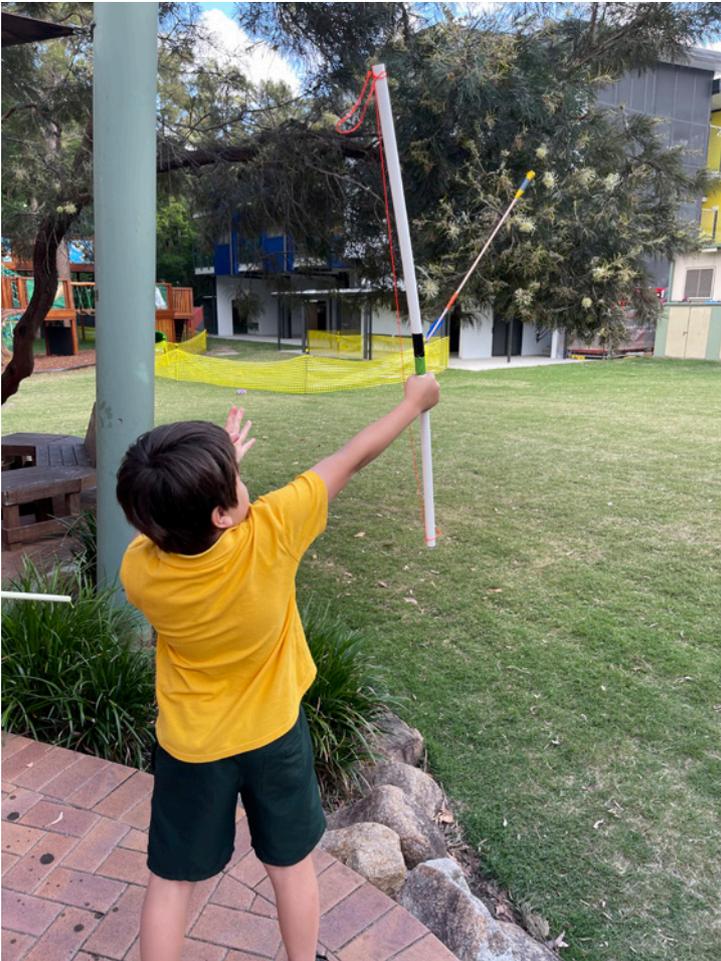
The opening of the new building and subsequent move of the Year 5-6 classes into it, has offered us the opportunity to move our co-curricular clubs into the one consistent space. All clubs that had previously been held in the library or senior school

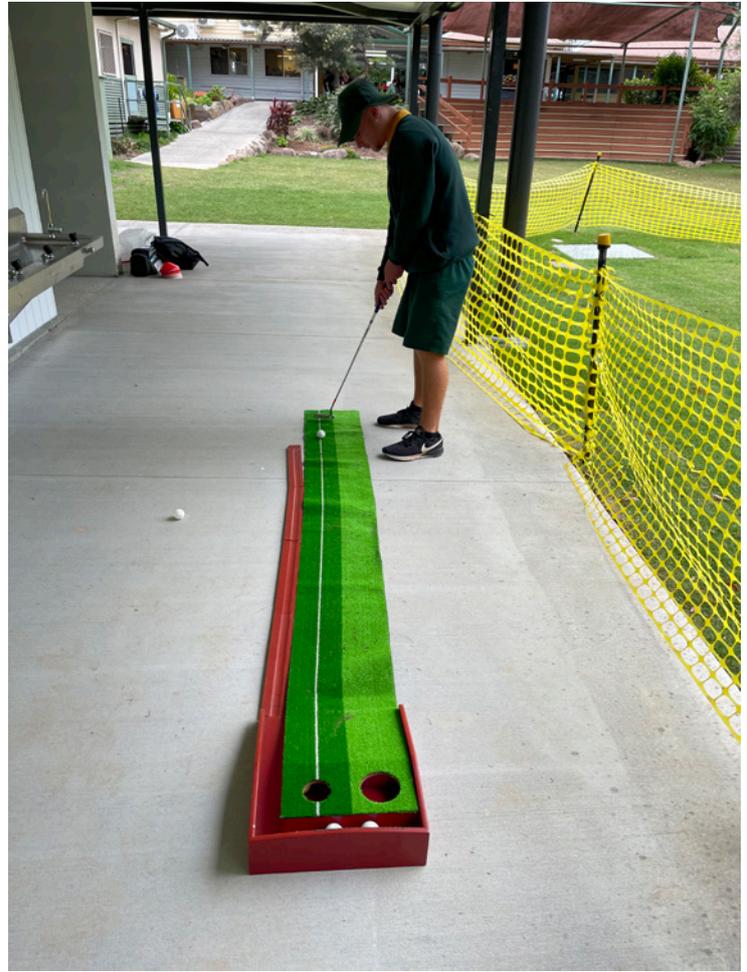
therapy rooms will now take place down in the old Year 5-6 classrooms. This will allow us some stability and consistency and the opportunity to make the space our own!

And finally... our Year 11 and 12 students were offered a unique opportunity last Friday when Dr Brad Carver, President of Blind Golf QLD, generously offered his time to come out to us at school and run some introductory exposure activities. Brad spoke to the students about his own journey into golf as a person who is legally blind. He spoke about how accessible the sport of golf is and encouraged the students to be open-minded about trying something different. At the end of the session, I was complimented on our student's engagement. Brad noted their willingness to give everything a go and their skill in doing so. I am hoping to follow this session up with an excursion to the driving range at Victoria Park before the end of the year, and keen to further develop their newly discovered skill set, all students involved expressed their enthusiasm for this to occur. 

**Victoria Venter**  
*Sports and Co-curricular Lead*







SLP vacancies from  
mid-January.

Please enquire now  
to secure your child's  
therapy spot onsite  
at Mancel College for  
2023.



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(07) 3378-8444

Open on weekdays  
from 7:30 to 10:30am  
during school term.



## Enrolments at Mancel College for 2023 are still open!

If you know of a family who may be interested in joining our Mancel College community, please encourage them to visit our website, or contact the Enrolments Team today at [enrolments@languagedisorder.org.au](mailto:enrolments@languagedisorder.org.au).



By  
Language  
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