

Walford Anglican School for Girls Celebrates *Her* Best 125 years!

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When Miss Adamson opened her Collegiate School on Unley Road, second house from Fisher Street, in January 1893, could she have imagined what her school would one day be?

As a young, unmarried woman, unable to secure funds to purchase property in her own name, Miss Adamson opened her class in a space converted into a school room in her father's family home.

From a humble beginning, the school progressed to a larger property and finally a school house on its own grounds which Miss Adamson named Walford after the village in Herefordshire, UK where her mother was born. Amongst her alumni were some of the first women to graduate from The University of Adelaide, and thus, her vision to establish a school that would advance the education of girls and ultimately improve the status of women was already being realised.

At our birthday assembly, held on the anniversary of Walford's 125th year, all students from Reception to Year 12 considered the story of the School's early history, and watched the narrative of the school's subsequent decades unfold in a screenplay of slides. A fashion parade of Walford uniforms across the ages was modelled, we sang Happy Birthday and blew out (safely!) 125 candles on our cake. We raised our newly designed anniversary flag and presented each student with a 125th pin for her blazer as a keepsake of this significant year.

Following on from our special assembly, the celebrations have continued. Our Old Scholars' Association which happens to be celebrating its centenary this year hosted a birthday dinner for our alumni. We look forward to our 125th Ball which will be held in October. A whole school photograph has also been taken.

What is most exciting for all members of the Walford Community is the progression of our Master Plan with new projects due to commence during our anniversary year. At the beginning of the year, our junior school students commenced learning in their new STEAM space (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Music), the first of our projects which saw a heritage listed home beautifully restored for student learning. Later this year, we will develop a new Science Centre on our secondary campus, while designs for the Walford Art, Design and Technology Centre, a Black Box Multi-Purpose Theatre and upgraded sporting viewing pavilion at Parks Oval are being finalised.

Our 125th year has given us so much to celebrate and to look forward to in the future.

If only Miss Adamson could see her school now...





1. ORIGINAL SCHOOL: Miss Lydia Adamson's classroom in the early days of Walford | 2. FLYING HIGH: Walford's 125th anniversary flag | 3. ON DISPLAY: A Walford student proudly shows off her 125th anniversary badge | 4. HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Blowing out the candles on the cake