Consistent attendance allows students to move through the set curriculum successfully.

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**Festival of Choirs**

Last night, Wednesday 17th September the Choir students performed on stage at the Festival Theatre as part of the Festival Of Choirs held annually. We have been involved in this event for many years and once again it was a night to remember for all of the students and families involved. Thanks to Mrs Anne Wright for her time and work in preparing the students for what is a very polished performance and congratulations to the students who have committed to learning the lyrics to songs and the actions since early in Term 1. A detailed report will appear in the next newsletter.

**Band**

Next Tuesday and Wednesday the Band is off to Murray Bridge to a workshop with students from schools within the Murray Mallee region, under the guidance of Adam Page. This is an amazing opportunity for our band students who will get an opportunity to stretch and build their skills as well as have a lot of fun over the two days. I am looking forward to the Wednesday evening concert. This is to be staged at the Murray Bridge Town Hall on Wednesday evening. I hope that both the parents and relatives of our band students can make it along to this event and encourage all members of the school and wider community can as well.

**Student Engagement**

In the first Newsletter of this term I wrote about student engagement and improvement focus for this term. In classes from Year 3/4 through to Senior School the challenge put out to students was to get them reflecting on the end of Term 2 report, identify an area for improvement and work out a strategy for improvement. Over the term, along with class/home group teachers, students have been monitoring progress. When this term’s report goes home next week a great conversation to have with your child/children would be about...
Consistent attendance allows students to move through the set curriculum successfully.

progress in respect to his/her goal and the level of success or not that has been achieved. The point of this is about engagement in the learning and that each student be more responsible for that. I would be keen to hear from parents/caregivers, both positive and negative, as to whether this has made a difference or not.

**NAPLAN**

NAPLAN information was sent out to parents/caregivers by post this last week for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. We hope that you have received this information. Please be reminded that if there is anything about your child/children’s report that you are uncertain about, have concerns or questions about you are encouraged to contact the school and make a time to meet with your child/children’s teacher. In general there is much made about the NAPLAN every year at both National and State level and of course through the media. What is important to us as teachers and as a school is that we are able to track each and every child over time and adapt teaching and learning programs to support children in learning. We look at what your child can do as well as what on the day he/she was not able to show. We have professional conversations about the data that the NAPLAN gives us and we use that as well as other regular testing to intervene as well as plan to stretch and challenge capabilities.

**Reminder of School Routines**

With several students being dropped off at school, often much earlier than 8.30 am, this is a timely reminder to parents and caregivers that students **should not be on school grounds before 8.30 a.m.** This is a duty of care issue. A teacher is rostered on duty from this time until the bell sounds to begin the school day at 8.45 am. The school day finishes at 3.20 p.m. and buses leave at 3.30 p.m. Students who do not travel by bus should be picked up or make their way home promptly at the completion of the school day, unless they are participating in an arranged after-school activity, as there is no teacher on duty after the buses leave.

The Front Office is open from 8.30 am for both parents and students to deal with issues around payment of accounts, purchase of items from the Bookroom and to make general enquiries. The office will close daily at 4.00 pm.

The school day begins at 8.45 a.m. It is important that students are here by this time and in class. At the start of the school day all classes have Home Group. This is a time when the teacher and students go through the daily routines. When students are late it makes it difficult for them to be ready and well prepared. Both lateness and absenteeism are issues that we are really focusing on this year. There is no doubt that poor attendance and lateness impact on both individual and group learning. We all need to work hard on this, so that all students have access to positive learning outcomes.

In the interest of child safety, we also remind parents/carers that they should not drop off their children in the staff car park. There is ample space to pull over on North Terrace and deliver your children to school.

The school crossing is on North Terrace and we remind the Meningie School community to use this at all times when crossing the road.

**Staffing**

It is my pleasure to formally advise the school community that Ms Carly Wilamowski has successfully won a permanent position here at Meningie Area School through the recent round of advertised positions. On behalf of the school community, congratulations to Carly who will be continuing to teach in the Junior School.

**On a Personal Note**

I have spent the last few days out of the school. John and I have been in Brisbane as our son Simon and his wife Jess had a baby girl last Monday 8th September. All is well. Her name is Tara Josephine and of course she is beautiful. It was really lovely to see her so soon after her arrival into the world, and of course thank goodness for modern technology as we get regular photo updates on our phones.

I hope that all families have a great holiday break. Term 4 is a nine week term and it will be busy. The year 12 students will be finishing the last parts of courses early in the term with several doing exams. The last of our student free days will occur late in the term after Year 12’s have finished, with the date to be approved as yet by Governing Council. This will be advertised in the Term 4 Planner that goes home with the first newsletter next term.

Monica Williams
ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW REPORT

Once again Meningie Area School competed in the Led Steer and Led Wether sections of the Royal Adelaide show. We entered 5 steers and 2 teams of 3 wethers.

The steers were Lancaster Ionic, a Black Simmental from the Cartledge family at Menalpyn, Mentara Park Icarus, a Red Angus from Dave and Gwenda Eckert, Moyle Park Irwin, a Red Poll from Dr. Richard Daley of Jamestown, Tarlina Isotope a Murray Grey from Rodney Gregurke of Pt Lincoln and Wellington Lodge Isaac, a Black Angus from the McFarlane family of Wellington Lodge. The wethers were pure Merino hoggets from Dave and Gwenda Eckert.

The students began working on the animals early in Term 2 and gave up three of their lunchtimes per week, as well as some lesson time, to ensure the animals were fed and prepared ready for the show. They also spent time on their weekends in the last month for fine tuning. Vaughan Campagnolo from VPC Cattle Services clipped the steers to have them looking their best.

Last Tuesday we headed off to Adelaide. The sheep needed to be there in the afternoon and so half the team left with me with a trailer behind to get them in to their pens and then weighed and scanned. Once this was done we set up the steer stand with all of the banners, curtains and decorations that had been carefully designed and planned at school. Thanks to Bethany Jurgs, Emily Shepley, Mrs Kreher and Mr Woolston for their help and advice with this. The steers were picked up by Greg Rowett after school and the rest of the team followed with Ms Low and Hamish Jurgs.

Due to an incident last year unloading steers, the restrictions were much tighter this year which meant that it took considerably longer to get the truck into the showgrounds and then to unload the steers. Finally they were in the stall, fed and watered and the steers were ready for judging. Mrs Treloar joined us and supervised the steer team while they were scanned and weighed. The wether team; Dale Appelkamp, Tessa Bagshaw, Brenda Baldock, Alex McPherson, Zac van den Brink and helped by Alysha Eckert, stood in line as the 147 wethers in the competition were judged for skin value, wool value and carcase value. After this was completed the team waited for our turn to have the wethers shorn.

After the steers had been scanned and weighed they were washed and made ready for the rest of the day’s proceedings. This included selection for the Thomas Foods International Award, which is a competition between the breeds of cattle at the show. Each breed selects what it thinks to be the top three scoring steers to represent the breed against the others. It is an honour to be selected in this team and Mentara Park Icarus was selected to represent the Red Angus team, while Tarlina Isotope just missed out being assessed as the 4th steer in the breed. In the middle of the afternoon we all went for a walk around the oval in the Grand Parade, with a few of our steers covering considerably more ground then the rest by doing a lot of circles.

Late in the afternoon the prizes for the wether competition were awarded by Catriona Rowntree, who is married to a sheep farmer and who works part time for the wool industry. We received an 8th place for our skin values, which in such a large field was an achievement.

This was followed by the Young Beef Breeders Handlers competition which Alysha Eckert and Jessie Bland both competed in. The students then had a few hours free time to look around at the show and watch the fireworks before heading back to our beds after a very long day.

Another early start and the animals were fed and watered, and the steers made ready for judging. Aleisha Williams leading Moyle Park Irwin was first into the ring and, after a lot of consideration, the judge placed Irwin in 6th place, just one place out of the ribbons. They were then followed by Jessie and Isotope, who did one better and received a 5th ribbon in their class. Alysha then brought Icarus into the ring, immediately impressing the judge,
who put him straight into 1st place. The whole Eckert family were delighted with this result. David Bristow lead Wellington Lodge Isaac and Brittany Thompson lead Lancaster Ionic in later classes but neither took a place in the front row.

After the judging was complete the winner of the Most Professional Show Team competition was announced and we were very proud to receive 1st place in this. This competition takes into account the appearance of the stall, how well the bedding is looked after, the preparation of the steers, the student’s knowledge of their steers, the way the team worked together and the participation of the students in all aspects of the showing experience. Meningie Area School scored 97 points out of 100 which is obviously an excellent score, just 1 point ahead of 2nd placed Loxton High School.

On Saturday night the carcase results were announced. From a class of over 60 animals Tarlina Isotope was 3rd and Mentara Park Icarus was 10th. Icarus was also the 3rd highest scoring Red Angus and a member of the 3rd placed Red Angus team in the Thomas Foods International Award.

Overall it was a very successful show for the school and we need to thank a large number of people for their help and support in making it so. We had a number of very generous sponsors whose support provided, among other things, the uniforms on which many people commented how good they looked. These were Thomas Foods International, New Holland Australia and Swan Farm Machinery, Wanderibby Feedlot, Meningie Fodder, Mentara Park, Hincks Rural Fencing, Meningie Veterinary Clinic, Lake Albert Caravan Park, Greg and Erani Rowett and Coorong Ag Services.

We also need to thank Hamish and Bethany Jurgs for giving up their time to help throughout the show, Mrs Kreher and Mr Woolston for their help with the school display, Mrs Treloar for her assistance before and during the show and of course all of the breeders of the steers and sheep.

We have set a high standard this year and are already planning on how we can do it even better next year.

Mal Jurgs & Coadette Low

**LOST PROPERTY**

We have a silver St Christopher pendant in the front office which was found outside Mrs Woolston’s classroom several days ago. If it belongs to you, please contact the front office.
Consistent attendance allows students to move through the set curriculum successfully.

LIBRARY OPEN TO STUDENTS AND PUBLIC

9 – 5    Monday – Friday
10 – 1   Saturday
(School holidays closed Mondays and lunchtime)

Meningie School Community Library is now connected to the whole Public Library Network of South Australia and you can search, reserve and extend loans over the internet by logging onto the library website.

- Try out the new catalogue at www.libraries.sa.gov.au/coorong
- If you have any difficulties please ring 8575 1681 to get some help logging on or using the new system.

REMINDER FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

- Return membership forms for students
- Return or renew overdue materials
- Problems? contact the library on 8575 1681

The Meningie Library will be working on implementing the eSmart program over the next 12-18 months and this will involve developing the smart, safe, responsible use of technology by library users. This program will involve all library users from the youngest to the oldest and is being rolled out across Australia with hundreds of Libraries involved. More information will be provided in future MAS newsletters and The Lakelander about some great opportunities to engage with the online world in useful ways and become more IT literate.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

Students and adults are encouraged to use the library over the school holidays. Holiday Opening Hours are:
Tuesday to Friday 9 – 5
Sat 10 – 1
Bring the kids in and they will receive a library bag with some great free stuff (stickers, dinosaur models, pen, etc.) and also be in a free draw for a family pass (2 Adults & 2 Children) to see The Boxtrolls

Bernie Ryan, Librarian
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**Student Attendance Percentages**

Term 3 2014

**DECD TARGET FOR 2014 = 94%**

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**AMBULANCE VISIT**

On Thursday in week 8, the Reception to Year 4 classes had a visit from Taigan and Paula from the Ambulance service in Meningie. They came to talk to the students in these year levels about what to do in an emergency.

The students talked to Taigan and Paula about emergency situations, and the things they would have to say on the phone to an operator. They also had the opportunity to hop into the ambulance and have a look at the equipment (and hear the sirens)!

The students had a fantastic time, and it was great to see that most of them knew the Australian Emergency number – 000! One area that they had difficulty answering was their home address, so this might be something you could discuss with your child.

Thank you Taigan and Paula for coming in and talking to us!

*Carly Wilamowski (Reception teacher)*

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**BRAINFOOD UPDATE**

Over the last two weeks the junior school classes have been involved in a friendly brain food completion to see which classes are making healthy choices at brain food time. The R-4/5 teachers have been really impressed with the choices that students are making and would like to thank parents for helping and encouraging students make these fantastic choices.

In Week 8, there was a hard fought competition between classes, and it is very impressive that all classes have improved in their brain food choices in Week 9. Well done!

In Week 8, the victors (with a whopping 100% of their class eating great brain foods) were the Year 1/2s.

In Week 9, the Reception class made a valiant effort to eat healthy things (watermelon was very popular), and drew with the Year 1/2 class. Well done kids, and keep up the great work.

*Carly Wilamowski (Reception teacher)*
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE REALLY EATING & DRINKING?

The Year 7/8 HPE class have been making some very interesting discoveries.

We have been observing student’s lunch boxes and canteen options.

Here are just some of the facts we have learnt:

Did you know that 1 Powerade drink has 6½ teaspoons of sugar?
Did you know that 1 up & go has 4 teaspoons of sugar?
Did you know that 1 large iced coffee has nearly 12 teaspoons of sugar? This means that if you have 1 iced coffee per day you will consume almost 20 kilograms of sugar per year!
A pack of 3 Oreo has 10 grams of fat and 10 grams of sugar, that’s 2 teaspoons of fat and 2 teaspoons of sugar!
A single serve strawberry yoghurt has over 5 teaspoons of sugar.
If a teenager drank 4 large French Vanilla Cappuccinos a day they would have had their total kilojoule requirement for the day.
Did you know that a single strawberry fruit bar has 3 teaspoons of sugar?
Did you know that by eating 1 small packet of salt and vinegar chips you have consumed almost 2 teaspoons of fat?
Did you know that a large iced chocolate has more sugar than a can of coke?
A small single serve of Shapes has just over 1 teaspoon of fat!
Did you know that 1 cup of Fantastic Noodles has 3 teaspoons of fat and 1 teaspoon of sugar?
Did you know that 600mls of orange and mango juice has 10 teaspoons of sugar. If you were to drink 1 bottle per day, in 1 week you would have consumed over 300 grams of sugar that makes a whopping 16 kg per year!
Did you know that if you consumed 1 large iced coffee and 1 small packet of honey soy chips you would have had more than 1 quarter of your required daily kilojoule intake?

1 in 4 Australian children are overweight and 6 in 10 Australian adults are overweight!

So, we suggest

DRINK MORE WATER
EAT MORE FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRUIT
EAT WHOLEGRAIN BREAD AND CEREALS

SA DENTAL SERVICE
Murray Bridge Community Dental Clinic

Murray Bridge North and South Dental Clinics have now combined!

We are now located at:
Murray Bridge Community Dental Clinic
45 Beatty Terrace
Murray Bridge SA 5253
PH: 8531 9300

The School Dental Service is the major provider of dental services for babies, children and young people under 18 years in South Australia. Around 130,000 children attend every year.

The Commonwealth Child Dental Benefits Schedule for 2 – 17 year olds started in 2014.

ALL children are very welcome to continue to access dental care at the School Dental Service. Dental care is FREE for most children and the School Dental Service will bulk-bill Medicare.

Children who do not qualify for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule can also attend – a small fee will apply for each course of general dental care provided.

School Dental Clinics are located across Adelaide and regional SA. To locate your local School Dental Clinic, and for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au
INVITES YOU & YOUR CHILDREN TO

‘KINDERGYM COME & HAVE A TRY’

DATE: Monday 22nd September 2014
SESSION TIMES: Bookings essential
   10am, 11am & 1pm (1 hour sessions)
VENUE: TBA (Venue will be confirmed at time of booking)
COST: Gold coin donation
AGES: 0 - 5 years
Food & Drinks available for purchase
If you require any further information & to make bookings please contact one of the following Committee Members:
Sheree Biddle: 0421 448 371
Emma Swan: 0417 809 469
Or contact us via our email address: coorongactivekids@yahoo.com

Coorong School Holiday
Outdoor Adventure Challenge

Getting outdoors is where the real adventure begins. OPAL is challenging families to complete up to 20 outdoor adventures. To get you started, OPAL is providing free ‘outdoor adventure packs’!!

Packs are limited so get in quick!

How to get involved:
1. Register at your nearest council office from Friday 19th September.
2. Pick up your family ‘outdoor adventure pack’ (one pack per family)
3. Complete at least 3 outdoor adventures listed in your packet guide
4. Post a photo/story to the Coorong District Council Facebook page of your outdoor adventures
5. Submit your feedback form to your nearest council office by Friday 17th October 2014

Family Outdoor Adventure Pack includes:
- OPAL bag, boot camp (start the day with a healthy breakfast), pocket guide map to Coorong adventures, water bottle, kite, bug catcher, frisbee, lucky sack, feedback form.

Win a Bike:
To be in the running to win a kids bike to the value of $250, from Brookies Cycle, simply submit your feedback form to your nearest council office by Friday 17th October 2014.

Meningie Area School
Intermediate Band Students
along with other Meningie Music Students
will be involved in a number of workshops and rehearsals, leading to a

performance with Adam Page

Presented in conjunction with:

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