FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

On Tuesday of this week Deputy Principal Mal Jurgs and I attended an information session at the Murray & Mallee Regional Office in Murray Bridge along with leaders across the district to listen to several DECD personnel talk on the topic SAFER DECD SCHOOLS.

The topics included:
- Suspension, Expulsion, Exclusion (SEE) review. Cossey review and required actions for schools.
- Legal obligations in relation to attendance.
- Attendance Improvement Plans.
- Effective strategies to address attendance issues.

As a site we are currently reviewing our Attendance Improvement Plan and the strategies we have currently in place to lift the rate of daily attendance.

Lateness to school is a part of the plan. Like poor attendance, it impacts on student learning. To get a student perspective on this I thought it might be useful to talk with a group of students. Mrs Starlings Year 2/3 class had the following to say and with their permission share their thoughts with you.

I asked two questions:

1. How do you feel about being late to school?
   - Angry at my mum and dad even if lateness is out of their parents control (e.g. a family emergency).
   - Like I haven’t been learning.
   - Sad because I miss out on learning.
   - Worried that I have missed most of the day.
   - Sad that I don’t get as much education as other people.
   - Anxious that other students have started their work and I don’t know what to do.
   - Nervous that I have missed something.
   - Upset.

2. What are some of the things that happen at home that get you to school on time?
   For most of the students there is a routine such as:
   - I get out of bed, get dressed, have breakfast.
   - Mum and dad don’t tell me what to do to get ready - I just do it.
   - I don’t have the TV on because it confuses me.
   - I do the same things every morning so I can get to school on time.
   - I pack my things like my communication book into my school bag the night before so I am not looking for it in the morning.
   - I get attached to the TV and it stops me getting ready. It distracts me.
   - The TV causes fights and we become late.
   - I get attached to the TV and it stops me getting ready. It distracts me.

If you have any hot tips that support your child / children being ready and on time to school, you might like to drop us a line or send an email to info@meningieas.sa.edu.au.
2012 SCHOOL PRODUCTION

As part of the 2012 Ancient Greek themed School Production entitled "A Kidsummer Night’s Dream" we will be accepting any donations of old or no longer required bed sheets that we could use for costumes.

Neutral, cream and white colours are preferred. If you have any sheets that you would like to donate could you please send them to school with your child to give to their class teacher. Thanks.

Year 10 Home Economics students

- Never give up
- Encourage others
- Do your best

On Monday 30th July the Reception to Year 9 students were able to watch Andrew perform the NED show. Each year All for KIDZ encourages over 2 million children across the United States, Canada, UK, New Zealand and Australia to become champions in school and in life. Andrew performed a series of yo-yo and magic tricks (that even had the year 9’s baffled) whilst incorporating the messages of the Ned program. Since then the students have been really keen to develop their own yo-yo skills and have been working together with Holly, Jai, Kobie & Lachlan (The Yo technicians) in the Ned Yo-Yo Zone.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

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 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Canada and the U.S.A. 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, email sccaust@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!

Robert Lindsay
Inbound Program Manager

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Fax: +61 (0)3 9775 4971
Toll Free: 1800 500 5010
Web: www.scce.com.au
email: robert.l@scce.com.au

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Serenity Nursery Scarecrow Making Competition

Win your share of $1000 worth of Gardening Goods.

1st Prize Raised Garden Bed, Amgrow soils and Vegetable seedlings. Valued at $700
2nd Prize Compost Tumbler Valued at $210
3rd Prize Worm Cafe & Accessories. Valued at $120

Vote for your favourite scarecrow at Serenity Nursery between 1st and 14th September.
Winners Announced: Saturday 15th September 11am at Serenity Nursery. All welcome to join.

Amgrow Nursery 211 Murrumundi Road MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253
08 8532 2114
Serenity Nursery 13-15 MURRAY R. MURRAY BRIDGE, SA 5253
08 8532 2114
Australia’s national sail training ship Young Endeavour is now accepting applications for youth to join eleven day voyages departing between January and June 2013. Young Australians aged 16 to 23 can apply for the ballot at www.youngendeavour.gov.au until 31 August 2012. No sailing experience is required.

A voyage in Young Endeavour is a challenging adventure at sea, and an exciting opportunity for youth to develop teamwork and leadership skills through a world recognised organisation. The current ballot includes voyages departing from Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, which will be crewed by youth from around the country.

17 year old high school student Sarah Honeycombe sailed Young Endeavour from Gladstone to Mackay in April this year. “The voyage was completely not what I expected – it was so much more amazing,” she recalls. “It truly tests your abilities when you try something completely new with a team of amazing, supportive people. It’s a once in a lifetime experience.”

19 year old Michael Darton joined a voyage in Young Endeavour shortly after completing his HSC exams. "My time aboard Young Endeavour was an absolutely wonderful experience which no doubt changed my life, if only in terms of self-confidence, decisiveness, and the amazing people that I met on board,” says Michael. "Command day was a fantastic and invaluable experience which really instilled in the crew the value of teamwork, communication and leadership skills, and that we could achieve anything we set our minds to".

Since 1988 the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, in partnership with the Royal Australian Navy, has provided challenging training voyages for over 11,000 young Australians in the tall ship Young Endeavour. The specially designed program delivered aboard the ship increases the youth crew’s self-awareness, develops teamwork and leadership skills, and fosters a strong sense of community spirit.

For more information, including voyage dates and fees, please visit www.youngendeavour.gov.au or contact our office on 1800 020 444.
Young Endeavour Youth Scheme
1800 020 444
mail@youngendeavour.gov.au

Week 7 (August 27th – 31st) is National Literacy & Numeracy week. A variety of lunchtime activities will be organised for R-12 students to participate in. As a lead up there will be 2 quizzes in the newsletter. Students and their carers are asked to work together to solve the problems and return the entry to the box in the Front Office at the school. Prizes will be awarded to the first correct entry.
### QUIZ 1

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### QUIZ 2

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