



MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

Term 4
Week 7 – 2025
Newsletter

From the Principal

Dear Mount Barker Waldorf School Community,

Term 4 powers on and we have had yet another wonderful expression of community with the Twilight Markets on Friday afternoon and evening. The oval was transformed with stalls made into alleyways filled with chatter and running children. The weather was beautiful – just warm enough to worry about wearing a hat, and to linger into the evening, warding off the chill. From the talk among the stall holders, it was also a lucrative evening for many and I will be as interested as you to find out how the fundraising aspect of the evening went.

Just as important though was the opportunity to try something new with the fishing dip at the bridge near the Japanese room, and the treasure cave in the bell tent among other changes. On first glance, it looked successful and might allow us to look further and ask the question “What could the Spring Fair look like?”. This is a question that I think is rooted in our values as a Waldorf School, and in understanding our context – by this I mean recognising the capacity, opportunity and motivation of the families in our school, and how that matches with what is being asked by the school Spring Fair in its current format. It took a thunderstorm to be able to try new things, and it might also be a catalyst for change. It will be interesting to hear your thoughts on this.

In Waldorf schools, the impetus for what we do is not always for direct cause and effect. The Twilight Market (and Spring Fair) may be ostensibly for fundraising, but it is the benefits to the community life of the school that have longer lasting and greater impacts. Recently I came across an article in the Guardian looking at studies in Finland trying to prove the benefits of children being in nature – something we all know is right intuitively but must be proven by science for it to be real! (please click on the quote to find out more)

[Increasingly, scientists are learning that our health is intimately linked to our surroundings, and to the ecological health of the world around us. The first 1,000 days of human life – when the brain and body are most rapidly developing – are considered particularly crucial.](#)

This is something that resonates strongly in our education, and I believe that the expressions of community we are all participating in in Term 4 have just as strong an effect on our own health and that of our school. Either through active participation in creating the spaces for people to enjoy, or by coming and enjoying the events

Key dates this week

Monday 24 November

PUPIL FREE DAY

Report writing day for teachers



Thursday 27 November

Class 1 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Classroom

3.30pm - 4.30pm

Friday 28 November

Class 6 Crossover

MBWS Oval

10.30am

Class 2 Shared Evening (sleepover cancelled due to expected weather)

MBWS LAC foyer, Gym

3.20pm - 6.30pm

Class 6 Graduation

Littlehampton

5.30pm - 7.30pm

OSHC ~Afternoons Only

Monday–Friday PM

School finish–6.00pm

(\$30 flat rate)

To book, please email

[**oshc@mbws.sa.edu.au**](mailto:oshc@mbws.sa.edu.au)

TERM 4, 2025

**Monday 13 October
to
Friday 12 December**

being offered, our community grows and strengthens through these events. Everyone who was there on Friday contributed to the Spirit of our school, and also took a little bit of our school Spirit with them. That is why Term 4 is so beautifully hectic, but essential. Thank you for being a part of it all and I'll see you at the next event!

Warm regards,
Liam Waterford, Principal

Upcoming Events

Monday 1 December

Class 3 & 4 Eurythmy Lessons in Action

Eurythmy Room
11.15am - 12.30pm

Class 5 & 6 Eurythmy Lessons in Action

Eurythmy Room
1.15pm - 2.45pm

Class 4 Parent/Teacher Meeting

Classroom
5pm - 6pm

Tuesday 2 December

Class 1 & 2 Eurythmy Lessons in Action

Eurythmy Room
11.15am - 12.30pm

Class 8 Project Presentations

LAC
12.15pm - 3.15pm

Class 7 Parent/ Teacher Meeting & End of Year Celebration

IRC for parents and students
6pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 3 December

Class 12 Play

LAC
1.45pm - 3pm and
7pm - 8.30pm

Volunteers Afternoon Tea

LAC Foyer
3.30pm - 4.30pm

Thursday 4 December

Class 12 Play

LAC
7pm - 8.30pm

Friday 5 December

Rose Ceremony

MBWS
11.15am - 12.30pm

****This is a full day for all students****

Class 12 Play

LAC
7pm - 8.30pm



If you have any feedback for the MBWS Board, please contact them via email at: secretary@mbws.sa.edu.au



Eurythmy for adults

Mondays
9 am - 10 am



Friends of the Plant Nursery

Tuesdays:
9.15 - 10.45am

Meet at School
Plant Nursery



Beehive

Tuesdays
9am - 11am
Cafe and Shop

**PARENT CRAFT
ON
HOLD**



Yoga Thursdays

A slow pace yoga class
suited for everyone.

Teachers: 8-8.30am
Students: 8.30-8.55am
Parents: 9.15-10am

Playgroup Leader Mount Barker Waldorf School 2026

About Us

The Mount Barker Waldorf School is an established coeducational, independent Waldorf school serving over 350 students from Early Childhood through to Year 12. The school is located in the Adelaide Hills on a picturesque 20 acres. We offer a full Waldorf Curriculum with extensive purpose-built facilities, experienced teachers and dedicated parents.

Our Playgroup Program provides a welcoming, supportive environment for parents, carers, and children from ages one to five, fostering early childhood development through exploratory play, seasonal songs, rhymes, and storytelling. This position offers an exciting opportunity to work in a creative, collaborative, and supportive environment where you will play a key role in shaping and supporting the development of students.

The Role

We are seeking a compassionate and organised Playgroup Leader to guide and nurture our early childhood playgroups. This role involves planning and leading playgroup activities, fostering a sense of community among families and supporting the developmental needs of young children in alignment with Steiner education principles.

As the Playgroup Leader, you will be responsible for creating a warm, nurturing space where young children can explore, grow and develop alongside their parents and carers. You will engage families through creative activities and foster a sense of community, while managing all related administrative tasks.

Mandatory requirements

- A valid (cleared) Working With Children Check
- RRHAN-EC Certificate
- Adhering to the policies and guidelines of Mount Barker Waldorf School, including the Code of Conduct.
- First Aid Certification (HTLAID012 Provide First Aid in an Education and Care Setting)

Preferred qualifications

- Cert III in Early Childhood or above

Come and join us!

To apply please send a cover letter, CV, and three references to the Principal, Liam Waterford at lwaterford@mbws.sa.edu.au.

Applications close COB Friday December 5. All positions require the right to work in Australia. We do not sponsor foreign applicants.

Join Our Dynamic High School Team – Design Tech Teacher 2026

We are seeking a passionate and experienced High School Design Tech Teacher to take up our Design Tech Curriculum in 2026 and into the future. This is a unique opportunity to hold an essential part of our school and to be a part of a collaborative and passionate team of Teachers.

Key duties will include teaching woodwork and metalwork from Class 6 to 12 using a variety of tools and machinery, conducting age-appropriate safety inductions, risk management and mitigation, and servicing of relevant tools, machinery, and equipment. We invite applications from teachers who bring enthusiasm for their craft, kindness and clarity in communication, and a commitment to working closely with students, colleagues, and parents. A positive, grounded approach and the ability to guide students with empathy, respect, and firm but warm boundaries will be essential in this role.

Applicants will need to hold, at minimum, a Bachelor of Education specialising in Technical Studies (including Woodwork and Metalwork), or an equivalent qualification such as a comparable degree, diploma, or certificates.



We are committed to an education that cultivates imagination, creativity and the skills children need for a meaningful future. We are especially seeking teachers who value collegiality and are enthusiastic about working together to support the healthy development of our young people. You will be supported in your professional and personal growth, with opportunities for ongoing development in Steiner Education and on-site mentoring with dedicated and experienced staff.

Come and join us!

To apply please send a cover letter, CV, and three references to the Principal, Liam Waterford at lwaterford@mbws.sa.edu.au. All applicants should have the right to work in Australia and be eligible for registration with the SA Teachers Registration Board. They will hold a current Working With Children Check and be willing to obtain or provide evidence of RRHAN-EC and First Aid qualifications relevant to an Education and Care setting. We do not sponsor foreign applicants.

Applications are welcome at any time, and the position will remain open until a suitable candidate is appointed.

For preliminary confidential enquiries or conversations about these positions, please contact Liam Waterford, Principal at the school on (08) 8391 0411.

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Warmer weather brings out Snakes

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Staff,

Please be aware that, with the warmer weather, we may see a snake from time to time as we move around our beautiful site. With the ideal conditions - including hospitable terrain and vegetation, and plenty of food - alongside increasing urbanisation in the surrounding areas, we should maintain awareness that snakes may be present.

Please exercise additional care when you are moving around/through gardens and bushy areas, ensure you stay on the paths, and of course do not put your hands anywhere you can't see well (in bushes, under logs, under buildings).

If you see a snake, or a student reports seeing a snake, please contact Front Office or a nearby staff member, who will advise me or the Grounds staff immediately and we will call the snake catchers.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Kennedy
Business Manager

HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED FOR INDIAN STUDENTS IN MAY 2026

For next year's Year 10 Surveying Camp we are excited to once again welcome several students and their teacher, Jayesh, to join us from India. Partnering with students from the Abhaya Waldorf School in India has been a great highlight of previous Surveying Camps for our students and their families, and we are pleased to continue the link between the two schools.

The Abhaya students will be arriving a few days before the commencement of the camp, and depart a couple of weeks later. The students will be working alongside our students for the 4 weeks that they are here, immersing themselves in Surveying and Trigonometry as well as Australian life and culture.

We are seeking host families from the school to accommodate the students while they are in Australia. This will be before and after their Surveying camp, which is currently scheduled for April 27th-8th May. The students will likely arrive on Saturday the 25th of April, and depart around the 24th of May.

This is an exciting opportunity to welcome a teenager from another country into your home to share cultural experiences- a mini-exchange for your family. Previous host families have found it to be a rewarding experience. Many past host families have had two students together in a room and this has also worked well.

Host families will need to be able to provide a room for their host student/s to sleep in during their stay, as well as food. All members of the household over the age of 18 will also need a Working With Children Check. This can be obtained through the school free of charge. There is an honorarium payment of \$25 per day per student to help cover the cost of hosting.

We are also very excited that after some of our students recently visiting Japan, the Kyotonabe Steiner School is also considering visiting us later next year, with possibilities for hosting their students. These are two wonderful opportunities for cultural exchange within our worldwide Waldorf community. Please consider the possibilities for your family to host and let me know as soon as possible.

Elise Duffield
Assistant Principal

Go Well Anna Maletz

Anna Maletz, our dearly loved Playgroup Leader, has shared with us that the time has come for her working life to move in a new direction. Anna has been part of our community for longer than most of our buildings, and her contributions to our school are immeasurable.

She has formed many strong and lasting relationships with members of our community as playgroup leader, supportive parent, and reliable and generous colleague. We will certainly miss her presence and the depth of her care and wisdom, but we wish her well as she spreads her wings.

Our heartfelt thanks, Anna, for your years of dedicated and selfless service to our school.

Elise Duffield
Assistant Principal on behalf of the Senior Leadership Team



Around Our School

Class 4 Handwork

Our Class 4 students have been busy finishing two cross stitch projects this Semester in Handwork. The children have completed a bookmark before moving onto a pendant. On completing these, students were asked to create a dry felted wall hanging of their own design. These have been especially beautiful and the Class 4s have put in a lot of thought and hard work.

Ellayna Wiseman
Handwork Teacher



Class 8 & 9 Japanese - Onigiri Action

In week 5, Class 8 and 9 Japanese students took part in Onigiri Action as part of World Food Day. Students made their own onigiri (rice balls) and learned about how this global campaign supports children in need.

Click this link here: <https://usa.tablefor2.org/onigiri-action>

For every photo uploaded, five school meals are donated to children around the world. The students were excited to contribute in such a simple but meaningful way.

Eri Brown
Japanese Teacher



Class 7 Wish, Wonder & Surprise Main Lesson

We had a fabulous time learning the 'secret recipe' of Monica Bello's grandmother today - Italian Gnocchi, passed from generation to generation.

The children watched in awe as she explained the secrets to making the perfect fluffy clouds of goodness. Once the process began, in groups, the class were to focused on the making - all that could be heard were little squeals of laughter and excitement. And the odd, 'help, is mine ready for rolling yet?' The buzz in the air was one of joy and excitement.

Once they had all made their Gnocchi, we sat down to a bowl and reflected on what we had learned, shared grace for the meal and the people and enjoyed eating together. Here's some photos of the wonderful morning we had.

Rose Duggan

High School Art/English Teacher





MBWS Summer Festival

Artwork: Intika, Class 1

Thursday, 11 December 2025

2pm - 3.20pm

MBWS Oval

Please sign in at the front office prior to attending.



MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

GET READY FOR THE SUMMER FESTIVAL COLLABORATION!



We warmly invite ALL staff and parents to step forward and be active participants in this beautiful merging of Aboriginal culture and Eurythmy.

Prepare for the highlight of our Summer Festival Celebration: an unprecedented, powerful collaboration featuring the acclaimed David Booth and the transformative art of Eurythmy!

Imagine us standing united amidst our beautiful grounds, integrating the ancient, traditional Aboriginal elements of music and dance with Eurythmy. This is a special moment for our whole community to connect.

The connection will be visible. The experience will be deeply felt.

YOUR CHANCE TO CONNECT: PREPARATION WORKSHOPS (Weeks 6, 7, & 8)

The Eurythmy doors are open to welcome you! We need your presence for the preparation on the following Thursdays:

- **Thursday, November 20th (Week 6): 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM** - Eurythmy prep only (Anna).
- **Thursday, November 27th (Week 7): 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM** - David Booth joins at 3:30 PM!
- **Thursday, December 4th (Week 8): 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM** - David Booth joins at 3:30 PM!

THE SUMMER FESTIVAL (Week 9) - The moment we share out work!

Come share the gift! Your presence makes this experience truly meaningful. Attendance is flexible in the event you need to leave early from a session. On **Thursday, 11 December**, the participating staff and parents will gently and proudly present this beautiful collaborative work on the school grounds during the Summer Festival Celebration.

ENTRY: Please enter through the front door of the Eurythmy building.

PARENTS: All parents must sign in at the Front Office before attending the workshop session.



Aboriginal Culture
Eurythmy
Community
Don't Just Attend—BELONG!



Questions?

Please reach out via email to Anna at akotanidis@mbws.sa.edu.au



MOUNT BARKER
WALDORF SCHOOL

OSHC

HOLIDAY CARE

During the
2025-2026 December/ January School Holidays.

- **Week 1:** December 15 - 19, 2025
- **Week 2:** January 19 - 23, 2026
- **Week 3:** January 27 - 30, 2026

◦ *Closed Monday 26 January for the public holiday*

Cost: \$75 (CCS available for those eligible)

Places are limited. Please allow 24 hours for booking or cancellation.

Bookings: Via the Xplor app (select Vacation Care), OSHC Mobile
(0491 242 423) or the OSHC email (oshc@mbws.sa.edu.au).

**We look forward
to seeing you there!**

(The program will be announced near the end of the term.)

Community News & Events

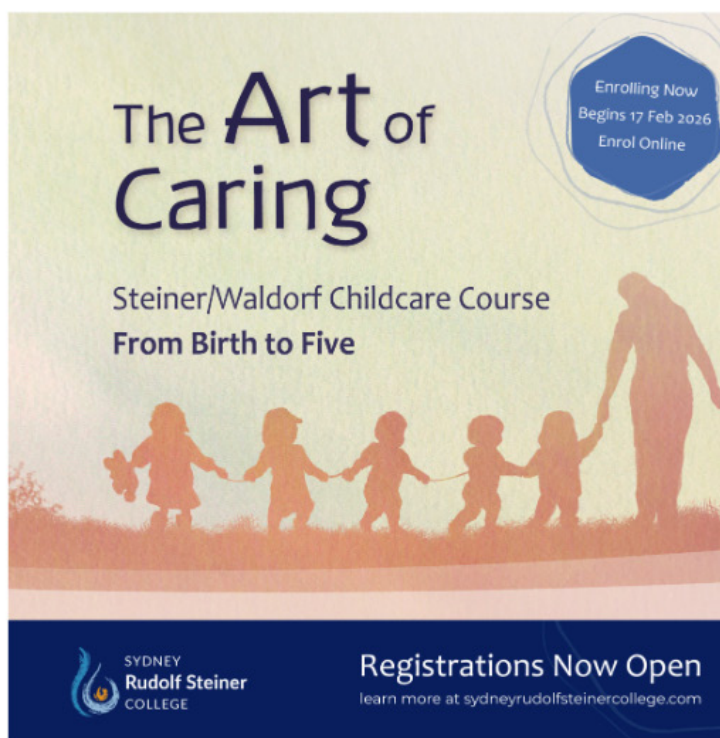
The Art Of Caring

Steiner/Waldorf Childcare course from birth to five

A comprehensive part-time course for childcare providers, parents, and playgroup leaders.

Begins 17 February 2026

[Learn More](#)



The Art of Caring

Steiner/Waldorf Childcare Course
From Birth to Five

Enrolling Now
Begins 17 Feb 2026
Enrol Online

SYDNEY
Rudolf Steiner
COLLEGE

Registrations Now Open
learn more at sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com

The poster features a silhouette of an adult holding the hand of a line of five children, walking across a field. The background is a warm, orange-toned landscape.

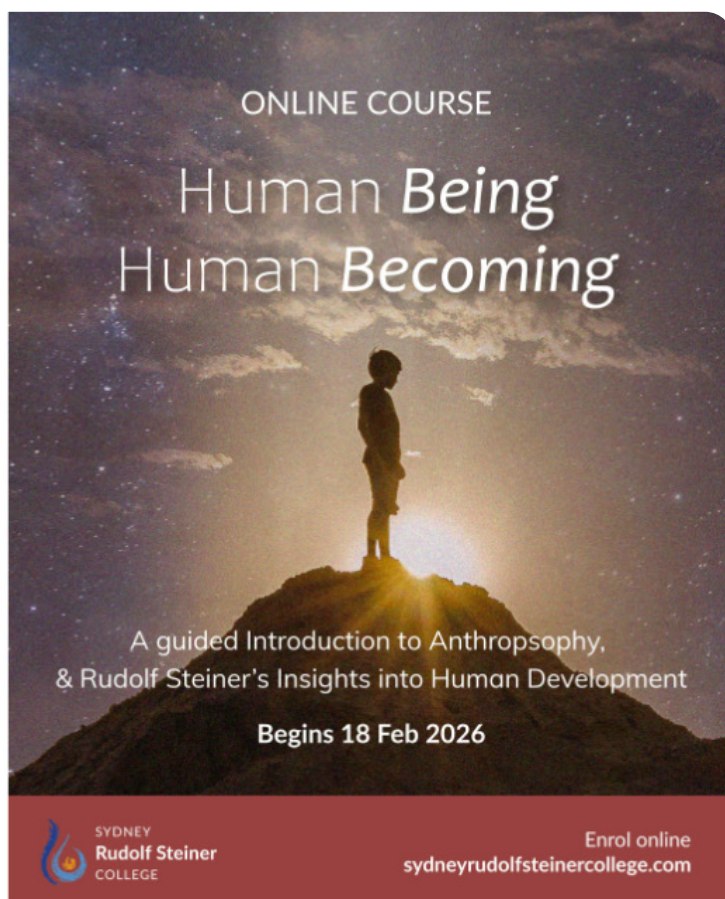
Human Being, Human Becoming

A guided introduction to anthroposophy and Rudolf Steiner's insights into human development.

An essential course for teachers and support staff new to Steiner/Waldorf education.

Begins 18 February 2026

[Learn More](#)



ONLINE COURSE

Human Being
Human Becoming

A guided Introduction to Anthroposophy,
& Rudolf Steiner's Insights into Human Development

Begins 18 Feb 2026

SYDNEY
Rudolf Steiner
COLLEGE

Enrol online
sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com

The poster features a silhouette of a person standing on a mountain peak, looking out over a vast, starry night sky. The sun or moon is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow.



WILLUNGA WALDORF SCHOOL

Christmas Market

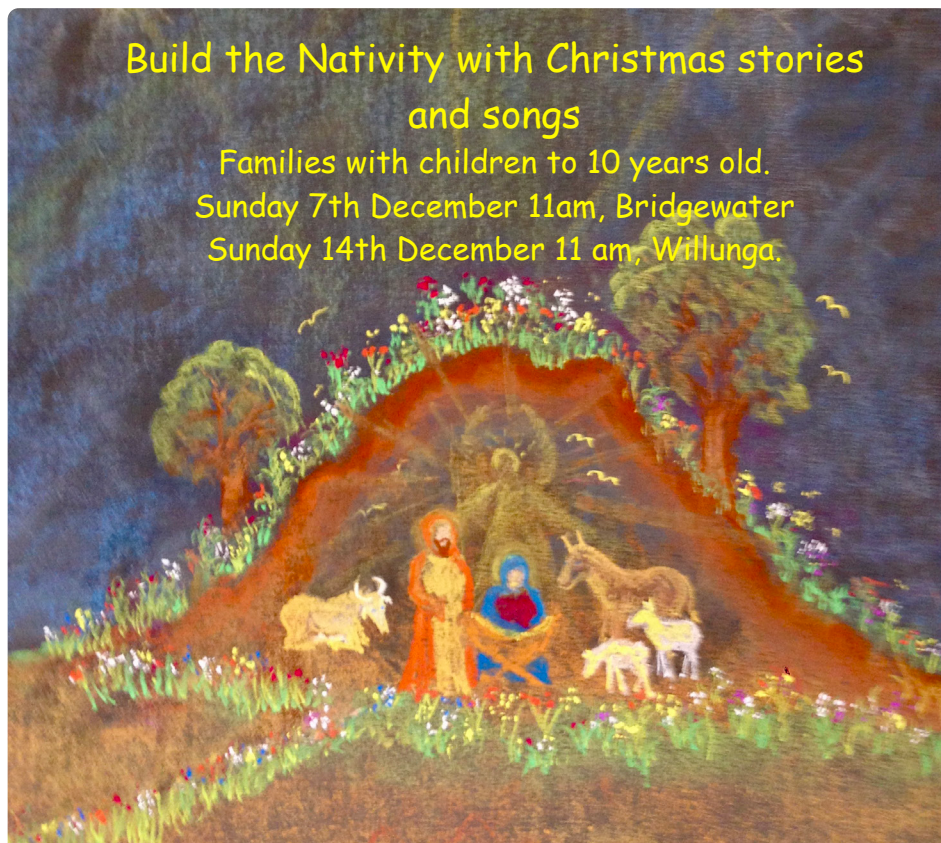
ENJOY ALL THE MAGIC OF A CHRISTMAS MARKET

- ~ Beautifully handcrafted gifts ~
- ~ Delicious food ~
- ~ Children's activities ~
- ~ Live music ~

**FRIDAY
5th DEC 2025
3-7PM**

A unique festive afternoon for all the family
Willunga Waldorf School, Jay Drive, Willunga. Enquiries - parentsandfriends@wws.sa.edu.au

The poster features a light beige background with several orange stars. At the top center is a stylized red and orange flame-like logo. Below the school name, the title 'Christmas Market' is written in a large, elegant red script. Underneath, the phrase 'ENJOY ALL THE MAGIC OF A CHRISTMAS MARKET' is in a smaller, dark red sans-serif font. A list of activities follows, each preceded by a tilde symbol. To the left of the list is a photograph of various handcrafted items, including a small yellow teddy bear, several grey ceramic pots, a large brown pinecone, and some dried greenery. On the right side, a dark red circular badge with a white dotted border contains the event date and time in white text. At the bottom, a line of text describes the event as a 'unique festive afternoon for all the family' and provides the school's address and contact email.



**Build the Nativity with Christmas stories
and songs**

Families with children to 10 years old.
Sunday 7th December 11am, Bridgewater
Sunday 14th December 11 am, Willunga.

The poster has a dark, textured background. At the top, the title 'Build the Nativity with Christmas stories and songs' is written in a bold, yellow sans-serif font. Below the title, the text 'Families with children to 10 years old.' is in a smaller yellow font, followed by the dates and locations 'Sunday 7th December 11am, Bridgewater' and 'Sunday 14th December 11 am, Willunga.' in the same yellow font. The bottom half of the poster features a colorful illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, the Virgin Mary is seated in a blue robe, holding the infant Jesus. To her left stands Joseph in an orange robe. They are surrounded by animals: a white ox, a brown donkey, and a white lamb. The scene is set in a lush, green landscape with rolling hills, trees, and a path. The sky is dark with some white birds flying.

At the Christian Community Church, 3 Anzac Ridge Rd, Bridgewater
St Joseph's Hall, St Georges St, Willunga.
For further details please call Damien: 0457925331

We're looking for a warm, creative tutor with a Waldorf education background to support a child in Years 1-3.

The ideal candidate brings a deep understanding of Waldorf pedagogy — nurturing imagination, rhythm, and a love of learning through storytelling, art, movement, and nature-based activities.

This is a part-time, flexible role.

Experience teaching or tutoring in the early primary years within a Waldorf or Steiner framework is highly valued.

Please email Danielle at Dee4187@gmail.com

**Registrations
for 2026
open Jan 1st!**



INTRODUCING...

STUDIO DANCE COLLECTIVE

About Us

SDC is a new and professional dance school for aspiring dancers in and around Mount Barker. The studio offers dance training with passion, fun and an uplifting environment.



Visit our website for more information

JAZZ – HIP HOP
CONTEMPORARY
FUNK – LYRICAL
CHEERLEADING

**FREE 'COME AND TRY'
FIRST LESSON!**

0447 650 337



StudioDanceCollective@outlook.com



CULTURED. 2025

An Adelaide Hills
Celebration of Culture
& Different Cultures



By Circle of Friends Australia Inc.
www.cofa.org.au

Sponsors
Department of Home Affairs
Mount Barker District Council

Nathan Rogers – 0458 768 643

<https://www.facebook.com/cultured25>

Saturday 13th December 2025
Four Oaks Farm
23 Downing Road Littlehampton
11 am Onwards

Free Family Fun Day – Just Turn Up!

Cultured. Evening Concert (Book Trybooking)
Sat. 13th Dec. From 6.00 pm

An Iranian Food Journey (Book Trybooking)
Sat. 13th Dec. From 11 am



