FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

We are almost at the end of what has been once again a really busy Term for both teachers and students. In the last two weeks alone groups across the school have engaged in learning that has taken them to the Adelaide Show as part of the Agriculture Team. Several Senior Students attending the Mock Accident at Coomandook, Music students attendance and participation in a two day workshopping event at Murray Bridge High which culminated in a concert at the Murray Bridge Town Hall, Wednesday night of this week and the VTech students have engaged in block release to work on their subject. As well as this yesterday we had a visiting dance group Footsteps take groups of students through a workshop session and learn a dance within a short amount of time.

Next week is the last week of term. Year 10 students will be out in the wider community doing Work Experience

On Wednesday night I was privileged to attend the Murray Bridge Town Hall concert, in which our band and music students performed. I was blown away with the standard of performance. The students just shone. It was just such a great night. After Murray Bridge High we had the highest number of student participation.

Monica Williams

WE WISH THE MENINGIE FOOTBALL CLUB UNDER 15’S ALL THE BEST FOR THE GRAND FINAL TOMORROW AT TAILEM BEND.

GOOD LUCK BOYS!!!
**CHOOKS FOR SALE**

The Year 10 / 11 Ag class is raising laying hens which will be ready to lay eggs in late November. They are hybrid laying hens and will be mainly brown with some white speckling. The cost will be $18.70 inc GST which is about $5 cheaper than similar birds in Adelaide. There are about 40 left for sale and they normally sell very quickly. Please contact the front office to place your order.

Mal Jurgs

**CANBERRA TRIP**

We are once again offering students in Years 9, 10 and 11 the opportunity to participate in a trip to Canberra. This will be on September 18th to the 22nd next year. The trip includes visits to the Australian War memorial, Parliament House, the National Portrait Gallery, Australian Institute of Sport and Questacon among others. Students who have attended the last two trips have said that it was the best camp that they have attended and all have found it a worthwhile experience. The cost will be approximately $900 and there are 20 places available. All students in Years 8, 9 and 10 have been given a letter about the trip with a return slip to express interest. The first 20 replies will be given the first option of a place on the trip. I have already received 14 responses so places are going quickly. Please contact me at school if you have not seen the letter but wish to know more.

Mal Jurgs

**CONNECTING SPIRITS 2012**

As the students involved in Connecting Spirits 2010 undertake final preparations to leave, it is a good time for students in Years 8, 9 and 10 to consider the possibility of taking part in 2012. The cost will probably be about $7500 so if you are considering this, it would be a good time to start saving. If you wish to get a better idea of what is involved, go to our website www.connectingspirits.com.au. You will be able to follow the progress of the 2010 trip on this site in late November and early December. I will put out an expression of interest form early next year and a $500 dollar deposit would be required in Term 1 to secure a place. Please contact me if you have any further questions about this.

Mal Jurgs

**MOCK CRASH AT COOMANDOOK**

On Tuesday 14th, 6 Senior School students attended a “Mock Crash” at Coomandook Area School. This was organised by the Coorong Road Safety Committee to demonstrate to students both the short and long term impacts that had a road crash has on the individuals involved, their families, the community and the Emergency Service personnel who are called on to attend these incidents. The first part of the day was a recreation of an accident, with a full retrieval and rescue operation, involving ambulance, CFS and the police. After the lunch break the students were addressed by a number of speakers, including an insurance investigator who highlighted the potential financial cost of an accident. Perhaps the most confronting parts of the day were a talk by a father who had lost his son aged 17 to a car accident and the impact that it had on his family, and a young man who was made a paraplegic in a motorcycle accident, who gave some insight into the change his life took after one stupid decision. The day was attended by students from Coomandook, Tintinara and Karoonda Area Schools and Unity College. It is unfortunate that more of our students weren’t able to attend because of other commitments but hopefully there will be another opportunity for them in the next few years.

Mal Jurgs

**INVITATION**

To all parents/carers to attend a special assembly to mark the opening of the new garden areas in memory of Mrs Pam Denholm

Friday 24th September 2010
10.30 am

Between the library and the staff room

This will be followed by a morning tea in the staff room

Please RSVP: Tuesday 21st September
Phone: 85 751106

Mal Jurgs

Emergency Services personnel work on a ‘victim’
**PaCSS NEWS**

**Uniforms**

*Now available*

- Polo shirts $26.00
- Jumpers $28.00
- Backpacks $37.00

*Other items are also available*

*Enquiries at the front office*

**UNIFORM SHOP**

*Will be open for the last time this term on Wednesday 22nd September From 2.30 – 3.30 pm*

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**MATHS COMPETITION**

An intrepid group of students travelled to Coomandook on a cool and blustery night. They attended the annual Maths Competition, along with students from Coomandook Area School, Karoonda Area School and Murray Bridge High School.

There were 13 Junior teams (Years 8 to 10) and 7 teams for the Senior section. Mrs Hood and Mrs Wright travelled over with 5 Junior teams from our school. The students came suitable equipped with pencils, calculators and supplies. It is really an energy packed night with lots of sugar to keep them going.

It is an astonishing sight; 100 Year 8 to 12 students all doing Maths at 9 o’clock on a Wednesday night. Definitely an experience not to miss out on!

The Meningie students represented their school admirably. The most successful MAS Maths team consisted of Megan Herrmann, Brigitte Botha, Hannah Pittendreigh and Abbey Hood. The most successful MAS General Knowledge group was Erin Pittendreigh, Mikayla Smart, Montana Wenske and Alysha Eckert.

Well done everyone.

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**MUSIC UPDATE**

Music continues to be an important part of school life at Meningie Area School.

**The Year 5 Program**

All students in year 5 are learning how to read and play music. They learn trumpet, trombone, flute or clarinet. Mr Longden and Mr Williams are the teachers. This is part of the DECS music program.

The instruments are provided by the school (so no hire fee is involved).

The year 5’s are progressing well and the weekly band lessons with Mr Williams and Mr Longden are coming along well with some pieces. The music is starting to sound like a real tune. The students are encouraged to take their instrument and music home to practise.

**The Year 6 – 12 Program**

Students have elected to continue with the music program. A large group of year 6 and 7 students have continued with their instruments and this is great to see. Mr Williams and Mr Longden teach the brass and woodwind lessons.

Congratulations to those students who have taken up a new instrument this year.

Congratulations also to those senior students who have continued to be dedicated to learn their instrument. Our band work is limited due to the hall arrangements, but we

After an excellent rehearsal we sat in the Theatre to eat lunch. It was very wet outside. We then went for a walk down North Terrace and visited the Museum. During the afternoon we went to a movie. We had a quick tea at Hungry Jack’s and walked back to the Theatre.

We dressed in to our performance clothes and lined up with the other half of our row from Elizabeth South Primary School.

At 6.45 pm we filed into the hold under the stage for our warm-up and preparation. Our parents, family and friends were sitting in the Theatre ready for the big start.

The concert was fantastic! We had a great time performing and the audience clapped and clapped at the end.

A tired band of travellers from Meningie ventured home – the end of a great day. Congratulations to Chelsea, Holly, Aleisha, Jonathan, Billie, Emma, Renae, Hugh, Lachlan, Alex, Katie, Tessa and Hank. Your hard work was rewarded with a great performance.

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**CHOIR 2012**

At 7am in the morning, dedicated parents and students met at the school carpark ready for the trip to Adelaide.

On arriving at the Festival Theatre the students placed their bags and coats in our dressing room (Dressing Room 12) under the stage. They then went and lined up ready for the rehearsal.
are learning pieces to play together as a group/band later. Most students have free lessons and music hire.

The Teachers

Mr Rod Williams is a music teacher based at Murray Bridge. He is the Conductor of the Murray Bridge Concert band. At MAS Rod teaches Brass instruments. He is also available to teach a number of other lessons at the student’s expense (not subsided by the school).

Mr Peter Longden is a music teacher based at Murray Bridge. He works full-time for DECS and teaches Woodwind (flute, clarinet and saxophone).

Miss Ashlee Crossman is a piano teacher who comes to school on Monday’s. Ashlee teaches piano privately and her contact number is available from the front office.

Mr Mike Kozikowski is a music teacher based at Tailem Bend. Mike (Kozi) has a wealth of experience and is a private teacher.

Music is a life-long skill that encourages lateral thinking skills, creative thinking processes and mathematical understanding.

I encourage students and parents at Meningie to embrace the program we have at school. The instruments are here to be practised on and played.

The local community has a community band that practises on Tuesday evenings. They rehearse using the School Music Room (a bit squashed at the moment) and school facilities.

I am sure they would welcome any interested new people.

Please contact me if you have any questions or queries.

Anne Wright

ADAM PAGE MUSIC NIGHT

Over the past two days a very fortunate group of students from the Murraylands were part of the Adam Page experience in Murray Bridge.

Students from Meningie Area School, Coomandook Area School, Murray Bridge North Primary, Mypolonga Primary, Fraser Park Primary, Tailem Bend Primary and Murray Bridge High School all jammed, crammed and worked hard to perform as a unit on Wednesday. The music was well performed and the students keen and involved.

Meningie had eleven students playing in either the senior concert band or junior band. In the senior band Oliver Crossman and a French student teacher, Chloe Baudoin played saxophone. Marni Hood came up for part of the rehearsal but due to illness was unable to attend all the time. The year 6-8 students performed really well learning many new and funky skills.

The special guest was Adam Page, who was taught clarinet by Mr Peter Longden at Mt Gambier in Year 3. Adam, then, went to Grant High School and then on to Adelaide at the Elder Conservatory.

He has continued to entertain and teach people around Australia and the World. Maybe keep an eye out for him at a Fringe or Music Festival. He was way cooooool!

Participating students:

Oliver Crossman
Dale Appelkamp
Caitlin Lord
Abby Hood
Tessa Bagshaw
Adele Pittendreigh
Brenda Baldock
Danielle Colmer
Maddi O’Connell
Gracie Ayres
Brianna Wilson
and Chloe Baudoin pictured with Adam Page
ACID SULPHATE TESTING

Over the past 18 months students in Year 10 have been involved in testing 3 sites around the lake for the presence of acid sulphate soils as the lake levels have dropped and the bed has been exposed to the air. This has been quite a laborious task, as salinity and pH measurements are taken at 3 depths for 4 positions from every site and each soil sample is described. At times negotiating the mud and water has been quite difficult but with innovations introduced by Carole Richardson from the Goolwa to Wellington LAP, the process became easier and more streamlined each time we did the testing. This week, Hannah Pittendreigh, Megan Herrmann and Amber Gibbs went with Carol and her helper Regina to conduct the testing, which will hopefully be the last before the lake is once again filled with water. The next test which is due in December will probably have to be done from a kayak!! The information that we have gathered has been put with other data from around both lakes and will hopefully inform any decisions made about the future of the lakes. The bund between Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina is being removed as we speak and water should start flowing between the 2 in about a fortnight with Lake Albert returning to between 0.5 and 0.75 metres AHD by the end of November. It is probably a good time to remove any droppers or posts that have been put into the lake bed before they are lost under water.

Amber, Megan and Hannah conduction pH tests

ROYAL SHOW REPORT

Once again, Meningie Area School entered 5 steers in the Royal Adelaide Show Led Steer Competition. These were Alcheringa Excelbi, a Limousin from Cameron and Yvonne Butcher, Wellington Lodge Eastwood, an Angus from Wellington Lodge, Ragnorak Eddy, a Red Angus from Paul Cotterill of Mt Gambier, Waterfront Epic a Simmental from the Hodge family at Tintinara and Seymour Vale Emmett a Santa Gertrudis from the Lintern’s at Tungkillo. These were lead by Tim Eckert, Keith Rigney, Alana Butcher, Mel van den Brink and Jack Appelkamp. The leaders were well supported by Sam Bird, Justin Smart, Richie Nicholls, Bethany Jurgs, Chris Biddle and Oliver Crossman. All of the Year 10, 11 and 12 Ag classes had worked well in the lead up to the show, but unfortunately not everybody could attend. Once again, we either had animals with good fat cover but not enough muscling, or animals with great muscling but insufficient fat cover to get amongst the blue ribbon winners, but our results were respectable, with a fourth ribbon for Excelbi, a sixth ribbon for Eddy and a merit mention for Emmett in the on-hoof judging. There were no ribbons for us in the on-hook section but the results were generally good.

Once again we need to thank a huge number of people for their help and support including all those who donated steers, Anthony Pearce for his advice and support, Meningie Fodder for their feed, Harry and Michelle Ousley for their support, David and Gwenda Eckert for hay, Coorong Agri-Services and Landmark Meningie.

BOOK WEEK 2010

Book Week: Across the Story Bridge was celebrated quietly this year, with competitions, quizzes and activities held in the classroom, and a segment during the Junior Primary Assembly. Teachers received a “showbag” for their classroom to celebrate in style. The colouring in competition was judged by selected teachers and was won by the following people in their age groups: Melissa Botha, Middle School; Brigette Lewis, Starling 2/3; Cameron Miller, Hart R/1 and Tammin Clark, Woolston R/1. They can come to the library to claim their prize.

Simultaneously, we have come to the close of this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. All the Reception and Year 1 people have finished their challenge, reading 8 books from the premier’s list and four from their own reading. Several people in Mrs “Starling’s and Ms Giles’ class have completed, with a few from middle school also achieving their next award. Now we just need to wait for the certificates and medallions to arrive for presentation at a later assembly.

Today is the last day for entry into the Public Libraries’ competition to win two free tickets to Tomorrow When the War Began. The movie has been highly recommended by staff who have seen it, and is the film version of a book used by most schools as an English text at year 9/10 level. Finally, as a request to parents who may have taken photos of the Book Week Assembly, Mrs Clarke would like a copy of photos that maybe suitable to include in the 2010 Year Book. Please email them to margaret.clarke@meningieas.sa.edu.au or drop them in to the library asap as Ms Freeth is already collating the pages.

Margaret Clarke (Librarian)
**MENINGIE CRICKET CLUB**

Notice is hereby given that the AGM of the Meningie Cricket Club will be held on Wednesday 29th September 2010 at the Meningie Football Clubrooms from 7.30 pm.

Players, members and prospective players or members are welcome to attend.

For more details please go to the club’s website:

http://meningiecc.cricket.com.au

**FARMHAND**

A full time position is available on our broadacre cropping and livestock property near Coomandook, for an honest and self motivated person.

Feb 2011 start
Training provided where necessary
For further information and to obtain a job description please email timcheryl@internode.on.net or phone Tim Freak on 0407972470.