FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Guten Tag and welcome to what is essentially a Sports Newsletter.

In this edition you will find a report on the Interschool Swimming Carnival held at the Coonalpyn Pool last Thursday 19th February, and details about the Meningie Area School Sports Day to be held next Thursday 5th March at the Meningie Town Oval.

It really was in very warm, but great weather for swimming, that the Interschool Swimming Carnival was held. We competed well, and it is always great to see the way students participate with confidence, enthusiasm and a sense of commitment to the school.

Competition was strong, and as you can see from results later in this edition, Meningie was well placed in several age groups. Congratulations to all students for their efforts and personal success.

Victorian Bush Fire Appeal

Donations made at our own swimming carnival in support of the Victorian Bush Fire appeal raised $230.00. Thankyou for your generosity and support.

Teenagers and Alcohol

Please find the first of a series of 8 fact sheets providing information about alcohol and the developing child. The first fact sheet is 1) Alcohol and adolescent development. The next newsletter will have a fact sheet on Alcohol, teenage parties and the law.

Sports Day Arrangements

START OF DAY

- Bus students will arrive at the oval at 8.30 am.
- All students are to be at the oval by 8.50 am and report to Home Group teachers for roll call.
- BLOCK 1 events begin at 9.00 am – students will move from one event to another with chaperone and age group.
- JUNIOR SCHOOL R-2 events will be located in the middle of the oval concluding at approximately 11.00 am – all Junior School students will be bussed back to the school after this for normal lessons.

REFRESHMENTS, SHADE & TOILET FACILITIES

- The Football Club canteen will be open from 9.30 am for tea, coffee, pies, pasties, salad rolls, cans of drinks and iceblocks.
- There will also be a barbecue lunch available – sausages, steak or patties, with coleslaw or onion, on bread.
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 throughout 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 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 9.00 am 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 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 go home from the oval.

Thank you to the many parents/caregivers who have advised via return slip from notes sent home last Friday, that they are available 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. Meningie Area School does not have access to water for oval irrigation and are grateful for support.

A copy of the program for the day is enclosed.

Monica Williams

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Interschool Swimming Carnival was held at Coonalpyn Pool on Thursday 19th February in fairly hot conditions. Despite the fact we had difficulty filling some events due to lack of numbers in certain age groups Meningie Area School had some good results. We were second in the Senior division and third in the Intermediate division. Overall we finished third on 1318 points behind Coomandook and Keith who won the overall shield. Results are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Score</th>
<th>Tintinara</th>
<th>Meningie</th>
<th>Coomandook</th>
<th>Kanmantoo/Lanarkoo</th>
<th>Kanmantoo</th>
<th>Keith</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1219</td>
<td>1318.5</td>
<td>1326</td>
<td>1308.5</td>
<td>1088.5</td>
<td>1609.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Place</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus Handicap</td>
<td>438.9</td>
<td>157.9</td>
<td>369.2</td>
<td>482.8</td>
<td>516.6</td>
<td>29.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Handicap Score</td>
<td>1657.9</td>
<td>1476.4</td>
<td>1695.2</td>
<td>1791.3</td>
<td>1605.1</td>
<td>1638.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicap Place</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were some fantastic individual results. Dylan Vandenbrink broke two records in the Open Boys 50m Butterfly (32.27 – previous record was 32.67) and the U/16 Boys 50m Freestyle (29.83 – previous record was 30.81). Josh Wright broke a record in the Open Boys 50m Backstroke (36.09 – previous record was 38.72). 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, Jackie Gibbs, Hannah Pittendreigh, Megan Smart, Michelle Crossman, Dylan Vandenbrink, Zac Vandenbrink, Bethany Marsson, Ben Halliday and Josh Wright. They will compete at SSSSA D Grade Championships at the Adelaide Aquatics Centre on Monday 2nd March.

Swimmers of the meet were Grace Sanders (Tintinara) and Nathan Heinrich (Keith).

Thanks must go to all the parents, staff and students who provided excellent support on the day.

Selected photos from both Swimming Carnivals will be placed on our website for you to view and there will also be a folder of all photos in the front office for people interested in buying a copy of those that they would like.
**FOOTBALL TRAINING**

The Meningie Football Club wishes to advise that the commencement of football training is as follows:

- U10 – Tuesday 10\(^{th}\) March at 4.30 pm  
  (Coaches - Dean Bagshaw & Matt Hood)
- U12 – Tuesday 10\(^{th}\) March at 4.30 pm  
  (Coach - Richard Mason)
- U15 – Tuesday 3\(^{rd}\) March at 4.30 pm  
  (Coach - Henry Angas)
- U17½ - Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 6.30 pm  
  (Coach – Brad Jeffery).

Players to be on the track by 6.30 pm.

Any new players are most welcome.

**TAX FILE NUMBER APPLICATION**

The Australian Tax Office has a school program whereby students can apply for a Tax File Number through the school. This is much easier than doing it when they have left school.

Letters and forms will be sent home next week with Year 9 students which will need to be returned by Friday 7\(^{th}\) March if possible, however any student can apply.

Please see Sharon at the front office if your child is not in Year 9 and you would like to apply for a TFN.

Mal Jurgs  
Deputy Principal

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**CHILD ECZEMA MANAGEMENT STUDY**

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

My name is Amy Mitchell, and I am from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) School of Nursing. I am conducting a study to examine parent management of childhood eczema.

Managing a child’s eczema can be a difficult, frustrating, and time-consuming task for a parent or caregiver. I am seeking parents of children (aged up to 12 years) with medically diagnosed eczema to complete an online questionnaire about managing childhood eczema.

I am keen to hear from parents of children with eczema of any severity, from mild to severe. In recognition of their contribution to the study, participants will be entered in a draw to win one of five one-year subscriptions to the Eczema Association of Australasia, worth $30 each.

Details about the study and how to participate can be found at the following website:  
[www.quteczemastudy.com](http://www.quteczemastudy.com). Alternatively, please contact me on (07) 3138 3856 to request a printed information sheet and survey. Thankyou!

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**PIANO LESSONS**

Any students interested in learning piano can contact Ashlee Crossman.  
Home - 85 755054  
or  
Mobile - 0437 743 169

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**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.