FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

It was really wonderful to be back in the recently completed school gym for an assembly. Many parents/caregivers and members of the community took the opportunity as invited to attend.

Mrs Wright’s Year 5/6 class took responsibility for not just running the assembly, but for the setting up and also the agenda. They confidently managed the event and were quite well heard. There is no doubt that the acoustics are great, but we probably do need to look at an improved PA system in the near future.

Certainly, the environment was appreciated. The lighting is good and the whole makeover makes for a really comfortable environment.

We look forward to seeing parents/caregivers and the wider community regularly at events within the hall.

Mrs Judy Appelkamp took the adults on a tour of the facilities, many of whom either stayed on over lunch time and joined in having a sausage sizzle or refreshments out of the canteen servery.

My appreciation to everyone who supported the day, particularly Russell and his helpers with the sausage sizzle.

TERM 3

Ms Wilamowski will be continuing as teacher of the R/1 class throughout Term 3. Some of the students will be transitioning from the Kindy into her class in the next few weeks. Additionally, a few children will transition in to Mrs Woolston’s class.

Many classes across the school have become larger as people have moved into the district. Adjustments are made to classes so that we do not end up with some very large classes, particularly in the younger year levels.

Monica Williams

Acting Principal’s Report

I will be in the position of Acting Principal for the next 4 weeks while Monica takes a well-earned break attending a friend’s wedding in Norway. I am very pleased to be able to announce that Kathryn Hese will be acting in the Deputy Principal’s role during this time as well.

As we approach the half-way point of the year it is a good time to take stock of what is happening in the school and review plans for the rest of the year. As with most businesses and places of work, schools seem to be getting busier and busier as we try to fit more in while meeting the needs of all of our students. The new semester will begin on Monday 27th June Week 9. For many students this will only mean a change in timetable, but for our Senior School students this will be the end of some subjects and the beginning of others. It is a good time for them to reflect on what they have achieved so far and what they might need to change in order to achieve their goals.

INTERNET USE

Meningie Area School, through the DECS EduConnect system, supplies all of our students with free access to the internet, in order for them to be able to utilise the huge amount of learning opportunities that the internet can provide.
With the considerable investment that the school has made in developing its hardware resources, students can access ICTs almost every lesson. Unlike many other schools we do not ask students to pay to have their internet access topped up when they use up their quota. Unfortunately there have been a small minority of students who have abused this opportunity by accessing websites that are unnecessary, inappropriate or potentially dangerous. While there is an extensive filtering system built in to the system, with a little effort students can find ways around this to enter chat rooms, download music etc. This is specifically in breach of the computer use agreement that all students have signed and which was given out last week as a reminder of the conditions. As a response to this, we have decided to impose sanctions on those found to be accessing inappropriate sites. In the first instance students will be removed from internet access for 1 week, and will not be re-instated until they have signed a new use agreement. With subsequent infringements their access will be removed for a period of at least 1 month and will also be given consequences in line with our Student Behaviour Management Policy, such as internal or external suspension. During this time students will not be disadvantaged in their learning, as they will be able to access written resources to complete assignment work, but they will not have the convenience of being able to access the web. Inappropriate use of the school’s internet is a waste of taxpayers’ (i.e. your) money, and also ties up bandwidth which makes it harder for other students to access legitimate sites. We look forward to your support as we implement these measures.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING EXPO

There is a Health and Wellbeing Expo occurring next Monday the 20th June. It will be from 10.30am to 3 pm at the Uniting Church Hall. There is information in “The Lakelander” and in fliers around town with more details, but I would like to bring to your attention the fact that there will be 3 people from “Headspace” available to talk to. This organisation specialises in supporting young people with mental health issues and will be available on the day to discuss the ways in which they can help these young people and support their parents as well. I can strongly recommend that if you are concerned about a young person’s mental wellbeing, this is a great opportunity to take some first steps.

WEARING CLOTHING FOR THE COLD WEATHER

The winter weather is really starting to have an effect. Several staff members have been away over the past week and we notice high absenteeism amongst the students. What continues to concern me is the number of students who come to school without a jumper. The class rooms are really cold in the morning until the heaters take effect. The rooms can then become really warm, jumpers are often taken off. Students are continuously being reminded to put on warm clothing as they leave the class room. We seek your support in reinforcing this and checking that your child / children are dressed for cold winter days when they leave home, particularly the younger ones.

Mal Jurgs

ATTENDANCE & LATENESS DATA – WEEKS 6 & 7 OF TERM 2 2011

WEEK 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABSENT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATE</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I = ILL  O = OTHER

WEEK 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABSENT</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I = ILL  O = OTHER

It is important to note that a lot of students arriving late do so regularly, and usually only just by a few minutes. Our ‘late’ numbers would be greatly reduced if students could just be that little bit more organised and arrive in time for the first session before Lesson 1, where the school day begins in Homegroup. This is an important part of the day, as school notices are read out and other important matters are brought to students’ attention.

Be your best
Empowering girls and young women to grow, lead and be agents of change to create a better world.
www.girlguides.org.au
1300 GIRL GUIDES
**Positive Parenting sessions for Term III**

**Effective Living Centre at 26 King William Rd. Wayville**

**Wed 3 August – Managing anger in Children**
Discover how we can teach children to recognize, understand, and express their anger in constructive ways.

**Wed 17 August – Talk so your kids will listen…**
Learn new ways of effectively communicating with children so that misunderstanding and conflict are dealt with constructively.

**Wed 31 August – Dealing with Competitiveness**
While children’s temperament and self-confidence contribute to the way they respond to competition, in a positive environment they can also be quick to learn new social skills.

**Wed 7 Sept – Developing Independence**
Secure relationships contribute to a strong sense of self, enabling children to feel confident in making sound decisions, relating to others and being independent.

Cost: $15 / $10 con. / $20 per couple
Bookings: 8271 0329 or office@effectiveliving.org

**Christine Gilbert**
Coordinator, Effective Living Centre

---

**Technology Career Evening**

**Wednesday August 10th, 2011**

*A career exploration evening for school students (any year levels), their parents, teachers and career counsellors.*

**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2011.
**Time:** 6:30pm to 8:30pm.
**Location:** Ridley Centre, Wayville Showgrounds

**Cost:** No Charge but bookings are essential!
Go to [www.tia.asn.au](http://www.tia.asn.au) or phone 8272 5222 to book your place.

(Fliers are available from the MAS front office)

**Andrea McCarthy**
Manager: Skills and Workforce
Technology Industry Association

---

**SPORTS FUSION 2011 (11th Year)**

*Coaching Clinics for students aged 5–14 years*

**At Prince Alfred College, Dequetteville Tce, Kent Town**

**Tues 12th July – Fri 15th July 2011**

**Choose from:** - Football / Netball / Basketball / Soccer / Combo

**Emphasis is on skill development and maximum participation.** We want all students significantly better equipped to enjoy and pursue sport for many years to come (low player/coach ratio, abundance of equipment, experienced and enthusiastic coaches)

**Meet:** AFL Stars Van Berlo, Patrick Dangerfield

**Free – Nippy’s juice, MacDonalds Voucher Encouragement Award**

**Combo – rotate sports every 45 mins, using modified equipment**

**Sport swap – chance to try another sport and game play (optional after lunch)**

**Cost of the 4 day clinic either 9am – 12noon $145, or 9 – 3pm $195**


Phone 1300 134 154