



Minlaton District School

'By Deeds Not Words'

Issue 20
26th November 2020

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Diary Dates

November	27 th	NOTE: STUDENT FREE DAY CANCELLED
	27 th	Casual Day – Gold coin donation to CFS
	30 th – 2 nd	Middle School Yr 6/7 Camp
	30 th – 4 th	Yr 10/11 Work Experience
December	1 st	Governing Council Christmas Dinner
	2 nd – 4 th	Middle School Yr 8/9 Camp
	7 th – 10 th	Middle School Challenge Week
	7 th	Parent Meeting for 2021 Yr 6 families
	11 th	Last Day school 2020, early dismissal, 1pm (no formal lunchtime, 2 x scheduled recess breaks)

I feel as though I have been a constant in your email threads over the past week, so will keep this newsletter edition short and sweet.

My sincere thanks to our staff, whose flexibility throughout recent events has rivalled that of Houdini. Earlier this week you would have received a list of events/activities which have either been cancelled, rescheduled or creatively undertaken via the virtual world. I know that you will appreciate the huge impact these changes have had on our staff, who have had to make difficult decisions and pivot quickly to meet new demands, while still providing teaching and learning for our students, attending to end of year assessments and reports, and being involved in planning for next year. I have also appreciated the support provided by parents who while disappointed that things won't be 'as usual', have completely understood the changes being made and have acknowledged our efforts and the decisions being made.

Repeated below is the information that was provided via our communication channels on Monday afternoon.

Student Free Day: Our Student Free Day scheduled for Friday November 27th has been cancelled under direction of the Department. Students will be expected at school on Friday and we will be inviting them to donate a gold coin to the CFS in exchange for wearing Casual Clothes (rescheduled from last Friday!)

Presentation Night: Our Presentation Night scheduled for Thursday November 26th has been cancelled. Students receiving awards will be acknowledged and filmed accepting their awards during 'in house' ceremonies over the course of the next week or so. For Year 10 and 11 students, filming will take place on Wednesday of this week with students expected to be in attendance at school on Wednesday in school uniform.

Year 12 Celebration: The Year 12 Celebration will go ahead as scheduled on Saturday November 28th. Student awards will be presented on the night and filmed.

All filmed aspects of our awards and student recognition will be edited into a Virtual Presentation Night that will be released on the evening of December 10th via a private YouTube channel for which we will provide details closer to the date.

Family Picnic: The Family Picnic scheduled for the evening of December 10th has been cancelled. Under the circumstances, inviting hundreds of people to join together on the school oval is not advised, even in small family groups.

***Middle School Camp:** The camp has been vetted by SA Health and was given approval to continue. Please check details which were sent earlier this week – it's all systems go!

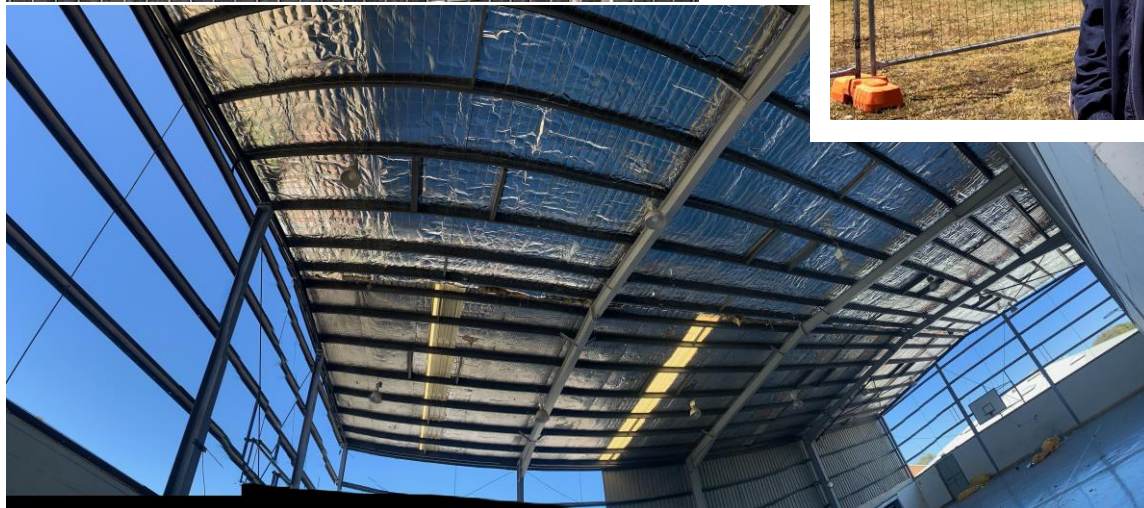
Work Experience: Local work experience is able to go ahead on confirmation with employers that they are still willing to take students. The continuation of Work Experience for students outside the local area is at the discretion of both employers and parents.

As we draw closer to the end of the school year, our planning for 2021 is almost complete. In our final newsletter of the year in week 9, we hope to be able to list remaining new staff members. Care Group lists will be shared in the coming weeks, via Dojo for 2021 Primary classes, and with the reports for middle years' students.

Please remember that we finish at 1pm on the final day of the year. Students will have two 20 minute recess breaks through the morning but there will be no 'lunch' service at the canteen. Buses will leave the school at 1.10pm.

I'll leave you with a few photos of the progress being made currently in our gym refurbishment project. The new roofing sheets have been installed which will come as a great relief to all who over the years have had to mop up puddles of water inside after periods of rain, the new entrance opening has been created on the southern side and the side panels have been removed ready for replacement. Once this occurs, all work will be internal and we will need to wait for the 'big reveal' in 2021 to see the transformation.

Ali



Primary School Update

Barb Agnew, Primary School Coordinator

2021 Classes

The class lists for 2021 are being organised with the view to sending out a Class Dojo message to parents in the next week or so. The message will let parents know which class(es) your child(ren) has been allocated. Next year there will be six primary classes, with two Reception/Yr 1 classes.

Presentation Night Videos

The primary classes have been very busy during the last few weeks creating their videos. There has been much excitement about the creation of the films with the children enjoying the acting, make-up and costumes. Everyone is looking forward viewing them once they've gone through the production stage.

Narrative Writing with the Year 3/4 class and the Year 4/5 class

The children in the Yr 3/4 class and the Yr 4/5 class have been combining for three English lessons a week to learn to write narrative texts. They have read a variety of short stories and then planned and written some narratives. Here are some excerpts from some the finished stories. The complete stories have been published and read to their classmates.

The Magic Ride

2nd paragraph by Mackenzie White Year 5

Before I could use my legs to push off, the ride started to spin. The more my heartbeat paced, the more the playground around me blurred. I started to feel more and more sickly as the round-about spun. The water in my ears slurred, making me dizzy. The bolts on the round-about sounded like they were going to wrench free. I blacked out. I landed on the hot sand with a thump.

'Where am I?' I thought. A growl sounded behind me.

The Magic Ride

3rd paragraph by Savanah Hardy Year 5

I sat up rubbing my throbbing head. I was covered in a slimy, clear, green goo from some brown moss. "Eew!" I yelled but I couldn't get the goo off. I stood up. My clothes were ripped and tattered and I was in a forest of tall oaks. They weren't normal oaks that everybody sees, these oaks had yellow or dull orange trunks with bright blueberry-blue leaves. I climbed one with no struggle and I erupted out of the leaves to see hills covered with oaks. In the centre there was an open grassland with red grass and a bunch of rocks scattered around. The most curious thing was a blue circle glowing a diamond blue. I climbed down and travelled to the grassland to investigate.

The Magic Round-about

2nd paragraph by Saxon Williams Year 3

I went to the old playground in Hardwicke Bay and onto the old, rusty round-about. Suddenly the round-about started spinning really fast, with my surroundings disappearing by the second. I closed my eyes. When I opened them I looked around. I saw dodos!

I screamed out, "What?" At that time the strong wind blew through my hair. We never had weather like this at home. This was the worst! I had to find a shelter. I looked around a bit more and ran into a dark cave. There was no sound at all but then I fell into a deep hole. I tried to get out. I was in a cavern of sabre-tooths. I think this is the end.

The Magic Ride

1st paragraph by Charlie Phillips Year 4

In 2020 it was a cold night when Connor, Jeff and Ying got on a round-about at a playground. So, they hopped on and it started to spin. The moon and everything around them turned green. They were teleporting or something like that.

"Guys, what's happening?" yelled Jeff. Then they were in North Korea and they didn't know how they got there.

Mrs Murdock's Spanish Class

Hola amigos!

This term in Spanish the Junior Primary classes have been studying *Los Piratas*. The R/1s enjoyed making their gorros de piratas (pirate hats) and the 1/2s proudly displayed their barcos (ships).



As part of Book Week the 2/3s listened to *Donde viven los monstruos* (Where the wild things are) and made their own wild creatures. They learnt the names of animal body parts.



The 3/4s and 5/6s completed a culture study of Spain and researched different areas of interest. The students made churros (Spanish donuts) and decided that Spanish kids are lucky having these regularly for breakfast!





The 2/3 class
made the
Spanish flag out
of biscuits and
red and yellow
icing. Delicioso!



Senior School Report

Glen White, senior School Coordinator

It was with great joy that on Monday afternoon I spoke with Tessa Rochfort from the International College of Hotel Management (ICHM) who let me know that Chantelle Castellan, one of our year 12 students this year had been awarded the major national scholarship to attend the college over the next 3 years, undertaking a Bachelor of Business as well as vocational placements both nationally and overseas. This is a significant achievement as this scholarship is highly competitive, with numerous applicants from right across Australia. On behalf of the school, I would like to pass on our sincere congratulations to Chantelle.

Friday 27th November marks the end of our school based Senior School programs for 2020. Some students who have been less than successful in some subject areas this year will be re-joining us in weeks 8 and 9 to prepare themselves for their 2020 schooling by demonstrating that they have the required knowledge level and skill set in order to be promoted into the next year level. As Ali mentioned in her communication to the school community on Monday afternoon, Work Experience is still going ahead, at the discretion of the provider for local placements and the discretion of both the provider and parents for placements further afield, so for the next two weeks most students will be busy on various work placements across the state. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to investigate the variety of career options available and the sorts of skills and capabilities they will require in their future pathways. Therefore this will be the final Senior School Report for the year.

It has been an incredibly busy, confusing and tumultuous year in the Senior School, with some significant challenges and some incredible highlights. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students, parents and community members for their support this year. I would also like to make a pretty heartfelt thanks to Senior School staff; they are an incredible team who work tirelessly to support our students in times of need and to ensure they get the best opportunities to succeed that they possibly can. So to Ali, Tash, Ellen, Kirsty, David, Craig, Stacey, Greg, Jeremy, Anne, Sam, Nick, Sarah, Kate, Jenny and Carol thanks for all your efforts this year, you have all done a marvellous job.

Glen White, Senior School Coordinator

CHANTELLE WINS PRESTIGIOUS HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIP



Chantelle Castellan has picked up a \$15,000 scholarship to the International College of Hotel Management (ICHM). Chantelle was encouraged to apply for the scholarship after attending Careers Week this year, and says 'ICHM is going to allow me to combine my passion, skills and qualities into a pathway that is going to be dynamic, interesting and highly rewarding'. Chantelle will join ICHM in February, studying for the Bachelor of Business (Hospitality Management) and Master of International Hotel Management (Swiss Hotel Association). 'ICHM reminds me of my own community where everyone around you wants you to succeed and become successful on your own path', she says. In 2019 ICHM was voted Best Hotel and Hospitality School in Australia for the quality of its student experience.

ichm.edu.au

