Welcome back to the start of Term 3. We particularly welcome our new reception students and their families to our school community. Our new students are Will Trevorrow, McKenzie Brooks, Justin Boscence, Justin Miller, Kali Hincks, Massimo Marotti and Harmony Love.

I hope all families were able to have some quality time together over the July holiday break and that children return to school ready to positively engage in the learning program. For students in Year 12 this is their last full term of schooling, as both exams and completion of subjects occurs in the first few weeks of Term 4.

From the draft planner included in this edition, you can see that it is a busy term. In particular there are a number of planned events that add to the learning experiences and opportunities for the students at Meningie Area School. We seek parent and caregiver support in having children participate in opportunities that have been organised so that they can broaden their life experiences. This is particularly so in the case of camp. In Week 6 of this term a number of classes are going on a camp to Arbury Park. To date much planning has gone into the organisation of this. Teachers have worked with Mr Vic Woolston to enable this to go ahead. In the weeks of this term leading up to the camp both curriculum and pastoral care sessions will be focused on lead up work so that students are well prepared and get the most out of the experience. I ask that this be well supported. As with all camp experiences besides being fun there is so much to learn both academically and socially. We look forward to this being a real highlight of the term for students in Year levels 5-9.

**CULTURAL WEEK**

This week, together with Ms Anyupa Giles and Ms Isobell Koolmatrie (ACEO), staff across the school have planned a week of lessons around Cultural Week. These will include:

- Cooking using native plant ingredients
- Art: Making two big banners with a pelican and Murray Cod theme
- Research: Theme David Unipon
- Feather Flowers
- Thukeri (Bony Bream) Dreaming story
- Building of the Pulgi in the Junior School Playground
- Flag raising ceremony Wednesday August 3rd 12.45 pm

**MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL INTERVIEWS**

As part of the Meningie Area School Reporting to parents/caregivers, interviews are held early in Terms 2, 3 and 4 following written reports. Interviews for students in the Middle and Senior School are scheduled for the 2nd week of August. Mrs Lorraine Williss coordinates this. Next week letters will go out to all parents and caregivers where interviews have been requested by a teacher. We seek your support in engaging in this really important part of the reporting process, so that you, along with your child/children, have a better understanding of where he/she is in their learning and strategies that may be implemented to maximise learning outcomes.

**GERMAN SCHOOLS**

One of the highlights of my recent trip to Europe was my stay in the German state Schleswig – Holstein. It is the most northern of the 16 German states and is close to Denmark. Kiel is the capital city and is the city in which our German teacher MS Yvonne Palka spent a lot of her childhood and where her parents live.

Schleswig is a rural city with lots of people engaged in dairying, pig farming, growing cereal crops and because it is on a waterway, fishing. Some family fishing businesses date back 5-6 hundred years.
I was privileged to go to three schools. I was made welcome by the students and staff in all three. The principal at the Gymnasium spent most of the day showing me around, talking about school curriculum, resourcing and schooling in general. I attended quite a few classes and worked with several teachers. Despite it being two weeks before the start of the summer holidays and the school teachers being really busy, I was afforded much time to find out about the things I was interested to know.

Following is what stands out in my mind from my visit:

- All students learn to speak English. It is not an option. Students have the same number of lessons of English as German on the Timetable from Year 5 onwards. Many students then learn a third and sometimes a fourth language before leaving school.
- The students I worked with all knew where Australia was and did not get us mixed up with Austria. One class had just completed a unit of work on Australia and there was a project about wombats displayed on the wall.
- All three schools were envious of the amount of Technology that our students at Meningie have. The Gymnasium had an enrolment of 1000 students. The school had only 3 computer suites and 3 interactive whiteboards. This is less than we have for our 2000 students.
- The school day began at around 8.00am. Many students travelled in from small villages by bus and it could take an hour for them to get to school.
- The school day for most students finished around 1.00 -1.30 pm. Students would then go home. It is an expectation that the students then do a couple of hours of set homework.
- There is no litter in the school yard.

Monica Williams

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**SAPSASA ATHLETICS**

On the 16th May 2011 South Australia had their annual SAPSASA athletics. From Meningie Area School Kobie Hood, Hank Trevorrow, Dylan Gubbin, Tessa Bagshaw, Brittany Rigney and Aleisha Williams competed in the SAPSASA Country Athletic Championship at Santos Stadium in Adelaide.

Aleisha ran the 800 metres, competed in the high jump and she was part of the 4 girls relay, Dylan ran the 800 metres and was part of the 4 boys relay, Kobie competed at shot put, Tessa ran the 800 metres and Hank came 4th in the shot put and 3rd in discus, with a throw of 29.9, winning a bronze medal.

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**DRUMBEAT PROGRAM**

Paul and Leah from ac.care have been working with a group of Year 7 to 9 students during the past term. This is one of the programs that the school runs to promote health and wellbeing amongst the students; in this case using drums to develop team work and other skills.

The students performed at the end of term assembly on Friday 8th July.

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**SCHOOL JUMPERS**
$28.00

**SCHOOL T-SHIRTS**
$26.00

**BLACK FLEECY TRACK PANTS SIZES 6-12**
$22.00

- Now in stock -

Available from the bookroom
8.30 to 9.00 am daily.
COMMUNITY MENTORING PROGRAM

Schools in the Murray and Mallee region are seeking volunteers to assist in the Community Mentoring Program.

Develop a relationship with a child (10-14 years of age) through a range of activities that you and your mentee would like to do together.

- Make a difference in a young child’s life
- Make new friends
- Make a real difference to the future of your own community
- Learn new skills

Life experience is the only qualification you need.

Would you like to know more about the program?
*Information Session Monday 8th August 2011*

7.00pm to 8.00pm
DECS Regional Office Murray Bridge
18 Beatty Terrace

Luke Wilson 0457 764 318 luke.wilson4@sa.gov.au
Please RSVP for catering purposes

SCHOLASTIC ORDERS

Scholastic catalogues were sent home with students earlier in the week.

Orders, with payment, can be placed at the bookroom or front office up to the end of Tuesday 9th August.

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2012 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Japan, the U.S.A and Canada will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au), email [scceaust@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaust@scce.com.au) or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE
Tel: +61 (0)3 9775 4711
Fax: +61 (0)3 9775 4971
Toll Free: 1800 500 501
Post: Locked Bag 1200, Mt Eliza, Vic, 3930
email: robert.l@scce.com.au

WANTED

The Reception/Year One class are urgently in need of postage tubes (with the ends on them) to use in class. If you have any to spare, please drop them in to the front office.

Australian Dental Association Inc.

Now that the winter sports season is in full swing, the Australian Dental Association (ADA) is promoting safety in sports through its Mouthguard Awareness Campaign. Now in its sixth year, the campaign is intended to demonstrate the importance of wearing a mouthguard to help protect teeth.

The ADA has developed a website: [www.mouthguardawareness.info](http://www.mouthguardawareness.info) to help teachers, PE staff, coaches, parents and children understand how best to protect teeth against injury while participating in sport. Information sheets available on the website include:
- Why wear a mouthguard?
- Choosing a mouthguard
- Dealing with accidents

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to telephone Sheena Coffey from Porter Novelli Melbourne on behalf of the ADA on: 03 9289 9555.

Kind regards
Dr F. Shane Fryer
Federal President
Australian Dental Association Inc.
MANDATORY NOTIFICATION TRAINING

It is now a DECS requirement for anyone wishing to volunteer in school to complete ‘Responding to Abuse and Neglect’ Training.

An opportunity exists to attend a training session at Murray Bridge in the near future.

Once the training session has been attended, participants will be issued with a certificate that is valid for 3 years.

Please contact Luke Wilson (Local Community Mentor Co-ordinator) at the DECS Regional Office if you would like to attend, or for further information.

Contact details:
Phone: 85 320733
Mobile: 0457 764 318
Email: Luke.Wilson4@sa.gov.au

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 contributes 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

TAKE SHEARING & WOOL HANDLING WORKSHOP

No experience necessary.
Course is for 5 days and to be held at;

Buchanan’s Shed at Karoonda 8 - 12th August 2011 and at Ki-Ki on the 22nd - 26th August 2011.

For further information contact;
• Greg Pittaway  0411 326793
• Graham Buchanan  85783464
• Jane Hogan at Roseworthy TAFE  83037718
• David Reichelt  0427797125

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 or phone 8272 5222 to book your place.

Fliers are available from the school front office

Andrew McCarthy
Manager: Skills and Workforce Technology Industry Association

BURNER PRIMUS GAS STOVES

FOR SALE
4 burner primus gas stoves (ex outdoor ed.) in a box with sliding lid.

$10 each. Please contact the front office if you are interested