The end of Semester 1 is rapidly drawing to a close. For students in the Senior School this means that subject requirements and assignment dates are due about now or in the next week or so. For Middle School students also there are looming due dates for work completion, so that teachers can make final grade adjustments and write up reports that go home on the last day of term.

For many students and teachers this time of term is quite stressful as students realise that the demands of work are real and that for the report to reflect their learning there is much still to be done. Whilst most students articulate that they are at school to learn and that teachers expect them to work, not all students complete task requirements or hand in assessment work as expected. This then leads to disappointing reports that often do not reflect the individual student’s capability. Students need to give teachers evidence of what they understand and can do. There is an expectation that out of school time is required by students to do some work. This is called HOMEWORK. As a school we have and do set homework across the year levels. Of course there are varying opinions on HOMEWORK from parent to parent, student to student and teacher to teacher. It is clear though that as students move through the year levels, students who do best at school are those that have established good patterns of Homework supported by parents/caregivers from a very early age. If you are concerned about your child/children and his/her commitment to learning, as may be reflected in very little homework requirements, please make a time to see the subject and/or home group teacher as appropriate. It is timely to remind parents of students in Middle/Senior school that there is a supervised lunch time homework session every lunch time.

Nationally Consistent Collection Of Data-School Students With Disability

Within this Newsletter please find two pieces of information relating to National Consistent Collection of Data-School Students with Disabilities. The first is an information sheet to parents and caregivers about the collection of data relating to students with disabilities. The second is a letter explaining that involvement in the project is optional, and that if you do not want your child/children’s data included in 2014, you can opt out by way of the
return slip. If you choose to opt out please return the required and signed slip to Meningie Area School by Friday 27th June.

The collection of data is a Federal initiative. We were selected last year to collect data. All teaching staff participated in several hours of online training in 2013, so are more than familiar with the requirements and criteria for collection.

If further information is required, I encourage parents/caregivers to follow the links made available on the information for parents and caregivers. The Community Library has free internet access.

**Student Free Day Friday 13th June**

Just a reminder that this Friday 13th June is a Student Free Day. All staff will be involved in training as advised in previous newsletter. This includes training in Child Protection Curriculum and/or aspects of Australian Curriculum. The day will be facilitated by outside of school personnel and will be held here on the site.

**2014 SACE Formal**

After months of planning, the 2014 SACE Formal is finally here. Next Friday evening (20th June) our Year 11 and 12 students and partners will celebrate the event at The Cheese Factory Restaurant. The school community is invited to come along to the venue and see the young people arrive. With the formal part of the evening beginning at 6.30 pm, students will commence their arrival at 5.45 pm.

Monica Williams

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**Student Attendance Percentages % - Term 2 2014**

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**USE 9-A-SIDE FOOTBALL**

**The girls take up footy at Karoonda!**

A glorious day for the Bears playing the Murray Mallee Region including East Murray, Swan Reach, Mannum, Coomandook, Tintinara and Karoonda. The Bears played their first game against Tintinara, also known as the Crows. In the back lines were Bree, Shanae and Penny. In the centre was Gena, Crystal and Brittney and in the forward lines were Kiana, Emma and Georgina. At half time Bree swapped with Meshyla and Crystal swapped with Aimee. It was a tough game. The Bears lost to Tintinara by 2 goals. In the second game the Bears played Swan Reach with the team members changing positions. After lunch the Bears played Coomandook with a winning team: the back lines with Meshyla, Shanae and Bree. Centres were Emma, Gena and Brittney and back lines were Dakota, Crystal, and Georgina. Bears had a victory, beating them by 2 goals and 1 point.

The last game was played against Karoonda but unfortunately there was no win there.

The girls had a great day with everyone putting in and looking forward to the next opportunity to take the field.

**Back: Penny Mcmanus, Shanae Kartinyeri, Aimee Brooks, Brittany Thompson, Emma Marles, Meshyla Shaw, Kiana Kartinyeri**

**Front: Dakota Wenske, Gena Mansfield, Crystal Davis, Bree Stone, Georgina Tiver**
Consistent attendance increases the chances of gaining a good job.

Bear Boys Fight Hard!

Meningie played hard against the Murray Mallee region on Wednesday the 21st May. The weather was just about perfect for the day of 9-A-side football.

Meningie’s first game was against Swan Reach. Swan Reach played hard but not enough to stop Meningie. Swan Reach was behind both halves, but they weren’t behind by much. But Jiye Hoad stormed along and kicked 1 goal in the first quarter along with Kobie Hood with 2 goals. Swan Reach kicked 1 goal for the match. Meningie won the game by 3 goals. Then Meningie moved on to their next game, this time against Karoonda. Meningie and Karoonda started off well but Meningie wasn’t as good as the opposition. Karoonda kicked the first goal of the game and kept them coming with Meningie not far behind. Karoonda won by 1 goal.

After lunch break, Meningie went back on the field and played East Murray. Meningie was in front for both of halves and came through with the win. Then it was the last game of the day. Everyone from Meningie was pumped to win. Meningie played Coomandook; Coomandook came out with 1 goal and 2 points in the end and Meningie 6 goals to come out with the win. Meningie won 3 in 4 games and came 2nd overall. It was a good day at Karoonda for all of the teams.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE 2014

On Friday 30th May, 4 students (Trae Rigney, Shania Weetra, Brittany Rigney and Taylor Long) who are planning on attending the Connecting Spirits trip next April, were invited to attend a commemorative service for Aboriginal veterans as part of Reconciliation Week. They were accompanied by Carolyn Rigney, Isobell Koolmatrie, Nigel Treloar, Julie Reece, Tamika Williams and myself. The service was held in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders War Memorial on the Torrens Parade Ground. The service was a very moving one, with all of the usual customs associated with military commemorations, but with the addition of a smoking ceremony by Kaurna dancers. The guest speaker was Frank Clarke, an Aboriginal man from the Wimmera region of Victoria, who was in the Army during the Vietnam War and who was part of the team that helped in the aftermath of the Battle of Long Tan. He spoke of his experiences in the army and the different directions his life took after he left the army, including working for the SA Department of Education for a number of years.

Back: Jiye Hoad, Kobie Hood, Daniel Bland, Dylan Gubbin, Tom Schaefer, Lochie McPherson, Dwayne Shaw, Hank Trevorrow
Front: Samuel Rigney, Jai Ling, Riley McNicol

Trae pointing to the name of his Great Great Uncle Cyril Rigney, on the path leading to the memorial.
After the service we were then invited to the launch of the DVD that showed the development and history of the memorial. The speakers at this were Frank Lampard, who is a veteran and was a teacher for many years, and David Rathman, the Executive Director for Student, Aboriginal and Family Services in DECD.

After the launch the students had the opportunity to talk to a number of people including Lowitja O’Donoghue, Ray Boland, who is the oldest surviving Aboriginal veteran of both World War 2 and the Korean War, Wing Commander Lisa Jackson Pulver, the highest ranking Aboriginal person in the ADF, David Rathman and Frank Lampard. All of these people spoke of the huge opportunity that the students have in travelling to the Western Front and the importance of doing their best at school and in life. Frank then took the students out to the memorial and explained the significance of each element of the design. He is a passionate educator who took great pains to remind the students of the importance of looking after themselves so that they can then become leaders of their generation.

While Frank Lampard was talking to us, an elderly couple came over. Frank immediately recognised them as author Christobel Mattingley and her husband, David. Christobel has written many books including “Survival in Our Own Land” about the Aboriginal experience in South Australia since 1836. David was wearing a number of medals including the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was a pilot for Bomber Command during World War II who was severely wounded during his 23rd mission. He was awarded the DFC for bringing his crew and plane safely back to base despite his wounds and the severe damage to his plane. Christobel has written a book about his experience called “Battle Order 204”.

After we finished at the Torrens Parade Ground we headed to the West Terrace Cemetery to try to find the graves of 3 Aboriginal soldiers buried there, including Miller Mack from Raukkan. He was in the 50th Battalion at the Battle of Messines, but had major health issues with his lungs and was returned home due to illness. Unfortunately he died in 1919 from these health issues, and his buried with the thousands of returned service men in the cemetery. Unfortunately we could not find his grave, but got to see how many of these men died in the first 10 years after the war; the unseen cost of the war to our country.

I left the day feeling moved, uplifted and inspired by the people that gave of their time to share their stories with us.

Mal Jurgs

SAPSASA FOOTBALL

Year 8 Meningie students, Dylan Gubbin and Tom Schaefer, were selected from the regional squad to compete in the SAPSASA State Football Carnival held in Adelaide from Monday 26th to Friday 30th May. Meningie student Chelsea Thurston was also chosen to represent the area in the SAPSASA State Netball Carnival.

Following is a summary of the boys’ week in Adelaide:
Tom Schaefer and Dylan Gubbin were selected to represent Meningie Area School in Adelaide to play football with lots of different schools. The boys won 4 out of 6 games. They spent a week off school. They played against 10 different schools. The boys lost the first three games. On the last game on the second day they smashed the opposing team. After that game they won against KL and APY Lands. On Wednesday it was the best day for the boys. On Thursday they won one and lost one. On Friday they lost against two really strong teams; one was undefeated. It was a really fun week.

By Tom Schaefer

SCHOOL DENTAL NEWS

The Murray Bridge South and North Dental Clinics will be combining together over the next few months into a new dental clinic.

The new address will be:
45 Beatty Terrace
Murray Bridge  5253

We will be in contact at a later date with a moving date and further contact details and relevant information.

If you have any queries, please contact Robyn Cummings – Local Operations Manager – 0423 027 311.

Murray Bridge South Dental Clinic Staff

Annual General Meeting

What: Meningie KinderGym
When: Tuesday June 24th
Where: Swan Farm Machinery,
        72 Princes Hwy, Meningie
Time:  7.30pm

This will be our first meeting to form a committee. We aim to gain interest from families in our local community and surrounding areas. KinderGym is designed for parents with children aged Birth to 5 years.

Kindergym operated in Meningie in the past however went into recession approximately 12 years ago. A new group is beginning, come and be part of this for your children or grandchildren.

Please contact Sheree Biddle on: shezbids@internode.on.net to register your interest if you are unable to make the meeting.

By Dylan Gubbin
Consistent attendance increases the chances of gaining a good job.
Consistent attendance increases the chances of gaining a good job.
Dear Parent/Carer,

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability in 2014

Our school is taking part in the nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability project (‘the Project’).

What is the Project?

The Project is aimed at providing all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students with disability in schools and the adjustments they require to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students. The Project is being phased in over a three year period. The first data collection occurred in 2013 and the second data collection (the 2014 data collection) will occur in the second half of 2014.

You can choose if you want your child’s information to be included in the data collection or not. Names or identifying information are collected as part of the collection process.

What will the 2014 data collection involve?

Like last year, the 2014 data collection will involve the collection of the following information at the school level:

- the number of students receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students;
- the level of adjustment provided (no adjustment at this time, supplementary, substantial or extensive adjustment); and
- where known, the student’s type of disability.

Once this data has been collated, it will be de-identified and aggregated at the system level (ie Primary, Secondary, Special and Combined school setting) before providing it to the Commonwealth Department of Education. This ensures that no student’s identity can be ascertained.

What will the data be used for?

The data will be used by our school to inform and improve practice for students with disability and by the Department for Education and Child Development to inform state-wide reform initiatives.

The Australian Government Department of Education will use the information collected for the purposes of preparing reports for briefing Education Ministers\(^1\). The aggregated data may also be used to inform national policy development.

\(^1\) Education Ministers will receive advice on the project through the Australian Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Senior Officials Committee and the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood.
Your child’s data

Involvement in the Project is optional.

If you do not want our school to provide de-identified data about your child to the Australian Government Department of Education, you can ‘opt-out’ by completing and returning the attached opt-out form to the school or contacting the school on the number below.

If you do not advise you wish to opt-out, de-identified information about your child will be included in the 2014 data collection.

If you have any questions about the 2014 data collection please contact [insert contact person at school] on [insert phone number]. Further information about the Project can be found at: http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/speced/pages/specialneeds/national-data/

Monica Williams

Principal

PLEASE RETURN TO MENINGIE AREA SCHOOL BY FRIDAY 27TH JUNE 2014

I have read the letter in relation to the 2014 nationally consistent collection of data for school students with disability and request that information is not to be collected

___________________________________________________________________________

(Child’s name)

___________________________________________________________________________

Full name of parent/guardian:

___________________________________________________________________________

Parent/guardian signature:
The captains present...

When: Lunchtimes of Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 8 (17th and 18th of June)

Movies:
Years R-3 = Toy Story
Years 4 –6 = The Garfield Movie
Years 7-12 = Shrek

Popcorn will be sold at all viewings for 50¢ per bag

Consistent attendance increases the chances of gaining a good job.