What a busy week this has been for the end of what has been a year of great events and challenges.

Who would have thought that when we set the date and venue for Presentation Night back in July that we would not only have to change the venue, but cancel the evening and reschedule the event because of massive storms and rain. Many thanks to the many individuals, clubs and businesses who have supported Presentation Night this year and apologies for any inconvenience caused. In particular we would like to thank the Golf Club who allowed us to, at very short notice, set up the venue and then leave it for us to use over several days.

I sincerely thank the staff, students and Mrs Gill Biddle and Mrs Judy Appelkamp in particular for their time in helping with the preparations.

We held a modified Presentation Award ceremony today. It was indeed a pleasure to hear Jason Schulz address the students, parents and invited guests. Jason spoke of his schooling at Meningie and the things he has done in the years since. On behalf of the school community I take this opportunity to thank Jason for being so accommodating and flexible with his time this week. It is a busy time for farmers and a most stressful time with the incredible amount of rain we have received this week.

With time restraints, neither Judy Appelkamp, the School Governing Chairperson, nor I, gave our annual reports. These may be read in the School Magazine, and will be in the 2010 Annual report. In addition a copy can be found on the school’s website.

Over the next week or so work will continue on the school gym before a break over Christmas. Work will then recommence in mid January. It is hoped that the Gym will be completed by April 2011.

On behalf of staff, I wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

SCHOOL TERMS FOR 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>31st Jan – 15th April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22nd May – 8th July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>25th July – 30th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>17th October – 16th December</td>
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SCHOOL HOLIDAY SECURITY

Families and community members are encouraged to phone either the local police on 131444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333000 if they see any persons unnecessarily trespassing on school grounds during the school holidays. Please also report any damage or graffiti.

MATERIALS & SERVICE CHARGES

Meningie Area School Book Room will be open Thursday 27th & Friday 28th February between 9am and 2pm for payment of Materials & Services Charges and/or pick up of student packs for book covering and labelling. School uniforms will also be available at these times.
CHARGES ARE:
Reception to Year 7 $203.00
Year 8 ~ SACE $270.00

REPORTS & ASSESSMENT

Student reports will go home with students on the last day of term which is today, Friday 10th December. If your child was absent on the day, you will be able to collect their report from the front office on Monday or Tuesday, or from the library during the holidays, however it will be closed on Saturday 18th December after 1pm and will reopen on the morning of Tuesday 11th January 2011.

HOMEWORK POLICY

A new Homework Policy will be sent home to all families. Please take the time to read through this document and make yourselves and your children aware of the school’s expectations. This Policy has been created after consultation and through the completion of surveys by students and parents/caregivers.

JUNIOR SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

On Wednesday the Junior School held their final Assembly in the Meningie Golf Club. Students were bussed up. Many parents and their families attended. The Assembly recognises those students who are graduating from Year 5 in the Junior School into Year 6 and the Middle School next year. Congratulations to Hugh Mason who was the recipient of the Junior School Graduation Award.

Some of the performances by Junior School Students included Ms Hart’s R-1 class singing, Year 4 performing on their recorders, Mrs Starling’s Year 2-3 class performance, a Year 3-4 musical item, a dance performance by the Year 5-6 girls, a German Christmas display by Mrs Woolston’s R-1 class and the Year 5-6 Band performing Power Rock.

PRESENTATION CEREMONY

On Friday we held a modified Presentation Ceremony which was held at the Golf Club. This is a celebration for the Graduation of our Year 9 and Year 12 students. It was great to see so many students, parents and community members there to help celebrate our school’s student achievements with Subject Prize and Special Award presentations, especially after all the changes and rescheduling. There were Band performances. We were very lucky to have ex Meningie Area School student, Jason Schulz as guest speaker for the event.

PRIZE WINNERS

The subject prize winners are as follows;

MS Expressive Arts ~ Alysha Eckert
MS Visual Arts ~ Alana Standley
SS Visual Arts ~ Megan Herrmann
MS Kingun Ngarrindjeri Yunnin ~ Jake Shaw
SS Kingun Ngarrindjeri Yunnin ~ Keith Rigney
MS English ~ Marni Hood
SS English ~ Bethany Jurgs
MS German ~ Lauren Bagshaw & Marni Hood
MS HPE ~ Marni Hood
SS HPE ~ Chris Biddle
MS Mathematics ~ Marni Hood
SS Mathematics ~ Tim Eckert
MS Science ~ Alana Standley
SS Science ~ Megan Herrmann
SS Agriculture ~ Bethany Jurgs
MS SOSE ~ Marni Hood
SS SOSE ~ Hannah Pittendreigh
PLP Award ~ Hannah Pittendreigh
Work education ~ Alana Butcher
MS Technical studies ~ Marni Hood
SS Technical Studies ~ Tim Eckert
MS Photography ~ Alana Standley
SS Photography ~ Hannah Pittendreigh
MS Home Economics ~ Tamika Williams & Marni Hood
MS ICT ~ Alysha Eckert
MS Robotics ~ Zac Van den Brink
SS ICT ~ Tim Eckert
SS Community Studies ~ Keith Rigney
Creative Writing ~ Chris Biddle
Library ~ Caitlin Lord
Open Access Group 1 ~ Megan Herrmann
Monarto Zoo ~ Hayley Shaw
VET 1 (Female) ~ Charlotte Wenske
VET 2 (Male) ~ Duncan Lucieer

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

Reconciliation Awards ~ Chris Biddle & Keith Rigney
Middle School Achievement Award ~ Melissa Botha
Year 9 Graduation Award ~ Alana Standley
Long Tan Awards ~ Megan Herrmann, Tim Eckert & Bethany Jurgs
Environmental Award ~ Bethany Jurgs
Greg Carey Sports Award ~ Tamika Williams & Jackie Gibbs
Student Voice Award ~ Chris Biddle
Caltex Best All-Rounder Award ~ Chris Biddle
Encouragement Award ~ Hayley Shaw
Community & School Involvement Award ~ Jack Appelkamp
Governing Council Achievement Award ~ Alana Butcher
Principal’s Award ~ Chris Biddle
Once again, we would like to thank our sponsors for donating the Awards.

GERMAN NEWS

Liebe Eltern (Dear parents)

Wie geht’s? (How are you?) We are nearly at the end of our school year and this will sadly be the last German News. You have probably read the article on staffing and discovered that I will be leaving Meningie to teach at Blackwood High from next year. Although I applied for this transfer, the appointment still came as a bit of a surprise to me and I cannot say that I am finding it easy to leave Meningie. I have very much enjoyed working with your children, the staff and, on many occasions, with you as a supportive group of parents. Meningie has extended and enriched my experience, and every other school will have a hard act to follow.

I wish you all the best for the future.

Freundliche Grüße

Veruschka Crichton

PaCCS NEWS

The uniform room will open in conjunction with the Bookroom on January 27th & 28th 2011 from 9am – 2pm both days.

We will also be open on Monday 31st January 2011 from 8.30 - 9.30pm.

Please note that the Parents and Carers Group will be donating a maroon bucket hat for all students in reception to year 4.

We need ongoing parental supporting in the coming 2011 school year so that we can continue with the work to support our students within our school community.

Please look for our meeting times and dates in the school newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you next year.

VAC SWIM

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 – forms are now available at the front office.

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.

ZOOS SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ZooVentures for Kids at the Adelaide Zoo

Zu-Fari for Kids at Monarto Zoo

ZooVentures and Zu-Fari focus on making friends, learning lots and providing unique opportunities to meet with Zoo animals and their keepers. Children aged 6 -12 (Adelaide Zoo) and 8 -13 (Monarto Zoo) are cared for by two qualified teachers for a full day of fantastic Zoo experiences.

Run by the Adelaide and Monarto Zoos from 9:00am - 4:00pm on various weekdays during the school holidays. ZooVentures- $55/day, Zu-Fari- $65/day (including the bus trip up to Monarto Zoo). Positions must be booked by phone on 8267 2434. (They fill quickly!) Phone for more information or visit our web site:


ZOOVENTURES for Kids

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