**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**FATHER’S DAY**
‘Life doesn’t come with an instruction book, that’s why we have fathers.’
With Father’s Day next weekend it is timely to think about the important role of dads in kid’s lives and it is a theme that has been taken up in classes across the school. Ms Wilamowski’s reception class wrote the following about their dads.

When it comes to learning, one of the most important and significant things a dad can do is to model and engage with reading. The website www.dadsread.org.au is a great place to take a look at the type of reading activities that a dad can engage in with his children. It has great tips along with explaining why the action of reading by a dad and other significant males in children’s lives has such an impact.

Of course there are so many other important things to being a dad. Developing strong and healthy relationships with your child/children right from early on in a child’s life develops so many important characteristics and capabilities that will see young children grow into confident, resilient and capable young adults.

So, to the dads in the Meningie School Community, I hope you have a great day, and can take the time to reflect on the important person you are in the life of your child/children as they take their journey through life.

**EXTERNAL REVIEW**
As advised in the last Newsletter, Meningie Area School will work through the process of External Review in on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd September, which is in Week 10 of this term. The reviewers will seek information in a range of forums inclusive of staff, students and parents/caregivers over the two days including a meeting with Governing Council. I refer you to the article and the process for notifying us if you do not consent for your child to participate in one of these forums at the end of this newsletter. My apologies - this was inadvertently omitted from the last Newsletter. Additionally, if you would like further information about the External Review process please contact me by calling the office. Several schools in the Coorong Mallee Partnership have already been through this process, and all DECD sites will be reviewed within a four year cycle.
MURAL UPDATE

Since the beginning of Term 2, you may have noticed some colourful changes to the southern end of the Art Room as the Year 10/11/12 Art class have been painting an extensive mural. This is part of the Year 10 Visual Art, and Stage 1 and 2 Integrated Learning (Visual Art) programs.

Students worked together to come up with their own theme... “Around the World” and have been working individually or in small groups on different sections of the mural.

Haylee Jacob (Year 12) is painting about North America and you might notice the Statue of Liberty from New York and Canadian Totem Pole designs. Shania Weetra (Year 11) is painting about Europe with a silhouette of the Eiffel Tower from Paris and Flower Emblems from various European countries. Wanda Shaw (Year 11) is painting about South America including the sculpture “Jesus Christ the Saviour” from Brazil and a colourful pattern from South American fabric. Aleisha Williams (Year 10) is painting about Asia, with a Bonsai Tree and Japanese Temple silhouette and Holly Vandenbrink (Year 10) has included an Elephant silhouette and a traditional pattern to represent Africa. Taylor Long (Year 10), helped by Regae Love (Year 11) and Courtney Rigney (Year 10), is using the Union Jack for United Kingdom, and plans to include Stone Henge and Big Ben silhouettes. Meshayla Shaw (Year 10) is using images of the Sydney Opera House, Uluru, footprints, and the Aboriginal and Australian Flags to represent Australia.

We are hoping to have our mural finished by the end of Term 3, keep an eye out for changes.

Ms Kreher
Band Update

Meningie Area School has a large band program for students from year 5 and older.

Students learn Trumpet, Trombone, Flute and Clarinet. For the first time in a while, we have had some year 6 and 9 students start Alto Sax.

The DECD Instrumental Music Service provides lessons for us through the great teaching skills of Mr Peter Longden and Mr Rod Williams. At school we run 3 bands - year 5 Beginner Band, Year 6/7 Continuers Band and Year 7 – 10 School Band.

We have opportunities to be part of combined bands with students from other schools. We have practiced and performed at Murray Bridge South School and different bands will be rehearsing and performing at Mannum and Murray Bridge High School later this term. The Mannum day is for Years 5, 6, and 7 on the 1st of September, and the Murray Bridge High School day is for years 8, 9 and 10 students on the 2nd September.

Please encourage your students as they learn the new skills and language of music

Mrs Wright

Choir 2015

We have had a busy year with choir so far.

Earlier in the year some of our choir sang at the opening of the Memorial Park. This was a great opportunity to perform to a local audience. Choir lessons usually take place on Thursday afternoons. Miss Giles’ class all take part as part of their music lessons and Mr Oliver’s class have all been attending until now. Only those students interested in performing at the Murray Bridge concert from Mr Oliver’s class are coming to practice this term. Some keen students from the year 6/7 class attend practices when they can and they have achieved well learning the words and actions as they need to.

Last week the years 4, 5 and 6 choir members went up to the Tailem Bend Town Hall for a regional rehearsal. Students from Tintinara, Coonalpyn, Coomandook, Karoonda, Tailem Bend, Jervois, Murray Bridge North, Murray Bridge South, Mypolonga and Mannum also attended.

Four talented and courageous students auditioned for solo parts in the Murray Bridge concerts. They were Abbey Selby, Jessica Turner, Annabelle Mead and Lauren Parsons-Avery. They had stiff competition for the parts. Congratulations to...

For love of Country — Abbey Selby – Meningie
I’se the B’y – Lauren Parsons-Avery – Meningie
Ederlezi — Annabelle Mead - Meningie

as they will be singing the solo parts in small groups at Murray Bridge. The Murray Bridge concert will be held at the end of October.

Last week, seventeen of the Year 5 and 6 choir students travelled to Morphettville to rehearse, in readiness for their concert at the Festival Theatre on September the 9th. Many thanks to the parents who helped with transport.

Mrs Wright

School Magazine Update

Target is 50 …
Orders to date 37 …...
13 MORE ORDERS REQUIRED !!!!
**Vocation Industry Pathways**

At Meningie Area School some senior school students have the opportunity to be part of the VIP class. VIP stands for Vocation Industry Pathways and involves students working on literacy and numeracy tasks that will enhance their future in the workforce and in life.

This year we have been working on a simple enterprise involving plants and gardening. One of the tasks has been to plant out and grow some tea cup succulents. We are selling them at the front office and library for $6:00. The major part of our plant work in VIP has been connected with the gardens. We are establishing a new garden at the southern side of the Art Room. The four garden beds all contain different things - herbs, succulents, flowers and vegetables. We are planning to keep these fresh and up to date as the year and seasons progress. The Senior School Art Students are working on a large mural depicting different continents and countries. It is going to look great!

Another of our gardens is a vegetable and herb garden. It is at the Ag Block. Over the winter we have grown many winter greens and planted our fruit trees. We hope to use our produce to raise money and we will cook delicious meals with other produce from the garden.

If you are in at the school any time please come to see our tea cup succulents and our Art Room Garden.

*The 2015 VIP class.*

---

**Suggestion Box**

A recent addition to our website is the “Suggestion Box”. On this page you will find a form that allows you to make suggestions that you believe would help improve Meningie Area School and benefit the learning of all of our students. These suggestions will be considered by the PaCSS Committee and, if selected, will be integrated into their plans for the coming year.

The form is designed to be anonymous but all emails will be screened by the school management before being passed on to the appropriate PaCSS representative.

This is not a complaints page. If you wish to make a complaint in relation to the school please use the school’s Grievance Procedure, or see the Feedback and Complaints page on our website.

---

**NAPLAN**

NAPLAN information has been sent out to parents and caregivers of all students in Year 3, 5, 7, & 9. Teachers have had this information for a week and been able to look at the data provided in all of the test areas. We hope that you find the information in the reports interesting and give you an understanding of what your child/children was able to do on the day of the test in the areas of Reading, Writing Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy.

NAPLAN is just one of the testing instruments used to determine academic position and development over time. At a site level NAPLAN data is used by teachers to more closely plan learning for students as well as specifically identify areas for development and intervention.

We encourage parents and caregivers to contact your child/children’s teacher(s) to discuss the report and look at ways to support your child in his/her learning development.
Red Carpet Social
Red Carpet Social

Students with a GROWTH MINDSET have a passion to learn
External Review Consent

As part of our continuous school improvement we will be involved in an external review with a review panel. The purpose of external school reviews is to support schools to raise achievement, sustain high performance and provide quality assurance to build public confidence in government schools.

All government schools will be externally reviewed over the next four year period.

The focus of the review is to evaluate school’s performance-

How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement and equity?

The external school review will be held at our school week 10 Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd September 2015.

The review panel consists of review officer and a trained review principal.

We will find out the aspects of the school’s performance which have been validated through the review processes as well as the improvements that we need to make in the future.

During the external school review, some students, parents, governing council members and staff will be asked to provide information to the review panel in a number of ways. These include:

- Individual interviews
- Focus group discussions (with students or staff or parents)
- Meetings (usually governing council, staff meeting)
- Observations of student learning

We appreciate your support and time in helping us with this external school review process. Please complete the reply slip below and return to the Front Office by the 11th September 2015 if you do not want your child to participate.

If you would like more information please contact Monica Williams on 85751106.

_________________________________________________________________________________

EXTERNAL REVIEW PROCESS

NAME:______________________________________________________

I DO NOT want my child in year _______ to be involved in the external review discussions

Signed:______________________________________________________
students with a growth mindset have a passion to learn
Students with a GROWTH MINDSET have a passion to learn