FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

The Production

After weeks of organisation, practice by the character, training by the teachers, the making of sets, props and costumes the musical production Surprising Old King Cole, staging is to take place this next Monday evening 21st June at the Tailem Bend Town Hall. The performance begins at 7.30 pm with the evening finishing at approximately 9.00pm.

Tickets have been sold through the Front Office and can still be purchased on Monday. Please note that the hall is well heated.

Organisational details for students and families for Monday 21st June

- All students are to be at the Tailem Bend Town Hall by 6.30pm sharp.
- Water bottle with water only
- A labelled book to read
- No snacks
- No electronic devices
- Students and parents booked to go on the bus need to be at Meningie Bus bay to leave by 6.00pm sharp.
- Students and parents booked on the bus from Raukkan need to be at the Raukkan Office to leave by 5.45pm sharp.
- Tea/coffee and home made biscuits will be available in the hall for purchase by parents prior to the performance.

We seek your support in ensuring all students are well prepared and turn up on the night. As you can imagine there has been an enormous amount of work in staging this production of which the children are both excited about and of course some what nervous. This will be the first time that a production has been staged out of the community, and the first time that we have used a real stage with curtains.

The students will be in the function room when not on stage. They will need to be quiet so that noise is not heard in the hall by the audience. With around 150 students waiting at any time this is going to be a challenge. It is for this reason that we ask that the above conditions are met. Teachers
have arranged for a video to be on to keep students occupied, as well as some organised quiet activities. We ask that students have had dinner before getting to Tailem Bend, given they need to be at the hall by 6.30 pm. Please do not provide snacks. This will just complicate things and could ruin costumes. Only water to drink is requested.

We really hope that the whole community gets behind this event, and joins with us in what promises to be a fantastic evening.

**Dress Rehearsal Surprising Old King Cole**

Today was quite a feat in itself, getting all the students and staff involved to Tailem Bend for a morning practice and early afternoon performance. Tailem Bend Primary School provided an audience and gave students a real feel for the experience in performing. For the junior classes this was a big adventure, so we had lots of very excited students dealing with a new environment and the whole idea of being on a stage. We are now ready for Monday night’s performance.

**Student Issues**

Last newsletter I wrote about our concerns regarding the increasing use of high energy drinks by students and the effect such have on students’ behaviour and consequent learning. I appreciate the consideration and obvious support parents and caregivers have given to this issue and can say we have not had to deal with high energy drinks issues since making our concerns known. We thank you in anticipation of your continuing support.

**Swearing and inappropriate language**

We live in a world where we are constantly bombarded by swearing. It is everywhere and children are constantly being exposed to language that is offensive and abusive. Indeed swearing often leads to conflicts issues student to student and student to staff. Through our Well Being program, Program Achieve, teachers spend a lot of time working through strategies of getting along and about being respectful. Swearing and abusive language has no place in the school environment. Students who are abusive to any member of the staff, or threaten the good order, are dealt severe consequences. In most cases this is external suspension. We work hard to develop respectful relationships in a harassment free, safe environment. This is not sustainable when students are abusive.

Monica Williams (Principal)

**PaCSS NEWS**

Parents & Friends has a new name. We are now called PaCSS – Parents and Carers School Support.

Join us for our next meeting on Monday 28th June at 2pm in the meeting room.

**GERMAN NEWS**

Liebe Eltern (Dear parents)

Over the course of the year, we’ve looked at some conversational pairs that are useful in everyday talk. Although my alarm goes off when someone asks me my age these days, it is still a useful phrase to add to our collection, particularly since it combines language such as number words and verb forms. So, here it is:

- Wie alt bist du? Ich bin zehn.
- Wie alt ist sie/er? Sie/er ist sechs.
- How old are you? I am ten.
- How old is she/he? She/he is six.

Ich bin = I am
du bist = you are
er ist = he is
sie ist = she is
alt = old

You can practise these with your child, taking turns with questions and answers (and you don’t have to tell the truth!).

Viel Spaß! (Have fun!)

Veruschka Crichton (German teacher)
8/9 Basketball Carnival

On Wednesday 16th June students from Meningie Area School travelled to Keith to compete in the inaugural Upper South East 8/9 Boys and Girls Basketball Carnival. It was played at the Keith Basketball Stadium, a tin shed which was located in the outskirts of the town in a paddock.

Students participating were:
**Boys:** Zac Vandenbrink, Kenny Richards, Jamie Thompson, Dale Appelkamp, Trae Rigney, Sam Sanders and Keith Weetra.

**Girls:** Marni Hood, Alana Standley, Tamika Williams, Mikayla Smart, Brigitte Botha, Montana Wenske, Danielle Colmer and Ellen Wilson.

Considering their lack of experience, the Meningie teams did very well, with each team having at least one win. The girls had a convincing win against Coomandook 18 points to 2 and drew against both Karoonda and Tintinara. The stand out team in the girl’s competition was Keith. They beat Meningie 18 points to 2 and were the eventual winners of the competition. In the boy’s competition, Keith was again the team to beat. Although the Meningie boys lost against Keith they had a good win against Coomandook 14 points to 12 and drew against Tintinara.

Thanks must go to Michael McKechnie who did a great job at umpiring and Judy Appelkamp for driving the bus to the venue.

Lisa Davis (PE Teacher)

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**ZOOVENTURES & ZOO-FARI**

ZooVentures for kids at the Adelaide Zoo (for children aged 6-12) and Zoo-Fari for Kids at the Monarto Zoo (for children aged 8-13) focus on making friends, learning lots and providing unique opportunities to meet with zoo animals and their keepers.

If you are interested in these activities during the school holidays positions must be booked, as they are very popular, phone 82672434 or visit the website on www.zoossa.com.au/education

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**BLUE LIGHT DISCO**

**FRIDAY 2nd JULY**

7PM – 10PM

@ COONALPYN HALL

$3 ENTRY AGES 5-17

LOCK IN EVENT – DRINKS & FOOD AVAILABLE

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**THE SCIENCE EXPERIENCE**

A three day hands on practical science program will be conducted for students in years 9 and 10 at tertiary institutions in 2010. This a Rotary Youth Services Project, supported by the Australian Science Teachers Association.

The cost is $110, but Rotary Clubs may sponsor students to attend. For further information please contact your local Rotary Club or www.scienceexperience.com.au Early application is advised.