FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

We have come to the end of what has once again been a busy term. The highlight being the musical production Surprising Old King Cole staged last Monday 21st June at the Tailem Bend Hall. This was the culmination of two terms of work involving teachers and students across the school. I take this opportunity to once again thank all the staff, students, parents and community who helped in any way to the success of the production. I particularly wish to thank parent and community support in travelling to Tailem Bend to see the performance. Many people have made wonderful comments or sent in letters and emails telling us how much they enjoyed the evening.

Finally, I acknowledge the support of Candetti Construction, who supported the hiring of the Hall and transport to Tailem Bend for the Dress Rehearsal, Friday 18th June and on Monday evening 21st June.

STUDENT REPORTS

All teachers have been busy over the last few weeks assessing students’ work and writing reports for the end of Semester 1. Reports and Junior School student progress books will go home at the end of the today.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we approach the end of Term it is evident that some students have become lax in the wearing of school uniform. As well as that many students have been coming to school over the past few weeks seemingly unprepared for the increasing cold weather. The class rooms are generally really cold in the morning until the heaters take effect. Often students only need their light school jumper on while in class, but are quite unprepared for the outside conditions. I seek parent/ caregiver support in providing a warm jacket that can be put on during the break, especially as when we come back at the start of Term 3 we will be going into the coldest part of Winter.

SCOLIOSIS

An information brochure about the National Self – Detection Program for Scoliosis was given out to girls in Year 7 & 8 this week through home group. This is part of a national program of awareness for parents. If you did not receive a copy you are able to download at http://www.scoliosis-australia.org/pdfs/self_detection_brochure.pdf. If you do not have access to internet facilities and did not receive a copy, office staff will be happy to assist.

BULLY AUDIT

All classes participated in the bully audit survey this week. This information is collected regularly as part of our Self Review and is in the process of being collated. Data is examined and used by teachers to address issues and develop strategies to assist students.

TERM 3

As part of Meningie Area School Self Review, both the Student Behaviour Management Policy and the Homework Policy will be reviewed during Term 3. Further details about both of these reviews will be communicated to the school community early next term.

STUDENT FREE DAY

Please place on the calendar a Student Free Day, Friday August 20th. This has been supported by Governing Council and approved by the District Director, Peter Chislett. Staff
will be involved in a cluster Training and Development day at Coomandook. The focus will be the New SACE, National Curriculum and Early Childhood Education

### MONARTO ZOO TRIP

When we arrived at Monarto Zoo we met our guide; his name was Wally. As soon as he introduced himself we had a quick recess in about 5 then we headed off to our first job. Our first job was to scoop up rhino poo from a huge poo mountain and shovel it into a trailer. We only had to do 5 scoops each but Lachlan and Jayden done 48 scoops each with pitch forks.

After the trailer was full of poo we drove off to a garden the people working at the zoo where trying to make a garden full of native fruits like muntaharies and other nice native fruits. We got off of the vehicles and started shovelling the poo out of the trailer and into the dug up ground. We filled the dug up ground in about 40 minutes after that time we were already on our way to the next job.

The next job was a fairly good job we had to pick up rocks and put them in the trailer so we started. Soon the bottom of the trailer was full and finally we were finished under one rock we found a gecko.

Soon we were on the way to the next job. The next job was to finish what some other class started a rock wall near walking trail near the cheaters cage too. It took us around about 20 minutes to finish it. After we finished it Wally said we could look at the cheetahs, So we went over to the big electric fenced cage, the cheetahs where really cool.

After 15 minutes we continued on to look at the chimpanzees. When we arrived at the cage 1 was outside and 3 where inside they were grooming each other.

We ate our lunch at the bush camp. We had a BBQ cooked by Corey, Jake and Jake.

Lauchlan Brown

### SCHOOL PRODUCTION

On Monday night 21st June, Meningie Area School performed its biannual production ‘Surprising Old King Cole’ at the Tailem Bend Town Hall. The production was a great success and it was wonderful to see so many families and
community members there supporting the students. The school has received some wonderfully positive comments and it seems the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Many thanks also not only to the participants but to the staff and students behind the scenes, who made the performance possible.

**YEAR 8/9 BOYS SSSSA FOOTBALL**

On Tuesday June 1st Rhys Marles, Scott Biddle, Sam Sanders, Dylan Richards and Zac Vandenbergink went to Murray Bridge to compete in the first round of the Year 8/9 Boys SSSSA Country Knockout Football Competition. They played in the Upper South East (USE) team which consisted of students from Meningie, Coomandook, Karoonda, Keith and Tintinara.

Their first match was played against Murray Bridge High school. The USE team won quite convincingly 90 points to 49. Best players from Meningie were Rhys, Scott and Zac. Rhys also scored 2 goals and Zac, Dylan and Scott one each.

The USE team then played Unity College. Again they had a good win defeating the Unity side 100 points to 55. Rhys and Scott again made the best players in this game. Rhys kicked 3 goals and Scott 2.

As a result of their great performances the USE Team progressed to round two of the competition. This was played at Keith on Wednesday 23rd June against Bordertown High School and Mt Gambier High School. Jace Stephenson-Hoad also participated in this round when at the last minute it appeared the USE team was down on players.

Unfortunately, without some key players, such as Rhys Marles who was out due to injury, the USE team struggled and could not match the stronger Bordertown and Mount Gambier sides. The overall winner on the day was Mount Gambier.

Thanks to the parents that transported the students to the venues.

*Lisa Davis (PE Teacher)*

**YEAR 10 - SALVATION ARMY VISIT**

On Thursday the 24th of June, the Year 10 class participated in the Salvation Army’s ‘Beyond the Classroom’ workshop.

Some of the major highlights included watching a confronting DVD titled ‘The Oasis’. It was a documentary on how young adults had become homeless and addicted to drugs and how The Oasis had helped them overcome their addictions. Another highlight was playing the Poverty Simulation game. In a mock community we each had parts to play, with some people playing poor citizens, while others were shop keepers, priests, Salvation Army workers or the police. This helped us to see what goes on in the community involving poverty, but on a much smaller scale.

We would like to thank the Salvation Army for giving us this opportunity to find out what work they do to help people in need.

*Megan Herrmann – Year 10*

**BRAIN SCIENCE FOR FAMILIES**

English language takes about four and a half years to learn; takes the longest, out of alphabetical languages, to learn to read and write because of the complexity of spelling patterns.

**CONNECTING SPIRITS**

**Canberra 2011 and Connecting Spirits 2012 Forward Notice**

Planning of these two events will start shortly and I will be giving specific information to Year 8, 9, and 10 students who will be eligible for both of these excursions early next term. We will not need any commitment to the Connecting Spirits trip until next year, but we will need to have a deposit paid for next year’s Canberra trip paid by November. If you wish for your child to be involved in either of these activities please keep an eye on the newsletter next term or contact me at school for more specific information.

It is only a few months until the Connecting Spirits 2010 group leave. We are busy researching soldiers and make final adjustments to the itinerary. The group are about to receive their trip polo tops which have been kindly donated by Mr Perry Gunner of Wanderlibby Feedlot and we will formally recognise his generous support later in the year at our farewell dinner. Keep up to date with what is happening on our website, [www.connectingspirits.com.au](http://www.connectingspirits.com.au).

*Mal Jurgs*

**HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT**

You are invited to attend a community sharing session to discuss the concept plan for the Meningie Lakefront Habitat Restoration Project at the Meningie Bowling Club on the 28th July 7.15 for 7.30pm.

All are welcome.