



Diary Dates

- 12th SAPSASA Basketball (weather permitting)
Yr 12 Learning Conversations
- 18th Governing Council Meeting, 7.30pm
- 19th Yr 8/9 Football Carnival
- 24th – 27th SAPSASA Soccer/Hockey
- 26th Kindy visit to R/1 Class
- 27th Sammy D Foundation Violence Prevention presentation

It's week 3 and winter is certainly biting. As I write this my fingers are only just thawing from being out on crossing duty and I'm contemplating a crotchet nose warmer for these chilly mornings; now that would be a sight!

The term is in full swing and students are busy engaging in their learning across the school, with some earnest conversations being had with Year 12 students and their parents as they approach the final weeks of their schooling. Term 3 is crunch time, and each year we see students either dig in and commit to maximising their success, or start to waver and make poor choices which impact negatively on their final outcome. It is quite normal to see tempers shorten and students (parents and teachers) becoming quite emotional at this time; there has been a big investment from everyone over 13 years of schooling. Thank you to those parents who have participated in the Year 12 Learning Conversations which took place this week; we look forward to seeing the remainder of our Year 12 parents and students next Wednesday. As the term progresses, please monitor your child closely and communicate with his/her teachers if you have any concerns at all. Together, we can support our students to gain the maximum value from the next two months and lay a solid foundation for their future beyond school.

For the remainder of the student body, term 3 is an opportunity to consolidate learning and accept the challenge to push beyond comfort zones and grapple with new ideas and skills. Learning is not easy, our brain is a muscle which needs to be worked under load if it is to develop and allow us the thinking capacity to solve problems and navigate our world. Students should find some learning a challenge and not expect 'to get' everything the first time around. This term let's focus on building our brain power through grappling with those new ideas and persisting when were are challenged. It's the third quarter of the academic year game – time to dig in!

Our Primary readers continue to build their reading muscles, with many having 200 reading nights firmly in their sights. Congratulations to the following children who joined our 100 reading night crocodile club this fortnight; R/1 Henry S, 1/2 Lincon, Ella, 3/4 Angus L, 4/5 George, Hamish, Ivy, Grace, Lara J, Harriet, Maggie, Mia W. It's wonderful to read the comments from both children and parents in reading logs, and I extend huge thanks to those parents who are committed to encourage and support this valuable daily practice.

As we all begin enjoying a range of opportunities to participate in a more 'normal' life, I am conscious of taking time to think about our Victorian counterparts who are now living with some very tight restrictions. That could very easily be South Australia in the coming months unless we are all committed to following the guidelines from SA Health to socially distance, practice good hygiene, and ensure that we isolate ourselves if we are unwell – and get tested. As we go about our daily lives, it is easy to become complacent and get just that little bit closer than 1.5m or give the sanitiser a miss because we washed our hands 20 minutes ago...but it's this very complacency that could see a spike in Covid-19 cases here and cause things to spiral out of control, as they have done in Victoria. We all must get used to our 'new normal' and ensure that we gently but firmly insist that those around us adhere to our public health guidelines, and ensure that we are doing our bit to support a healthy community.

Please be assured that the Department for Education is providing information and support to schools throughout this pandemic, and are monitoring the situation closely with regards to activities and operations within school sites. While our calendar shows a number of events and activities over the latter part of the year, we are mindful that things can change quickly and will seek to provide our community with updates and changes to procedures and events as things evolve.

Have a great weekend...and bring on the rain!

Ali



Our happy campers were lucky enough to see a koala on their hike!

Middle School Art (below)






**2020 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS GOLF
STAGE 1 - QUALIFYING EVENTS (COUNTRY)**

NYP and SYP District Qualifying for the 2020 SAPSASA Primary Schools Golf Championships will be held on **Monday 17th August at Maitland Golf Club**. Registration will occur on the day. Please arrive at 9am. Qualifiers play 9 holes on a shortened course. Cost is \$5.

EVENT INFO:

- Boys & Girls in Grade 5, 6 or 7 who are aged 10 years and over at 31 Dec 2020 are eligible.
- A maximum of 10 students (ideally incl a minimum of 2 girls) from each golf district will qualify for the State Event.
- Course length is set at 150metres per hole for all qualifying events.
- Students are allowed a maximum score of 8 on each hole and must pick up after 8 shots have been taken, they score a 9 at each hole they pick up on.
- Parents are most welcome to attend on the day and may be needed to assist students on course

SUCCESSFUL QUALIFIERS will compete in the State Final of the SA Primary Schools Golf event on Thursday 3 & Friday 4 September 2020 at West Beach Parks Golf.

For further information, please contact Heather Ramsey on 0427 851 392.

SYP Community Hub

We are back doing Learners Drivers Theory Tests

Please ring to book appointment on 88521820 between 9am & 5pm Monday 9am – 2pm Tuesday to Friday

Located 33 Stansbury Rd, Yorketown

Primary News

Barb Agnew, Primary Coordinator

Reminder:

If students aren't well, especially with cold-like symptoms, please keep them home from school until they are better.

Arbury Park Camp

The students in Years 4 and 5 went to camp in the first week of this term. They had a wonderful time and learnt so much about the unique environment of Arbury Park at Bridgewater. All children were enthusiastic and keen learners. The teaching staff at Arbury Park commented time and again throughout our stay about how well MDS students behaved and how curious they were about everything! The students have put together a display of photos and comments about the camp that can be viewed in the Year 4/5 classroom.

"Mission Survival was an activity about teamwork. We had to work as a team to finish different challenges. We took 'toxic waste' over obstacles. We had to make a bridge out of rope and logs. We crossed 'quicksand' without touching it and we had to get through a 'giant spiderweb' without touching it. The group had to reflect on what we did and what we needed to improve on. This activity was really good because it was fun and challenging." Hamish Coombe, Year 5

"In the Freshwater Life we tried to catch yabbies but instead we caught tadpoles and smaller animals. We saw algae. Some of us went to a different pond and caught other water life. Next, we took the samples to the lab where there were microscopes and we examined the animals. We could even see inside some of them. We identified them using charts. Then we looked at the food web of the pond." Kitty Wilson, Year 5

"One night we had an Aboriginal talk with Trent while sitting around a fire. He had different kinds of artefacts. He showed us how to use them. Trent gave us a turn at using them. He made fire from twirling a stick onto another stick. I had a turn and made smoke! He played a didgeridoo and told us a Dreamtime story about Geddigul. Trent told us how things worked in the old time." Logan Arbon, Year 5

Dance

Footlight dance will once again be providing the primary students with dance lessons later in the term. A Footlight Dance instructor will come to the school to give instruction to each of the primary classes for five weeks. In this time the students have the opportunity to build up their skills, their sense of rhythm and understanding of choreography.

An update from Mrs Cox's class

"This term we welcome Miss K to the R/1 and 1/2 class. She will be with us for 8 weeks and is completing her final placement. This week the 1/2 class started learning about time with Miss K. We went outside and drew some clocks and then we were the hands and had to make lots of different times!"





Middle School Update

Greg Hackett, Middle School Coordinator

Hi all,

Term 2 Recognition Scheme Winners

Please join me in some vigorous applause for our term two winners:

Yr 6/7 KC – Dakota Brunton, Matilda Cook, Natalie Horn, Riley Gardner, Lucy Mahar

Yr 6/7JC – Tayah Dunstone, Henry Coote, Layla Walsh, Alice Polkinghorne, Eleanor Brown

Yr 8/9 TS – Shorna Boshier, Macey Coe, Freddie Wilson, Max Brown, Madi Brunton

Yr 8/9 CF – Luke Horn, Harvey Gardner, Joe Rothe, Shineah Goody, Jessica Farrow



Well done everybody – your canteen vouchers will be out to you soon. For those unfamiliar with the scheme, it's designed to reward students who are displaying exemplary behaviour, striving for excellence in their work and acting as positive role models in their classes. All points gained also contribute to the 'House Shield' at the end of the year. Due to our disruptions earlier in the year, no awards were given for term one. Later in the year, we will also have a category for our biggest improvers, so we should see some new names appear in that list.

Personal Interests

All students and parents will be no-doubt aware that PIs have started again for semester two, and we are excited about some of our PI offerings and trust that students are too. I would like to remind all stakeholders that all PI subjects are 'real' subjects that are linked to the Australian Curriculum. They are assessed by our regular assessment methods and students are expected to treat these subjects with the same regard as they would any regular subject. It is not 'play time', even though some of the learning activities may not be representative of the 'traditional' classroom style. Some excellent examples of the new courses are attached to this report.

Goal Setting for Term 3 – a new twist!

As you all know, we like to continue to develop our processes to allow students to get maximum benefit from their school experiences. To that end, our term 3 goal-setting and learning reflections processes will have the option for students to complete as a 'video confessional' style recording, rather than just a written piece.

I will again be spending some time with each class this week, explaining and demonstrating the process for them and providing some prompts for them to set valid, worthwhile learning goals for themselves. Students may wish to address results and feedback from their reports and assessed tasks into their new goals for term three or work through *Executive Functioning* Skills. I encourage you all to discuss these with your child and work through some of these together. This process is the basis of our student led learning conversations which will be in Week 9 of this term.

Parent Contact

I am always more than happy to discuss matters with parents and welcome any questions, concerns or feedback. Please contact me via the school to arrange a meeting or email me via the addresses provided on the school website.

More MS Fun

As many of you know, some industrious Year 6/7 students initiated our baking competition last term, which was met with great success, particularly tasty pastries and expanding waistlines (for some). This same group of intrepid bakers are now about to embark upon part two of the competition: THE YEAR 6/7 CUPCAKE-OFF. All students from the 6/7 cohort are welcome to take part. For 8/9 students, the invitation remains open to initiate their own fun-competition.

Here's to another productive and enjoyable term!

Kind Regards,

Greg Hackett
Coordinator – Middle School



Senior School Update

Glen White, Senior School Coordinator

Not much to add from the senior school this fortnight – it's just noses to the grindstone for students and staff alike. Below are reminders of the upcoming dates for interviews and course counselling sessions and work experience.

Interviews and Course Counselling

Dates to be aware of in the upcoming term:

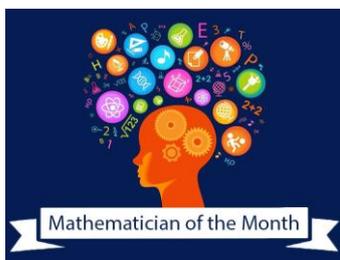
- Interviews with individual subject teachers following semester 1 reports are available upon request
- Year 12 Learning Conversations will occur across weeks 3 & 4 of Term 3, information will be provided in week 2, with all bookings made online.
- Updated Subject Selection Handbooks will be available online from the end of Week 3 of Term 3
- Interim Reporting will occur in week 5 of Term 3
- Student course counselling interviews with myself will occur in week 4, Term 3 for Year 11s and week 5, Term 3 for Year 10s.
- Year 8/9 forum (for future planning and understanding of subject selection processes) Monday of week 7
- Parent subject selection evenings will occur in Week 7 of Term 3, information will be provided in week 5

Work Experience

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our mid-year work placement program; however, at this stage the Department's position is that work experience programs in the second half of the year are likely to go ahead. Therefore, if you are keen to do some forward planning, the next round of work experience for Year 10 and 11 students will be in the last 2 weeks of the year: 30th November to 4th December and 7th December to 11th December. All Year 10 and 11 students **must complete at least one week of work placement during this period**, however due to the missed opportunity mid-year all are welcome to complete 2 weeks. Year 9 students who are over the age of 15 may also wish to undertake work experience in the second week. More information relating to this will be provided shortly.

Once again if you have any questions about Senior School related matters, don't hesitate to call me here at school or send an email to: glen.white872@schools.sa.edu.au

Glen White, Senior School Coordinator



We're nearly three weeks into a new term and plenty of excellent Maths has been going on already so it's time for the next Mathematician of the Month. This award is given in recognition of a Year 10, 11, or 12 student's hard work, perseverance in face of challenges, analysis of mistakes, positive attitude towards Mathematics, willingness to work cooperatively with others, and articulation of their thought processes. I am happy to announce the Mathematician of the Month for June is

Hailie Borgmeyer

**OPEN
AUGUST**

SUNDAY 9 TO WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST
ONLINE AND ON CAMPUS



University of
South Australia

Virtual Open Days - Sunday 9 and Monday 10 August

Students, parents and teachers can attend our Virtual Open Days to learn about our 200+ world-class degrees, interact through live Q&A sessions, listen to degree presentations, take a virtual campus tour and more. We have also developed a Career Planner Worksheet for Year 10-12 students to complete in class whilst exploring Virtual Open Day. You can download the resource here.

Step on Campus - Sunday 16 to Wednesday 26 August

Prospective students can visit their future home campus to take a tour of our state-of-the-art facilities and chat to us about their study and pathway options. Bookings are essential.

To register or to find out further information please visit:

<https://www.unisa.edu.au/openaugust/>

Open August – A series of events taking place online and on campus.

Standing behind difficult decisions

By Michael Grose

Johan and Harry were both suspended from school for a day after willingly watching a schoolyard fight. Their school had a zero-tolerance policy toward fighting and believed that those who watched a fight were as complicit in the conflict as those engaged in the fighting.

The reactions of both sets of parents to the boys' suspensions differed greatly. Johan's parents supported the school's actions and made the necessary changes to their work schedules to accommodate the suspension. Privately, they thought that the suspension may have been harsh, but as they agreed with the school's zero tolerance approach to violence, they knew they had no option but to accept the suspension. They counselled their son against similar behaviour in future and made sure his time away from school was spent doing schoolwork.

Harry's parents weren't quite so supportive. Thinking that their son's suspension was unfair, they contacted the school's principal asking to have the suspension removed. The principal listened to their concerns however she didn't remove the suspension. She reminded Harry's parents of the reasons behind the school's zero tolerance approach to fighting and urged them to support of their policy. Disappointed but obviously not deterred, Harry's father took time off work to take his son on a fishing trip on the day of the suspension. This action showed little regard for the school's efforts to encourage a culture of respectful relationships, as well as scant respect for the principal's authority.

Make the most of learning moments

Both sets of parents thought that the suspension of their sons was harsh. However, only one set saw the situation as a learning experience for the son. Johan's parents discussed with their son the place that bystanders play when violence breaks out. They reinforced the message that although it may take courage to stop a fight or bring it to the attention of teachers, it's these sorts of actions that constitute positive leadership.

Harry's parents couldn't see past the injustice of the suspension and missed a great opportunity to teach their son any number of lessons. These include what he may do next time a similar incident occurs, how he might respond when he sees someone being bullied or even how to nip conflict between peers in the bud before it escalates. There are many discussions they could have had with their son due to the suspension. From an educative perspective, this was an opportunity missed.

Trust the process

Arguably, the bigger issue in this story is that just as Johan's parents did, we parents need to trust the processes that teachers put in place at school, even when we don't always agree. Family-school partnerships are strongest when parents stand behind the difficult decisions that teachers make, even though the wisdom behind them may not be immediately evident. Sometimes, we all have to stand back and trust a process that's been in place, particularly when it's been implemented after a great deal of thought and diligence.



Michael Grose

Is the founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years' experience, and has 30 years' experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University