FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Today we held what has become a tradition on the school calendar, the Year 12 students’ final assembly, which was held in the Uniting Church Hall. This is a time when the students are acknowledged for their contribution to Meningie Area School, not just for their final year, but for many the journey they have made since beginning Reception at Meningie all those years ago.

Along the way the staff, school environment, parents and community have helped shape them into the young people they are today. We wish each and every one of the students best wishes as they use these next few weeks to complete assessments, and/or sit final exams. We look forward to seeing them begin the next part of their life journey into the world of work, and/or further study and as active participants and citizens in a global world.

I take this time to sincerely thank the teachers and student support officers who have worked with the Year 12 students particularly through the Senior School years, in particular Ms Kathryn Hese Senior School Leader, who has guided and supported all of the Year 12 students in countless ways.

POOL OPERATORS’ COURSE

The Meningie Area School Pool is the property of the Minister. As a school we are required to manage the pool in such a way that complies within given regulations. We can hire the pool out to the community. For this to happen, the pool can be hired by a trained Pool Supervisor who has a current certificate. A Pool Supervisors course will be run here Wednesday 17th November, from 1.30 - 3.30 pm and 3.30 – 5.30 pm. This is being conducted by Royal Surf Life Saving. Anyone 18 years and older is able to do this course. The cost of the course is $35.00 paid on the day to the instructor. Please contact the front office to register your name.

Please note that the Pool Supervisors certificate is only valid for twelve months.

LATENESS

I often comment about lateness and absence from school. Recently I wrote about the impact that both have on student achievement and success. We collect a lot of data at school. One of these is lateness. Over the last fortnight lateness data collected shows the following for Reception to Year 12:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday – Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>18th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>19th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>20th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>21st October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>22nd October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>25th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>26th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>27th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>28th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>29th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When a student is late he/she interrupts a lesson. The teacher has to stop. The class has to wait while the teacher settles and catches the student up. Meanwhile the flow of the lesson is lost and valuable learning time is eroded. We seek your support in having your child/children arrive in time, not for the start of the first lesson, but when the first bell goes at 8.40 am. I am sure that if all students were at school on time, it would make a difference in all classes. By the way, the students who travel to school on the bus are always on time unless of course there is a bus problem!
HOMEWORK REVIEW

The response to the Homework surveys sent out to all parents and caregivers has been fantastic, and the Homework Committee thank you for taking the time to respond. We are in the process of collating all the data from staff, students and parents. This information will go towards developing a more current Homework Policy for Meningie Area School and the aim is to have it ready for the 2011 school year.

WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY 2010

Today is World Teachers’ Day. Recognised in more than 100 countries, World Teachers’ Day was introduced in 1994 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), to celebrate the significance of competent, qualified and motivated teachers as instrumental in shaping the futures of children, students and young people.

The staff of Meningie Area School enjoyed a morning tea in celebration of World Teachers’ Day.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is encouraging to see most students in uniform. Wearing the school uniform helps us to:

1. Readily know who our students are in the school yard
2. Build a sense of belonging.

As the weather becomes warmer, it is quite appropriate to wear shorts as long as they are black school shorts which are longer line and closer to the knee.

The school uniform is available through the school as advertised in the school newsletters.

Monica Williams

MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGES 2011

The School Community is invited to attend the next Governing Council meeting to be held on the 15th November in the staff room.

The charges will be discussed as per the notice sent home with all students this week.

If you have any queries you are invited to this meeting at 8.30 pm or queries in writing to the Chairperson, Governing Council before the meeting.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ACEO

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Isobell Koolmatrie. I am a new staff member of the Meningie Area School and will be in the role of ACEO; Aboriginal Community Education Officer part-time this term. You may know me as I am from around the area and have been in this position in previous years.

My role will be liaising with students, staff and parents regarding our children’s learning and programs. I am looking forward to working here at the school once again.

VACSWIM

The vacation water safety and swimming program, SA Water VACSWIM will be conducted at Meningie Area School from Tuesday 4th until Friday 7th January 2011.

Enrolment Day will be conducted on Monday 3rd January 2011 from 12 noon to 2pm at the school pool.

For information contact Sarah Wright on 0408 573128.

GERMAN NEWS

Liebe Eltern (Dear parents)

Wie geht’s? (How are you?) In our last newsletter we learnt some phrases to introduce family members. This time we are extending the range to introduce friends.

Das ist mein Freund. = This is my friend (male).
Das ist meine Freundin. = This is my friend (female).
Das ist Peter. = This is Peter.
Das ist Anna. = This is Anna.

Have fun practising these. We had German Sports Day yesterday, Thursday, 28th October. An article regarding this event will be in the next newsletter.

Freundliche Grüße, (Regards)

Veruschka Crichton
TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT SEXUALITY

Parents and carers play a vital role in communicating with children about sexuality, however, we know that many parents have doubts about how to talk to their children about sexuality, and what is appropriate for children of different ages. A research project currently underway at the Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland and Family Planning Queensland is looking at how parents communicate with their child about sexuality, and what support they would like in teaching their child about sexuality. We are seeking parents of 3 to 10-year-old children to share their thoughts in an online survey, which takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. Please visit the website to find out more and take part in the survey.

For more information about the project email: alina@psy.uq.edu.au

CANTEEN PRICE LIST

Please find enclosed with the newsletter a new Canteen Price List, effective 22/10/10.

Please note in particular the new prices for flavoured milk.

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 Jurg

PREMIER’S BE ACTIVE CHALLENGE

This year saw the completion of the Premier’s Be Active Challenge for the fourth time. Students in Years 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 were invited to take the challenge at Meningie Area School.

The Challenge encouraged children to be moderately to vigorously physically active. Students were challenged to be active for at least 60 minutes a day 5 days a week for at least 4 consecutive weeks. These guidelines were based on the National Physical Activity Recommendation for Children and Youth.

For most of the Year 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 students at Meningie Area School doing 60 minutes of activity 5 days a week was not difficult. Perhaps the biggest challenge for them was reliably recalling the types of physical activity they had done and the time they had spent doing them and recording these in their activity logs. Fifty students were astute enough to do this, the most that we have ever had complete the challenge at Meningie, with 40 completing the challenge for the maximum 10 weeks. Twenty two students completed the challenge for the first time receiving a bronze medal, 13 for the second time, receiving a silver medal and 11 for the third time, achieving a gold medal. They were:

Bronze Medal: Katie Ashenden, Lachlan Brown, Renae Camac, Billie Carmichael, Chelsea Fraser, Emma Marles, Hugh Mason, Courtney Rigney, Jonathan Schmerl, Dwayne Shaw, Holly Vandenbrink, Aleisha Williams, David Wilson (Yr 5), Brenda Baldock, Eunice Mark, Shania Weetra (Yr 6), Maddison O’Connell, Clinton Walker (Yr 7), Daniella Colmer, Dana Hiscock, Caitlin Lord, Sam Sanders (Yr 8).

Silver Medal: Tessa Bagshaw, Melissa Botha, Jemma Williams (Yr 6), Gracie Ayres, Dillon Gemmell, Abbey Hood, Jake Marles, Julia Parker, Adele Pittendreigh, Brad Promnitz (Yr 7), Jace Stephenson-Hoad (Yr 8), Kenny Richards, Jamie Thompson (Yr 9).

Gold Medal: Lauren Bagshaw, Brigitte Botha, Alysha Eckert, Shannon O’Connell, Erin Pittendreigh, Mikayla Smart, Keith Weetra, Montana Wenske (Yr 8), Jake Shaw, Zac Vandenbrink, Waylon Wenske (Yr 9).

Four students were also the first to receive the Champions medal, a new medal introduced this year for those students who have completed the Premiers Be Active challenge four times.

Champions Medal: Alana Standley, Marni Hood, Rhys Marles, Tamika Williams (Yr 9)

Congratulations to these students and hopefully we will see even more students participating in the Challenge next year.

Lisa Davis
(PE Teacher)
**VARIETY BIKE RIDE**

A group of around forty motorcycle enthusiasts visited the Meningie Bowling Club on Sunday to conclude a 1730km trip to raise funds for South Australian kids in need. The Variety V2 Classic Bike Run started their trip on Thursday 14th October and involves South Australia’s leading business men and women who traded their business suits for leathers to raise money to help South Australia’s children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs. This year’s Variety V2 Classic Bike Run included Mt Arapiles, the Daylesford spa region complete with some pampering and Halls Gap with the return trip taking in the Coonawarra and crossing the finish line with lunch at Meningie. Among the participants taking part in this year’s four day luxury cruise, includes Variety V2 Classic Bike Run Chairman and High’s CEO, Alister Haigh with his wife Sue, real estate gurus Anthony & Sylvia Toop, advertising executive Lyn Punshon and his wife Sue, VIP’s Bill Vis, Yellow Corporation’s Ron Barton and Cherylee Harris. Over the last two year’s the V2 Classic Bike Run has raised almost $600,000 net for South Australian children who are sick, disadvantaged or who have special needs. Chairman Alister Haigh made a presentation in Meningie to local year 10 school student Kia Rigney-Wilson. Kia received a special Ergonomic chair to help her with her studies at school. The special chair lowers and rises for Kia who is physically disadvantaged.

In the girls competition Meningie came up against some strong teams. However, they fought hard and improved considerably over the course of the day. After winning one game in the minor rounds Meningie played off for 3rd and 4th against Tintinara in the finals. They convincingly beat Tintinara by 32 runs to finish the day in third place, which was a great effort. The participants in the girls’ team were Amber Gibbs, Marni Hood, Tamika Williams, Alana Standley, Mikayla Smart, Brigitte Botha, Montana Wenske, Caitlin Lord, Danielle Colmer, Shannon O’Connell, Emma Clare and Hayley Averay.

As a result of their good individual performances during the day it is likely several Meningie students will be selected in the Upper South East Knockout Cricket teams that will compete next year in the SSSSA competition.

Thanks must go to Lorraine Willis for transporting students to the venue and helping supervise students on the day.

Lisa Davis (PE Teacher)

**SUPER 8’S CRICKET**

On Friday 22nd October several students from Meningie Area School travelled to Tintinara to participate in the Upper South East Super 8’s Cricket carnival.

The senior boys’ team consisted of Sam Sanders, Scott Biddle, Zac Vandenbrink, Joe Bird, Oliver Crossman, Michael McKechnie, Matt Austin, Dylan McKenzie-Campbell and Jake Holmes. They were the most successful of the Meningie teams winning all their matches and thus the senior boys’ competition on the day. This was a great achievement considering their team consisted of two junior players. The first match of the day against Tintinara was the closest with Meningie winning 63 runs to 56. The other matches Meningie won convincingly, with several students having to frequently retire after getting 20 runs. Against Karoonda, Meningie won 94 runs to 43, against Keith, Meningie won 51 runs to 24 and in the last match against Coomandook, Meningie scored a mammoth 116 off just 7 overs to win by over 50 runs. The wickets were shared evenly amongst the players in all matches.

Super 8’s Cricket
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
To be advised

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.

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.

The Coorong District Councils invites Junior Ambassadors to be involved in the “community carnival” to be held in association with the 2011 Santos Tour Down Under

If you are aged between 13-19 years and want to become involved in the excitement and fun of the Tour Down Under, we want to hear from you!

We are looking for bright, energetic and enthusiastic members of our youth community who can assist with the activities of the community carnival and give information and direction to the anticipated throngs of visitors to the Council area. Other opportunities to participate prior to the event will also be available, such as community engagement and administrative support.

You will need to be available in the week commencing 17 January 2011, with emphasis being on the morning of the event, Wednesday 19 January 2011.

To find out more about this exciting opportunity, please visit Council’s website www.coorong.sa.gov.au where further details and an expression of interest form are available.

All enquiries can be made to Nat Traeger, Director Corporate & Community by emailing ntraeger@coorong.sa.gov.au or telephoning 8572 3611.