What a relief it is to have cool weather for most of this week. A little too cool for swimming, some students would say. Despite the cooler conditions the organisation and participation in Meningie Area School Swimming Carnival/Splash Day was great. Many thanks to all staff, house leaders of Albert, Bonney and Coorong, who did the work in the lead up to the day, and to students for their efforts in making the day a success. Many students took advantage of practice time at both scheduled lunch time and after school practices. Thanks to both Sarah Wright and Ms Davis for their time in working with students to improve their swimming skills in the past three weeks leading up to the carnival. Congratulations to Albert, all medallion winners and record breakers, who are named later in the newsletter.

Success At School

We know that one of the critical factors that influence student success is attending school every day, and participating in the curriculum. There is a lot of research and data that supports this, and certainly it is recognised and supported by various State and Federal Government laws.
MAS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Thursday 12th February Meningie Area School held their combined Swimming Carnival/Splash Day. Again it was a fantastic start to the year with many students travelling to Coonalpyn and participating in a variety of swimming races, novelty events and water activities. All students participated in appropriate manner and it was fantastic to see the support the students gave each other. It was also pleasing to see the enthusiasm, encouragement and support that our senior students, particularly the House Captains, gave to our junior school students. Albert was our eventual house winner on 748 points, followed by Bonney on 580 and Coorong on 348. The following students were successful in their age group:

Sub-junior girls U10
Winner: Holly Vandenbrink (Albert)
Runner-up: Aleisha Williams (Coorong)

Sub-junior boys U10
Winner: Hugh Mason (Albert)
Runner-up: Kobie Hood (Bonney)

Junior Girls U12
Winner: Abbey Hood (Bonney)
Runner-up: Alysha Eckert (Bonney)

Junior Boys U12
Winner: Brad Promnitz (Bonney)
Runner-up: Jake Marles (Albert)

Intermediate Girls U14
Winner: Marni Hood (Bonney)
Runner-up: Mikayla Smart (Albert)

Intermediate Boys U14
Winner: Zac Vandenbrink (Albert)
Runner Up: Scott Biddle (Albert)

Senior Girls Open
Winner: Bethany Marsson (Coorong)
Runner-up: Megan Smart (Albert)

Senior Boys Open
Winner: Dylan Vandenbrink (Albert)
Runner-up: Josh Wright (Coorong)

Records broken:
Intermediate Boys 25m Butterfly – Zac Vandenbrink 17.24 (Old record 17.30)
Intermediate Boys 50m Freestyle – Zac Vandenbrink 32.77 (Old record 33.04)
Senior Boys 50m Backstroke – Dylan Vandenbrink 36.72 (Old record 37.17)
Senior Boys 50m Butterfly – Dylan Vandenbrink 33.49 (Old record 34.86)
Senior Boys 100m Freestyle – Dylan Vandenbrink 1.03.99 (Old record 1.06.47)
Senior Boys 50m Breaststroke – Josh Wright 39.22 (Old record 40.34)
Senior Boys 50m Freestyle – Dylan Vandenbrink 29.63 (Old record 29.83)

Many thanks to parents for their great support which helped ensure a successful day of sport. Also thanks to Sarah Wright for refereeing (and jumping in fully clothed to help a student in distress) and Judy Appelkamp for driving the bus. Thanks to the staff for their help on the day and particularly Katrina Hood for helping with preparation prior to the day.

Congratulations to all students, parents and staff members for a successful day!

Lisa Davis

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
Tuesday 17th February

School Photos and Student ID Photos will be taken this Tuesday 17th February.

Family envelopes are available from the front office.

Correct money must be brought on the day and placed in the envelopes and given to the Photographers.

Please make sure you have the correct money as no change will be available at the school.

ID Photos are encouraged for Senior students or any other student who thinks they may need an ID. Cost is $5.50 which must be paid before the close of school on Monday 16th February.

FAMILY PHOTOS: The oldest child in the family will be responsible for collecting younger brothers/sisters and going to the hall with them.

STAFF PHOTO 8.30am

CLASSES
Year Rec-Woolston 9.00am
Year Rec/1 Hart 9.15am
Year 12 Hese 9.30am
Year 2/3 Starling 9.45am
Year 3/4 Giles 10.00am
Year 5/6 Hood 10.15am
Year 7 Woolston 10.30am
Year 8/9 Quinn 10.45am
FAMILY – 3 PERSON OR MORE 11.00am
FAMILY – 2 PERSON 11.20am
Year 8/9 Wright/Jurgs 12.00noon
Year 10 Davis/Mason 12.15pm
Year 11 Sherwin/Crichton 12.30pm
Ab Ed Students 12.45pm
SRC (may not happen) 1.45pm

PLEASE MAKE SURE STUDENTS ARE WEARING SCHOOL UNIFORM – ESPECIALLY JUMPERS & SHIRTS
The Interschool Swimming Carnival is a day carnival to be held at the Coonalpyn Pool next Thursday 19th February from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. The arrangements for the day are as follows.

- Meningie Area School will be open for all students R-3, except those students selected for events in the carnival. The teachers of most of these classes will be on the school site.
- The Year 11 & 12 students not in Interschool may use the Study Room, to work for the day, particularly if they have an Open Access subject. This is an opportunity to get on with Year 12 work and it is expected that with a minimum of supervision students will use this time wisely. In the event of a student/students not complying, a phone call will be made to parents asking for the student to be picked up.
- Buses for the carnival will leave Meningie at 8.45 am and return by 4.00 pm. There is no charge for bus travel. However, please complete the Bus travel slip which will be sent home with information today, by Tuesday 17th February, so that we can have enough space available.
- All afternoon bus runs will operate, however they will leave Meningie Area School at 4.00 pm.
- Junior school students who normally travel by bus will be provided with after-school supervision in the library from 3.20pm to 4.00pm. If parents wish, they may pick up their children after school from the library.
- Entry to the pool for all Meningie Area School students has been paid by the school. Adult entry is $3.00 and for children under school age there is no charge.
- Please ensure that your child/children are appropriately organised for the day with:
  - Sunscreen
  - Bathers
  - Towel
  - Hat
  - T shirt/ shorts/ trackpants etc
  - Enough water and food for the day

The Coonalpyn Pool Committee will again be providing a BBQ Lunch as they did on Wednesday at our own carnival.

**PRACTICE FOR INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

After School swimming practice for students in the interschool team will be on Monday and Wednesday next week.

There will also be practice at lunchtimes until Thursday.
LOCAL STUDENTS GRADUATE AT REGIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

Last Friday evening, Regional Skills Training (RST) held its graduation ceremony at the Holiday Inn in Hindley Street, Adelaide. Among those receiving parchments were Matthew Eckert and Hamish Jurgs, who both completed their Certificate II in Agriculture through school-based apprenticeships. Hayden Biddle also completed the same qualification but was unable to attend the ceremony. These qualifications were completed over 2 years while the students were still at school and were recognised as part of their South Australian Certificate of Education. The work required to complete the course included off-the-job training, as well as on-the-job training conducted at a workplace.

Hayden and Matthew completed their on-the-job training at their family farms while Hamish worked one day per week for 1 year with Aaron and Trent Long at Coonalpyn and 1 year at Wanderibby Feedlot. Hamish also used this traineeship as the foundation for a Year 12 subject called Vocational Studies A, which he studied through the Open Access College, and for which he received an “A” in his final Year 12 assessment. Hamish and Hayden have both since started full-time employment in the local area and intend to continue their training in Certificate III while Matthew is preparing to start an apprenticeship in Welding and Fabricating later this year. Luke Holmes also completed his Certificate III in Agriculture through his full time employment locally.

School-based apprenticeships are available for Senior School students through the school in a wide range of industries. If you are interested in exploring this option either as a student or as a potential employer, please contact the school on 85751106. There may be financial incentives available to employers who take on school-based apprentices.

PIANO LESSONS

Any students interested in learning piano can contact Ashlee Crossman.

Home - 85 755054
or
Mobile - 0437 743 169

CARDS FOR SALE

The Lower Lakes & Coorong Infrastructure Committee are selling cards at $1 for a single card or $6 for a pack of 6 cards. Your purchase will assist in their fight for the survival of the River Murray Lower Lakes & Coorong.

Cards are available from selected outlets in Meningie and also at the front office of Meningie Area School.

Are you interested in studying in 2009?

Providing SACE Subjects and Vocational Certificates to Adult Learners in SA

We work with you so you can successfully manage a study program and achieve your goals while maintaining your family / work commitments

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Beginners & intermediate musicians are welcome to join one of our Training Bands! Instructed by professional musicians.
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JOSEPH ODEKE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND
is urgently seeking Machinery and Implements for their Uganda ‘3 Wishes Project’

- Engine driven fire-fighter pumps, rabbit ripper tyne 3pl, drag chain,
- kerosene fridges, 12v/240 inverters, 3 x 1 way disc ploughs 3pl,
- agri motorbikes, connor shea seeder 3pl, precision seeder,
- proline post-hole diggers with extra flights, 9” angle grinder, vice,
- grader blade 3pl, oxy set, harrow bar 3pl, grain grinding machine, corrugated iron sheeting and guttering.

Any donations are most appreciated and can make a difference in the lives of others so less fortunate.

Phone Frank Brock 08 8757 2111 or 0428572300 or Colin Muster 0887586265 or 0408085070.
Project details: www.josephodeke.com.au

15 AND UNDER NETBALL TRIALS FOR 2009

The School Sport Australia 15 and Under Netball Championship is being conducted in Canberra from 25th – 31st July 2009. (Students must be 15 or under on the 31st December 2009).

This event is open to any secondary student from both government and non-government schools. Girls who compete in this competition are also eligible for selection in the School Sport Australia National Team which competes at an International level in the International Schoolgirls Netball Challenge which will be held in New Zealand in 2009.

The dates for trials have now been finalised.

Details and Nomination forms can be obtained from Sharon Gibbs at the school.

Nomination forms need to be returned to SSSSA by the 27th February 2009.

Girls attendance on the last Sunday of the Term 1 holidays – 26th April (the final trial) is required if they make it through to the final trial.

Paula Nielsen
Manager
Secondary School Sport SA (SSSSA)