FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

I trust all students and their families found some time to spend together over the September holiday break and have come back to school ready for what promises to be a busy term as we approach the business end of the year. For the year 12 students the end of their secondary schooling is fast approaching. Their last official day of school will be Friday 29th October. A special assembly acknowledging their years of schooling will be held on that day at 12.15 pm.

We warmly welcome our new reception students; Almari Botha, Dion Kernick, Lauren Parsons-Avery and Jack Saint, and their families to Meningie Area School.

STAFFING CHANGES

Mr Woolston is on leave this term. Some of his classes have been taken up by Mrs Katrina Hood, who has teaching qualifications and skills in Technology. In addition Ms Amy Klitscher and Mr Brenton Buderick, both of whom completed their teaching degree at the end of last term have taken up positions here for this term. We are really pleased to have them working in our school.

Isobell Koolmatrie has taken on the role of Aboriginal Education Liaison Officer. Together with Renee Egan ( Aboriginal Student Support Officer) she will be developing closer links between the school and Aboriginal families.

BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION

At long last some visible progress has begun around the refurbishment of the school hall. While behind the scenes a lot of work and organisation has gone in to contracting the new building company TEMPELTON. As you may have noticed, signage has gone up in the past week and a site manager has been appointed. There have been on-going meetings with the builders over many weeks and we look forward to seeing building work commence quite soon.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is always good to see our students in school uniform. The wearing of uniform is strongly supported and endorsed by Governing Council. We ask that parents make every effort to encourage their children to wear the uniform. There are many good reasons for wearing school uniform including:

- It builds a sense of belonging and pride in being a member of the school
- It enables us to easily recognise our students in the school yard.
- It is reasonably priced when compared to regular clothing

LATENESS

I have been keeping note of students arriving late to school this week, and find that the data is quite alarming. The school day begins for all students at 8.40 am. This is Home Group time and is the time of the day when the class or Home group teacher, along with students, goes through the organisation of the day. This includes the roll, bulletin information and it is a time when teacher and students connect. When students arrive late they are at a disadvantage missing this important time.

When students arrive after 8.50 am they have missed the start of lesson. Arriving late to a lesson puts everyone at a disadvantage as the teacher has to stop, restart, change lesson direction, or catch the student up, and of course the rest of the class then has to wait, thus missing valuable learning time.
We ask parents/caregivers to support and encourage children to be here on time so that we have a prompt, smooth start to the learning program for the day.

RAUKKAN CELEBRATION 150 YEAR CONTINUOUS EDUCATION

Meningie Governing Council, staff, students and parents congratulate the Raukkan community on the anniversary of 150 years of continuous schooling this next Friday 22nd October. Please find enclosed a brochure about this event. If you wish to attend please contact Raukkan School by Monday 25th October confirming your attendance for catering purposes. Their phone number is 85 740042.

SCHOOL CAR PARK REMINDER

In the interest of child safety, we wish to remind all parents, carers and grandparents not to use the staff car park (including the library spaces) at any time, unless in circumstances when they might be collecting a sick child from the front office.
Please note there is a 5km/h speed limit in the car park.
Thanking you in anticipation of your understanding and support of this.

Monica Williams

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

MILO in2CRICKET PROGRAM

MILO in2CRICKET is a fun introduction to the game of cricket for boys and girls aged 5 to 10 years. It provides children with an enjoyable and safe environment where they can learn skills and play games.

The Program will be run at numerous locations across South Australia, but your local Centre is run by Brad Biddle from the Meningie Cricket Club.

Information sheets have been sent home with all students R-4 today.

The cost of the Program is $50 per participant. Every registered child receives an in2CRICKET Pack including bat, ball, t-shirt, bucket hat, backpack, activity booklet and lots of other goodies.

The program will start on the 6th November at the Meningie Town Oval and will run for 12 weeks.

For further details, please see Brad Biddle at the Meningie Post Office or contact him in 0421 369 607.

9-a-side FOOTBALL

On Thursday 23rd September in fine, but cloudy conditions Year 8 and 9 students from Meningie Area School competed in the River Murray High Schools 9-a-side Football Carnival at Johnstone Park in Murray Bridge.

Each team competed against teams from Unity College, Murray Bridge High School and Mannum Community School.

The teams were:

Year 9 Boys: Zac Vandenbrink, Jake Shaw, Rhys Marles, Jamie Thompson, Dylan Richards, Scott Biddle, Sam Sanders, Dale Appelkamp and Trae Rigney.

Year 8/9 Girls: Marni Hood, Alana Standley, Tamika Williams, Caitlin Lord, Danielle Colmer, Shannon O’Connell, Hayley Averay, Mikayla Smart, Montana Wenske and Ellen Wilson.

The best performed of the Meningie teams was the Year 8/9 Girls who finished the competition in second place behind Unity College. They had three wins, beating Mannum by 2 goals, the Unity College 1 team by 5 goals and the Murray Bridge 2 team by 42 points. They narrowly lost their match against the Unity College 2 team by 1 point. All the girls played superbly and were not afraid to tackle their opposition. Credit must also be given to coach Chris Biddle who showed great leadership qualities and had his team working together soundly.

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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

NEXT MEETING
Monday 18th October
To be advised
In the Year 9 boys competition, with only the minimum 9 players (and many of them Year 8's), Meningie found the going tough against the strong Murray Bridge and Unity sides. Things were made even harder for coach Justin Smart when a couple of Meningie players sustained injuries and were unable to play. Full credit must go to the remaining boys who despite the difficult circumstances continued to play and put in their best effort.

Thanks must go to Mrs Appelkamp for driving the bus.

Lisa Davis (PE teacher)

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In a tragic week where two cyclists have died on Australian roads, you might like to look at this resource for your family, particularly as they are required by law to ride on the road over the age of 12.

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

There is a new teacher resource in the library called Your Turn: safer greener more active travel for the Middle Years. Produced by the Department of Transport, energy and infrastructure and aimed at year7, 8 and 9, it is very informative regarding the rules and expectations of road safety.

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**GERMAN NEWS**

Lieber Eltern (Dear parents)

Wie geht's? (How are you?) I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and that you are ready for the last busy round of the year. Most of our German classes are preparing for German Sports Day in week 3 of this term. Letters will be going home shortly to give you more information about this event. Then, in weeks 7 and 8, all German classes will be doing their Christmas baking, so dig out your cookie cutters and be prepared to roll up your sleeves and join us. I look forward to seeing you on both occasions.

In our last newsletter we introduced some words around the theme of family. This time we are adding a sentence starter and a personal pronoun to put together sentences.

- **das ist** = this is
- **mein** = my (male)
- **meine** = my (female)

To introduce a family member you can say:

- **Das ist mein Vater.** = This is my father.
- **Das ist meine Mutter.** = This is my mother.
- **Das ist mein Bruder.** = This is my brother.
- **Das ist meine Schwester.** = This is my sister.

If you are unsure how to pronounce these, ask your knowledgeable children or catch me at school.

Viel Spaß! (Have fun!)

Veruschka Crichton (German teacher)
SCHOLASTICS

Scholastic brochures will be sent home with students early next week. Orders with payment can be made to the bookroom until the end of Tuesday 26th October (Week 3).

SCHOOL MAGAZINE

If you have not paid for a School Magazine and want one please pay $16.00 to the bookroom by 12th November.

SURPLUS SUPPLY

Meningie Area School has a surplus supply of desks, chairs and screens for sale at minimal cost. Please enquire at the front office if you are interested as soon as possible.

SRC NEWS

This year we have a very active and interested Junior and Middle school SRC, with students from year 10 taking leadership roles. Oliver Crossman is the Chairperson, and Abbey Hood is the Secretary. Finances are one of their concerns at this moment, as they have a commitment to sponsoring a child in Africa through the organization called ‘Plan’.

The child’s name is Kelly-lohana Tapias Pereira and she is 7 years old. Kelly-lohana lives in Sincelego which is in Colombia. She attends primary school and the nearest health facility is about 30 minutes away.

This commitment is an annual cost of $289, and the students are eager to be accountable for this commitment themselves, as the opportunity to help children in another poorer community is one they think is important and valuable. To that end they have approached the school staff and administration for permission to have a Casual dress day. Students who arrive at school out of uniform are committing to supporting our sponsored child by paying a gold coin donation.

The staff agreed with this proposal and next Wednesday 20th October will be the official day. Could you ensure your child is in uniform next Wednesday, or equipped with a gold coin if in casual dress, so they are not embarrassed when the SRC reps ask for the coin. I hope you support the spirit of this cause and the students’ commitment to sharing our riches by comparison to our sponsored community.

OPENING OF MEMORIAL GARDEN

The year 8’s led a very moving assembly held on the last day of Term 3 in order to open the Memorial garden designed and planted by staff and students to remember Mrs Pam Denholm. Maddison O’Connor and Gemma Williams spoke about the way in which Mrs Denholm worked with students in her quiet and gentle manner and always found time to listen to them. They reported in the way in which Ms Giles class, with the assistance of Ms Hart’s year R/1 and Mrs Hood’s 5/6 classs, held popcorn stalls to raise money for the seats. They also shared how Mrs Mason worked with the 6/7 class in SOSE lessons to draft and create the design, and then carry out the work that we can now see in the courtyard. Many of the students worked really hard.

Adele Pittendreigh spoke about the way Mrs Denholm worked with her for over 6 years, helping her with maths and reading. She recalls how kind and helpful she was, while Brad Promnitz recalled how she made everyone feel valuable. We plan to use the garden as a quiet place in memory of this very caring person whom we miss.

We hope that the guests of honour, Mr Denholm and his family are pleased with our efforts to remember a very special lady.

FESTIVAL AT TAILEM BEND

SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER

MMCEN along with the Tailem Bend Community Centre are excited to let you all know about a festival that will be held in Tailem Bend on Saturday 16 October 2010 from 10am – 4pm in the Town Hall.

It will be a fun day with lots of interactive displays such as painting and drumming workshops. You can also discover how to keep fit the fun way with yoga, tai chi and belly dancing demonstrations to find out what they are really all about. Service providers will be on hand to show you what reiki, kinesiology, Bowen therapy and massage is all about and how it can improve your overall health and wellbeing.

You will also have the opportunity to sit down and paint with local aboriginal artists, watch Ngarrindjeri women basket weaving and be able to talk to local elders and find out more about aboriginal culture and the history of the lands. The children will be kept busy with the free activities such as painting boomerangs, decorating cupcakes, card making and much more. The Tailem Bend Rotary Auction will also be held on the same day so you can come along to both.

Anne Gibbons
Regional Learning Coordinator
Murray Mallee Community Education Network (MMCEN)