The sudden and prolonged heat is certainly upon us. Fortunately all of our class rooms and main teaching spaces are air conditioned, so students do work in a comfortably controlled environment. At this stage students are going out to recess. They are encouraged to remain under shelter, as well as drink sufficient water and wear an appropriate hat. At lunch students have the first ten minutes to have a break. The bell then signals for students to go back inside. Teachers across the school have arranged rooms with various activities to keep students suitably occupied. We hope that a cool change will arrive in the near future when we can return to daily routines.

We are at the busy end of the school year. The Year 12 students have finished and Year 11 students are working towards getting all their work in by Friday 4th December. For students R-10 school does not finish until December 11th. This means that 3-4 weeks of curriculum is still being taught and assessed. I make this comment because I notice that we are beginning to see some students either arriving late or not turning up. Regular attendance is the responsibility of all parent and caregivers by law. The SMS system implemented in Term 2 this year keeps daily track of students and provides information to DECS. We ask that when your child / children are absent that the school is advised and a note is sent through the diary to the Home Group teacher.

**Swimming**

Swimming lessons across the school will begin next week. Sarah Wright will be teaching this program. A note will go home with students showing when the lessons for your child/children will occur. Please ensure your child/children have a T-shirt to go over bathers when in the water, a hat, towel and sunscreen.

**Community use of the Pool**

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 Monday 30th November, from 3.30 pm until 7.30 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 see this week’s Lakelander for details or contact the front office to register your name.

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

Lake Albert Child Care Centre has once again kindly volunteered to manage Pool bookings over the summer. Please contact the centre on 845 751806 with regard to booking times and conditions of hire.

When hiring the pool, users are asked not to park in and around the pool. Driving vehicles in and around the school is an OHS&W issue. As well as this we are trying to keep the grass alive and driving over these areas does not help. The staff car park can be used after 4.00 pm daily or in spaces along North Terrace. We thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.

**School Uniform**

We appreciate parent and caregivers’ efforts in having students comply with school uniform. In particular, student shorts are to be long line, no flip flops or sleeveless t-shirts. Lake Albert Fashions have shorts suitable for school.

Monica Williams
SAPSASA CRICKET

At the end of term 3 Sam Sanders and Scott Biddle (Year 7) tried out for the SAPSASA Murray Mallee Cricket team. Both students made the team. They competed in the SAPSASA cricket carnival which was held in Adelaide from 2nd-5th of November against various other country and city regions.

The first game the Murray Mallee team played against was The Riverland. Murray Mallee batted first and made 185. In this innings Scott notched up 27, and Sam 20 runs. The Riverland team were all out for 84, giving the Murray Mallee team a 101 run win. Sam also snagged a wicket in this game.

In the second game against the Barossa & Light the Murray Mallee team were unfortunately beaten by a mere 7 runs. However, this was the only game they lost. In the third game against Gawler the Murray Mallee team won by 65 runs. Scott made 37 in this game and Sam 23. Sam also got a wicket. This got the Murray Mallee team in the gold medal game, which was played against Tea-Tree Gully. This game was again close, but the Murray Mallee team held on to win by 29 runs, 114 to 85. Although Scott was unfortunately out for 1, Sam made 12 runs in this game.

Well done to the boys on winning their gold medal and achieving such a great result.

Lisa Davis
(PE Teacher)

HOT PURSUIT OF GOLD ON GERMAN SPORTS DAY

On Thursday, 29 October 2009, the 2/3 and 3/4 classes and students from the 5/6 and 7 classes participated in their fourth German Sports Day. The events this year have included long distance running, sprints, long jump, distance throwing and swimming. All students should be commended for their enthusiasm and commitment to the competition in which everyone made a great effort. Many students qualified for their bronze, silver and gold medals, which will be awarded in Term 1, 2010, and all will receive a participation award. This is a tremendous achievement for which all students deserve credit. Many students have been practicing for the competition for the last two or three years and surpassed their personal best on the day.

The day was well attended, with Freddy Schwarz-Docen, the German representative for the German Olympic Sports Federation of South Australia, and a supportive group of parents and grandparents. Also present were the class teachers - Wendy Starling and Anyupa Giles, as well as our SSOs - Wendy VandenBrink and Russell Starr, the German teacher - Veruschka Crichton and the Middle and Senior School PE teacher - Lisa Davis. Ms Davis ensured that the events were run to a high standard and her contribution was much appreciated by everyone. The event ran through the morning and afternoon and everyone persevered in achieving their own personal best on what turned out to be a relentlessly hot day.

We would especially like to thank Monica Williams for supporting the program from the outset, and Freddy Schwarz-Docen who has worked with Veruschka Crichton over the last four years to run the program. Next year we will be staging the competition for the fifth time. For those who achieved their second gold medals this year, next year brings the chance to win a third round of gold. Everyone is already looking forward to training over the coming year.

Veruschka Crichton
(German Teacher)

Want to be a climate change and energy leader in your community?

Become involved in Energymark.

Energy Transformed

Volunteers over 18 years of age are needed to be group convenors and lead discussions in your community.

This is your opportunity to be heard on climate change, reduce your carbon footprint and take a lead role in moving your community towards a sustainable energy future.

Over 72 group conveners and 1000 people have participated in Energymark around Australia. On average, participants have reduced their carbon footprints by 27%.

You don’t need to be well informed on climate change or energy to participate.

Group convenors organise meetings with small groups of people (family, friends, neighbours or workmates). They are supported by information and activities for discussion, and provide the group’s crucial link to CSIRO.

Group convenors also receive a FREE copy of the new CSIRO Home Energy Saving Handbook RRP $29.99.

If you don’t want to be a group convenor but still want to participate in Energymark, register as a participant and CSIRO will endeavour to add you to an Energymark group in your local area.

To register or for more information, visit www.csiro.au/science/EnergymarkTrial or call Sarah Crossman, SA Energymark Project Officer, CSIRO on 08 8303 8462.
REMEMBRANCE DAY

Meningie Area School stopped to pay tribute to, and remember the sacrifice of, those who have lost their lives in the service of our country. All students attended an assembly which was led by some of those who will be taking part in next year’s Connecting Spirits trip. Dylan VandenBrink acknowledged the traditional owners of the school land and also those Ngarrindjeri soldiers who fought and died for Australia, while Tim Eckert gave a short introduction to the ceremony. Bethany Jurgs recited the poem “In Flanders Fields” by John McCrae, followed by Oliver Crossman who said “The Ode”, after which his sister, Michelle, who went on the 2008 trip, played “The Last Post” and “The Rouse”. Jack Appelkamp then gave the classic Australian response of “Lest We Forget”. Due to the hot conditions, the ceremony was a short one and was concluded with the singing of the National Anthem. Many of the Junior School students wore poppies that they had made themselves in class prior to the assembly.

Meanwhile, Hannah Pittendreigh and Amy Bland represented the school community at the RSL’s ceremony beside the memorial in the Bowl’s Club grounds, laying a wreath on our behalf. Remembrance Day is a significant day in our calendar and it is important that the next generation is reminded of the sacrifice that has been made by so many in our short history in the defence of democracy and the freedom that we take for granted too many times.

SALT CREEK PLAYCENTRE

Come and enjoy a Family Fun Day at the Salt Creek Primary School Oval to celebrate the Playcentre’s 20th anniversary, on 22 November (10.00am to 3.00pm). Activities include pony rides, animal barn, face painting and more.

Adult admission is $5.00 (incl. sausage sizzle); children under 12 free.

RSVP by 12 November, to Erika, tel 8575 7048 or Andrea, tel 8575 7065.

AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS

622 Squadron, Murray Bridge

A new 622 Squadron Murray Bridge will be formed early in 2010. This is an exciting opportunity for the Murray Bridge area to become involved. Currently there are already 15 Cadets from Murray Bridge and the surrounding areas. Cadets are committed to attend one night a week and some weekend activities. Are you between 13 and 18 and looking for adventure? Well then maybe the Australian Air Force cadets is for you. The AAFC is a youth organisation sponsored by the Royal Australian Air Force. Through the AAFC you will learn valuable life skills and help you to develop qualities including leadership, discipline, teamwork, communication and confidence and self reliance. No matter what career path you choose the AAFC will give you the edge in achieving your goals.

Activities include aviation, including aircraft recognition and even flying, bush survival and how to handle fire arms safely amongst many other exciting things. Many activities involve physical and adventure training and can really challenge you. You also learn about ceremonial protocols and parade. Our cadets were recently treated to a special guided tour of HMAS Parramatta when it docked in Adelaide. Cadets were able to access defence establishments not generally available to the public. Air Force Cadets can even get a gliding licence before they can drive a car.

An information afternoon will be held on Sunday 15th November 2pm Head Space, Railway Terrace, Murray Bridge SA 5253. If you are interested then come along and find out more! Further information can be obtained by calling Squadron Leader (AAFC) Lawrence Ng on 0408083923 or Mrs Julianne Wandel on 0429 098 526.