A well represented team of swimmers participated in the Interschool Swimming Carnival at Coonalpyn last Thursday, 18th February. Our students participated enthusiastically and tried really hard. Despite not coming home with any pennants, several students including both Dylan and Zac Van Den Brink had great results. Congratulations to all students on your best efforts. Many thanks to the staff team and all the parents who helped out as officials and timekeepers. More details of carnival results are within this edition.

We were pleased to see that most students who were not in the Swimming Carnival were here at school. This meant that most regular classes could continue with the normal program. I appreciate the support of parents and caregivers in ensuring that your child/children were here at school.

Next Thursday 4th March, is our R-12 Athletics Day. This year the event is at the Town Oval. Please refer to the arrangements on the next page for further information.

SAFETY ISSUES

- Please come through the front office when coming into the school, even if it is only for a short visit, such as dropping off lunch for a child.

- We remind parents/caregivers that students are not to be on school grounds before 8.30 am when staff duty commences.

- Parents and students are asked to use the school crossing when moving across North Tce coming into and out of the school. (Please find attached information sheet on Children, Schools and Traffic.)

- Parking restrictions apply along the Princes Highway. We seek your support in observing this, particularly at the end of the day with buses leaving.

- Wearing school uniform daily enables the school community to know who our students are.

- Energy drinks have no place in our school. As well as this we do not sell soft drinks at our canteen, and ask that they are not supplied from home, or purchased on the way to school.

- All students who wish to carry a mobile phone, are required to along with parent/caregiver to have signed the mobile phone policy and comply with the agreement.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Parents and friends are holding a meeting on Wednesday 3rd March at 1.30pm in the school meeting room. They will be discussing uniforms. Everyone is welcome.
MENINGIE AREA SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY

Next Thursday 4th March, is our R-12 Athletics Day. This year the event is at the Meningle Town Oval. Buses will run as usual. Please refer to

Sports Day Arrangements

START OF DAY

- Bus students arrive at oval
- All students are to be at oval by 8.50am and report to
- Home Group teachers for roll call
- BLOCK 1 events begin at 9am – students will move from one event to the other with a chaperone and age group
- JUNIOR SCHOOL R-2 events will be located in the middle of the oval concluding at approximately 11am – all Junior School students will be bussed back to the school after this for normal lessons

REFRESHMENTS, SHADE & TOILET FACILITIES

- The Football Club (not Parents and Friends as previously mentioned) will be providing refreshments on the day. The canteen will be open from 9 - 9.30am and will be selling pies, pasties, sausage rolls, salad rolls, drinks and tea and coffee.
- There will also be a BBQ lunch available –
  
  Steak sandwich - $4.50
  Patties/burger - $4.50
  Sausage in bread - $1.50
  Optional onion, coleslaw or bog

- Outside toilets are available as well as inside the clubrooms. Access to the toilets inside will be through the clubrooms. However the clubrooms are not available for general use during the day. Scorers and First Aid only will use this facility.
- Some shade will be erected in front of the football clubrooms. Parent and community spectators may like to bring along personal shade and seating.

PARKING

- Emergency and authorised vehicles only will be allowed on the oval grounds throughout the day. Please observe this and respond to the signage.
- Parent/community parking will be in the Pony Club grounds.
- The direct gate from the Pony Club to the oval will be closed at 9am just prior to Block 1, after which, people will need to walk around. The javelin events are located close to this area, and for safety reasons, the gate will remain closed and we ask that people do not access the oval area by climbing the fence. Signage reminding people of this will be erected.

END OF DAY

- At the conclusion of the day the buses will leave from the oval to return to school, pick up R-2 students before commencing on the usual bus journey.
- Non-bus students will be dismissed and may go home from the oval.

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who have advised via return slip from notes sent home last week, that they are able to help out with timekeeping etc throughout the day. However, more help is urgently required, if you are able to do so. The nature of this Sports day encourages high student participation, and is structured to maximise this.

Many thanks to the Coorong council, Football and Cricket Clubs who have made it possible for the school to access the premises and facilities. Making this happen has been a result of the goodwill and generosity of the community. Meningle Area School does not have the access to water for oval irrigation and are grateful for support.

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Interschool Swimming Carnival was held at Coonalpyn Pool on Thursday 18th February in pleasant conditions. Despite the fact we had to fill some events with younger competitors due to lack of numbers in certain age groups Meningle Area School had some good results. We were second in the Sub Junior division and fourth in the Intermediate division. Overall we finished third on 1078 points behind Coomandook and Keith who won the overall shield.

There were some fantastic individual results. Dylan Vandenbrink broke a record in the Open Boys 50m Butterfly (32.14 – previous record was 32.27) and Dylan, Zac Vandenbrink and Hugh Mason won multiple races. Many Year 8-12 students also finished in the top three in one or more of their events and as a result were selected in the Upper South East Swimming Team. They were Oliver Crossman, Hannah Pittendrigh, , Dylan Vandenbrink, Zac Vandenbrink, Rhys Marles and Marni Hood. They will compete at the SSSSA D Grade Championships at the Adelaide Aquatics Centre on Monday 1st March.

Thanks must go the following parents for timing on the day – Judy Applekamp, Brenda Blake, Sally Schaefer, Gwenda Eckert, Annette Pittendrigh, Pam Biddle, Wendy Crossman, Tammy Marles and Angela Mason. Their assistance enabled us to contribute to a successful carnival and at the same time keep the school open. Thanks also to the staff who provided excellent support on the day.

Lisa Davis (PE Teacher)
Guten Tag, liebe Eltern! (Good afternoon, dear parents)

Now that we can say ‘Hallo’ and ‘Auf Wiedersehen’, we can venture into a conversation. ‘Wie geht’s?’ (How are you?) is a useful conversation opener and the responses can vary greatly.

Here are some of the most commonly used ones:
- Danke, gut. (Good, thanks.)
- Es geht. (I’m alright.)
- Nicht gut. (Not so good.)
- Furchtbar! (Terrible!)
- Bis bald (this was in the last newsletter!)

_Frau Veruschka Crichton_

PS: Remember to practise – I might quiz you when I see you next...
**SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL**

We invite parents to consider nomination for Governing Council (nomination forms are included within this article). This gives you the opportunity to work with other parents and staff who strive continually to improve and make Meningie Area School a great and positive Public Education Centre for the whole of our Meningie Community.

Please note that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 22nd March 2010.

Judy Appelkamp  
(Governing Council Chairperson)

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**DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION**

In a letter to the school (15.2.10) from Chris Robinson Chief Executive of DECS he states;

That in a massive investment to dramatically overhaul the provision of computer and Internet technology in our states’ high schools "... Your school will benefit from this significant investment supported by the Australian and State Governments."

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**ACARA**

In the next few weeks, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) will release the draft K-10 Australian Curriculum in four learning areas: English, mathematics, science and history for national consultation.

Feedback is easy to provide. The drafts will be available through a consultation website for everyone to read, review, download, or print. ACARA would like as many people as possible to be involved in the consultation process and to provide feedback on what we would like young people to learn in English, mathematics, science and history across K-10.

ACARA is committed to listening to you, carefully considering your feedback and developing the best possible Australian Curriculum.

Further information about the consultation website and consultation dates will follow in a few weeks’ time. In the meantime if you want to know more about what ACARA is responsible for you could visit the ACARA website at www.acara.edu.au.

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**POSITION VACANT**

Coorong Health Service Meningie & Districts Memorial Hospital & Health Services  
TRAINEE – CLERICAL - ADMINISTRATION).  
(TEMPORARY UP TO 12 MONTHS).

Duties include all facets of office work including; data input, patient clerical support, and general administration support.

To be eligible for a Traineeship, candidates must be between the ages of 17 – 24 years (inclusive).
The successful applicant will be required to attend TAFE in Murray Bridge up to 2 days per week (during TAFE term).

For further information please phone Carly Miller at the Meningie Hospital on: 8575 2777.

Applications in writing, including Curriculum Vitae & current referees to:
Ms Cate Curry
EO/DON&M
Coorong Health Service Meningie & Districts Memorial Hospital & Health Services
PO Box 63
MENINGIE SA 5264

Closing date: 12th March 2010

DEMENTIA

Do you have experience with someone who has dementia?
Would you like to participate in a community project that explores the needs of people with dementia and their family and carers?
Two 4th year occupational therapy students from the University of South Australia will be facilitating this project, called Linking Minds, from the Murray Mallee Community Health Service, in conjunction with the Murray Mallee Aging Taskforce.
To be involved contact Stephanie or Gemma on 8535 6800, email linkingminds2010@yahoo.com.au, or look up Linking Minds on facebook.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Give your child an international brother or sister! Volunteer to host an international exchange student with Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Students are arriving in July 2010 from Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the USA – staying for a limited time only!

Contact Southern Cross Cultural Exchange today – 1800 500501 or visit: www.scce.com.au

RIVER MURRAY YOUTH COUNCIL

Are you interested in the environment?
Do you want to take action on environmental issues important to you?

The River Murray Youth Council is a great opportunity for like-minded high school students throughout the region to share their passion for the environment.
Disability SA

The Independent Living Centre Outreach Service

Will be at:
Uniting Church Hall
2 Princes Highway
Where?
MENINGIE

When?
Wednesday 10th March 2010
12pm—2pm
Talk inside Hall 12.30pm—1pm

The Independent Living Centre's Mobile Unit Outreach Service is a government service for people living in rural and remote South Australia. The service provides free professional advice on techniques and equipment to assist with every day activities.

Visitors to the caravans can discuss their individual needs with an experienced health professional (occupational therapists) and view/film a wide range of equipment. Informative brochures covering a large variety of topics and disabilities are also available.

The service is available to all members of the public, including people with a disability, injury, or illness, carers, health professionals, organisations/services. Bookings are not required. An interpreter may be available by prior arrangement.

Areas of assistance include:
- Bathrooms and toilet equipment
- Bedding
- Building fixtures and design for access
- Clothing and dressing
- Communication aids
- Computer and vocational aids
- Eating and drinking utensils
- Emergency call systems
- Household and kitchen equipment
- Incontinence
- Lifting, transferring, ramps and hoists
- Mobility/walking aids
- Recreation
- Scooters (‘gophers’)
- Seating
- Telephone access
- Transport—vehicle modifications
- Wheelchairs—manual and electric

Independent Living Centre
11 Blacks Road
Gilles Plains SA 5086

Phone: 1300 265 896 (SA & NT callers only)
Fax: (08) 8269 5283
Email: ilcsa@dfc.sa.gov.au