PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

Arrangements for Changing Arrangements for Collection of Students from School or School Events

From time to time parents and carers need to make arrangements for the children to be collected from school, or school events by other people.

It is essential that the school be contacted prior to this to make sure that we are aware of the arrangements and also have your permission to allow your child(ren) to accompany the nominated person.

Ideally this should be done through a signed note in your child(ren)’s diary or a signed note addressed to the Home-group teacher, event leader or Principal.
From time to time plans change and it’s not possible to send in a note or letter. In these situations please contact the School Office and you will be able to give verbal authorisation for any changes to the usual arrangements for collecting your child from school.

If the person in the front office is unsure who they are speaking to they may phone back on the registered family number to confirm the arrangement.

Thank you in advance for your support.

**Governing Council AGM**

The Governing Council AGM was held this week on Monday 21st March. Thank you to all parents who attended meeting. The 2015 Annual Report, Financial Reports, Auditors Reports and Library Report for 2015 were presented to at the AGM as was the Interim 2016 School Budget. The Annual Report will be published on the school website in April.

Congratulations to Neville Kernick, Faith Hill, Julie Saint and Russell Starr who have each been elected for a further two year term as Governing Council members.

Congratulations to Bill Brown and Isobell Koolmatrie who have been elected for an initial two years as members of the Governing Council.

Henry Harvey, Zoe Gordon, Wendy Van Den Brink, Karin Fischer, Mandy Cunneen and Kirsty Ridley are in the second year of their tenure as members.

Following the AGM a Governing Council meeting was held during which major office bearers were elected:

- Neville Kernick: Governing Council Chairperson
- Mandy Cuneen: Governing Council Vice Chairperson
- Henry Harvey: Chairperson of the Resources Committee
- Julie Saint: Secretary

Congratulations and thanks to all of our Council members. We are very fortunate to have a group of parents who are committed to participating in the critical role of school governance. Working together we can ensure that we are offering all of our students the very best opportunities to succeed as learners and make that critical post school transition into the world of work and further education.

Governing Council meetings are held at least twice a term in the evenings with additional meetings as needed. Parents have the opportunity to self-nominate to be on Governing Council for a two year term once a year just prior to the AGM held in March.

The PaCSS (Parents and Carers School Support) Group is coordinated by Mandy Cunneen often meet during the day with their minutes put forward to Governing Council for consideration.

If you have any questions about Governing Council or PaCCS feel free to contact one of the members or the school. To have an item you wish Governing Council to discuss at a meeting write a letter or email addressing it to the Chairperson of Governing Council via the schools address.
School Student Leadership Team

I am delighted to announce the appointment of our student leadership team. Earlier this year students wishing to take on a student leadership role were invited to apply for the positions of School Captain and Vice-Captain. Following receipt of their applications each student was invited to an interview where they were able to discuss their vision and ideas for how they would approach their role.

The quality of applications was excellent and those of us who were on the interview panels were “blown away” by the confidence and insights that our students showed.

Leading our student team as School Captain will be Brenda Baldock, supported by our two Vice Captains, Brittany Thompson and Breehannon Stone.

Our House Captains (Jemma Williams, Aleisha Williams, Kobie Hood, Gena Mansfield and Jai Ling), Courtney Rigney and Caitlin Koolmatrie are also included in the student leadership team.

Teacher Professional Development Day

Our teaching staff, and a number of our curriculum SSO’s, attended the Coorong & Mallee Partnership professional development day at Coomandook Area School on Tuesday 15th March.

Late last year students at all schools in our partnership were surveyed using the TfEL Compass learning tool. The survey allows students to indicate how their teachers are supporting them in their learning and addresses the four main areas outlined below:

Intentionality - clarity about what teachers intend students to learn, why they want students to learn it, and actioning the strategies that will best enable them to achieve it.

Effectiveness - the degree to which teacher learning design, when carried out in the classroom, meets the needs of all students and enables them to achieve the intended learning.

Consistency - the degree of consistency in teacher actions, interactions and messages about the learning and to all students.

Responsiveness - the degree to which teachers read the context, the situation and the students and adapt what they’re doing based on the learning needs in the moment.

TfEl Compass Frequently Asked Questions

The learning tool, coupled with student feedback, supports teachers in reflecting on their teaching practice to adjust and make changes to this. A team of educators from the Education Department’s Teaching for Effective Learning (TfEL) team worked with us to help us understand and analyse student data across the partnership.

The main findings across the schools for teachers were:

- provide wait time for students to think before moving on or expecting an answer
- Talk less! In other words, as well as teaching how to work through learning challenges explicitly, give students time to solve learning problems, supporting them only when they need it
- Provide opportunity for students to collaborate and speak with each other around the task focus. Research shows that learning outcomes and skills in problem solving improve when people work collaboratively. It is important that there are clear guidelines about exactly what each person’s role is
Let them into the secrets; make sure that students understand the lesson focus, criteria for success, expected outcomes and purpose. When students have a clear understanding of what is expected they are much more likely to be successful.

Each teacher has chosen an area to work on in their own practice and will be changing an aspect of their practice and then gathering evidence and reflecting on how effective the change has been in supporting students in their learning.

Growth Mindset

Last year all the schools in the Coorong Mallee Partnership learned about Carol Dweck’s work on Growth Mindset and began to work on supporting students across the partnership in developing a growth mindset.

Following the recent partnership professional development our staff have made a commitment to re-focus our work in this area as we believe that supporting students and each other in developing and strengthening our “growth mindset” will have a significant impact on improving student learning outcomes. We will be working with students across our site in this area over the year.

Please ask your children to discuss the work that they have been doing around developing a growth mindset, they may not have touched on it yet but will be working on it soon.

Summary of Carol Dweck’s work on Mindsets

The application of Dweck’s work with adults and young people across the business, sporting and education sectors has shown that helping people develop a growth mindset towards learning, particularly in areas they find difficult, has a significant impact on their ability to overcome challenges and it has also had significant impact on self-image and well-being.

According to Carol Dweck’s research, and the theory that she has developed, most people fall primarily into one of the categories shown in the graphic.

People with a growth mindset see challenge as an opportunity to get better at what they are doing and recognise that overcoming a challenge takes commitment and effort. They see things that they struggle with, as things which they “can’t do yet” and seek to overcome these.

As the graphic shows a person with a growth mindset:

- Likes to try new things
- Believes that:
  - failure is an opportunity to grow
  - they can learn anything that they want to
  - their effort and attitude affect the grades they get and how successful they are in meeting and overcoming challenges

http://big-change.org/growth-mindset/
People with a fixed mindset believe that their ability and intelligence are fixed and no amount of commitment and hard work can change this.

As the graphic shows they believe that:
- their potential is predetermined
- failure shows the limit of their abilities
- when they are frustrated they just give up
- they are either good at something or they are not
- their abilities are unchanging
- experiencing challenge is not a positive thing
- Feedback and challenge are personal and seen often as “put downs”

In reality we can often fall into both categories! It’s easy to have a growth mindset about something that we are good at and find easy, whilst it is much more challenging to overcome a fixed mindset about things that we struggle to do well with!

If you are interested in finding out more about growth and fixed mindsets the following resources are useful:
- http://mindsetonline.com/whatisit/about/index.html
- Mindset: The New Psychology of Success by Carol Dweck : (some copies in the Library)

Iain Love

SSSSA SWIMMING

On Wednesday 2nd March the following students from Meningie Area School participated in the SSSSA swimming at the SA Aquatics & Leisure Centre in Adelaide. These students were selected based on performances at the recent USE Swimming Carnival at Coonalpyn: Tom Schaefer, Jai Ling, Kobie Hood, Lachlan Brown, Holly VandenBrink and Aleisha Williams. The team had a successful day, coming 4th overall.
HOUSE CAPTAINS 2016

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as house captains for 2016:

**NO:RI** – Jemma Williams, Aleisha Williams and Holly VandenBrink

**KUNGARI** – Brittany Thompson, Kobie Hood, Gena Mansfield and Jai Ling

SPORTS DAY RESULTS

Many students shone on the day and it was fantastic to see the high level of involvement and participation as well as a healthy level of competition.

Raukkan school joined in the day as they have in the past as members of the 2 house teams Kungari (Swans) and No:ri (Pelicans). All students received points for participation with points going to both individual medallion and overall House Team points. The Captains and Vice Captains led by example, with Kungari House taking out the shield with 1593 points and No:ri coming second with 1164 points. Photos will be in the next newsletter.

Congratulations to the following students who were medallion winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Under 10 Boys</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
<td>Jamon Rigney 57 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Justin Miller 55 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Anthony Long 46 (Kungari)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
<td>Addison Swan 68 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Grace Gubbin 47.5 (No:ri)</td>
<td>Chloe Retsas 45 (Kungari)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Under 12 Boys</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
<td>Cameron Miller 57 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Jace Ridley 50.9 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Chase Rigney 47 (No:ri)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
<td>Imogen Allan 51 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Chelsea Hoad 42.5 (No:ri)</td>
<td>Destiny Shaw 41.5 (No:ri)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Under 14 Boys</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
<td>Aaron Clarke 65.5 (No:ri)</td>
<td>Henry Turner 41 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Ben Schaefer 40.5 (Kungari)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
<td>Georgia Whitehad 60 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Charlotte Treloar 57.5 (No:ri)</td>
<td>Tiarnie Ling 38.5 (Kungari)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open Boys</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
<td>Kobie Hood 60 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Tom Schaefer 57.5 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Dylan Gubbin 49 (No:ri)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open Girls</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
<td>Skyeisha Rigney 48 (No:ri)</td>
<td>Brittany Thompson 39.5 (Kungari)</td>
<td>Jane Tiver 34 (Kungari)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY**

The Interschool Athletics Carnival was held yesterday at the Keith Area School. Congratulations to the students who were selected to be part of the Meningie Area School Athletics Team. A report and photos will be in the next newsletter.

**SAPSASA SWIMMING**

Last Friday 18th March, the chosen Murray Mallee SAPSASA squad travelled to Adelaide to compete with students from other schools. Meningie were well represented by Ben Schaefer, Henry Turner, Charlotte Treloar, Jace Ridley, Jessica Turner and Phoebe Kartinyeri.

As a team we were more successful this year, finishing 11th out of 19 teams. This is probably the best we have placed in a long time. We had swimmers who collectively made 12 finals.

Congratulations to all swimmers for not only being so successful this year, but also for how you conducted yourself throughout the day. Everyone strived to achieve their best and were excellent representatives of the Murray Mallee District. The Murray Mallee SAPSASA, your schools and parents are proud of you.

Krystina Durdin (SAPSASA Coordinator – Karoonda/East Murray School)

**REMEMBER: SCHOOL ROUTINES**

**Duty of Care:**

Just a reminder that students should not be on school grounds before 8.30 a.m. A teacher is rostered on duty from this time until the bell sounds to begin the school day at 8.45 a.m. The school day finishes at 3.20 p.m. and buses leave at 3.30 p.m. Students who do not travel by bus should be picked up or make their way home promptly at the completion of the school day, unless they are participating in an arranged after-school activity, as there is no teacher on duty after the buses leave.

**School Crossing:**

The school crossing is on North Terrace and we remind the Meningie School community to use this at all times when crossing the road. Parents and caregivers, please note the parking signage along North Terrace. Some parking is quite temporary, and needs to be observed as indicated. Parents of new students may not be aware that there is to be no parking on the Princes Highway side of the school from 8.30 – 9.30 am and in the afternoon from 3.30 – 4.30 pm.

**School Car Park:**

In the interest of child safety, we wish to remind all parents, carers and grandparents not to use the staff car park (including the library spaces) as a drop-off and pick-up zone at any time, unless in circumstances when they might be collecting a sick child from the front office.

Parents and carers who continue this practice will be sent a personalised letter requesting that they do not park in the car park.
Don’t forget the after-hours chute in the front door of the library to make returning items possible out of hours. Three new touch screen computers and desk have also been installed for public use. You can scan and print in colour or black and white up to A3 size. We have also recently upgraded all computers to Windows 10 and Office 2016.

Easter Colouring in competition
WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED NEXT WEEK
and printed in The Lakelander

We are always looking for suggestions and request and welcome ideas for books or dvds to buy for the library. Recently we purchased new copies of the Harry Potter series as well as Little House on the Prairie and Anne of Green Gables. Statewide Libraries are providing more electronic resources as well as updating the hardcopy collection on a regular basis. This means outdated or worn material will be taken off the shelves and made available for patrons to buy at Book sales etc. If you have any favourites you would hate to see disappear talk to library staff and we can make sure you have a chance to buy it at a Book Sale.

Library Assistants Program
It’s not too late to apply!

You have until the end of term to put in an application for a Library Assistants position in the Library. You will gain real skills and work experience. Open to all students yr 5 – yr 12. Training during set lunchtimes starting second term. Apply now with an A4 Resume and statement on why you would like the position. Ask for help from your teacher or come into the library and ask Mr Ryan.

All children are invited to participate in the Challenge in 2016. Reading Logs are available from the library. Parents are encouraged to get involved and sign off books their children have read on the reading log. More information is on the following pages. There will be heaps of house points awarded to all students who complete the Challenge.
A TASTE OF HISTORY.....115 YEARS AGO!

115 years ago, on Tuesday, April 3 1901 the Elsie, a wooden two masted ketch was wrecked during a terrific gale forty kilometres south of Meningie on the Coorong beach.

The ketch left Kingston on April 2, bound for Port Adelaide and was driven ashore by the storm. All hands were saved. The mate, who was lashed to the wheel, was severely knocked about by the heavy seas which ultimately smashed up the wheel and rendered the vessel helpless.

Her cargo consisted of a thousand cases of preserved rabbits and over three hundred bags of crushed bark. The captain and two of the crew reached Meningie two days later. The flagpole was given to the Meningie School and erected in front of a shelter shed in the school quadrangle on 28 October 1966. The pole was taken down in 1979 when the new school was built and re-erected in front of the School Community Library where it is today.

The ketch was built at Port Adelaide in 1873, it was 66.7 feet long with a beam of 19.9 feet and a draught of 6.5 feet.

Don’t miss your opportunity to say thanks to an inspirational educator with a nomination in the 2016 SA Excellence in Public Education Awards. Nominees will receive a certificate and an invitation to apply for an overall award.

The awards are open to teachers, leaders and support staff members currently working in DECD schools or preschools. All eligible educators are encouraged to submit an application for the chance to win a valuable professional learning opportunity of choice (up to the value of $10,000 for most categories).

The award categories include:

- leadership
- early years teaching
- primary teaching sponsored by Credit Union SA
- secondary teaching
- support staff
- partnership innovation
- lifetime achievement.

Nominate or apply at www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards. Nominations close 5pm Friday 15 April, and applications close 5pm Monday 9 May.
OUT OF THE BLUE

A play by Stig Wemyss presented by HealthPlay

Life can be tough in the bush, especially when you lose a mate to suicide

Out of the Blue tells a story about a group of men who get together at the local pub to pay tribute to a mate they have lost to suicide. This story is relevant to people everywhere and offers a powerful pathway to sharing, conversation, action and, hopefully change.

Guest panel will facilitate a community discussion after the play.

For more information please contact Centacare 08 8531 8888

www.centacare.org.au ~ find us on facebook

Tailem Bend Town Hall April 3 ~ free sausage sizzle 5.30pm performance starts 6pm
Meningie Area School Hall April 4 ~ free sausage sizzle 6.30pm performance starts 7pm
Tintinara Soldiers Memorial Hall April 5 ~ free sausage sizzle 5pm performance starts 5.30pm
Meadows Memorial Hall April 6 ~ free sausage sizzle 6.30pm performance starts 7pm
Mt Barker Town Hall April 7 ~ free light lunch 12pm performance starts 12.30pm

~ Suitable for adults and children aged 15yrs and over~ “Crèche available~”

Mental Health Services are funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.
Blue Light Ten Pin Bowling
Sun 10th April 2016, 2-5pm
FREE BOWLING

Free Entry and Bowling
Prizes to be won, arcade games to play
Teams of 5 (or make a team on the day)
Police and Police volunteer supervisors
Lock-in Event (Parents to be left at the door, essential carers ok)
Alcohol and drug free event

Ages: 5-17 years
Venue: Bridge Bowl, Maurice Rd, Murray Bridge
Food & drink available to purchase.

Registrations Essential by 6th April 2016. Numbers limited to 100.
Obtain a registration form at www.bluelightsa.com.au
Contact: Murray Bridge Police Station 83356020 for more information
This Blue Light event is being held as part of National Youth Week

To celebrate National Youth Week
come along to our
Health and Wellbeing Festival
Tuesday, 12th of April 2016
10am-2pm @ The Station
3-5 Railway Tce, Murray Bridge

Free Community event

With special guest, Chad Wingard
stalls // delicious food // entertainment
For more info: 8531 2122

Learn how to fence

This 8 week course offers a place for young people aged 12 – 25 to learn how to fence and participate in the world of sport fencing. Come and try this awesome sport and practice fencing in a supportive and fun environment.
Fencing Trainer, Dov Spinks, from the Adelaide Hills Fencing Club has been fencing for approximately 10 years. He is an accredited Level 1 Foli coach.

When
Tuesdays starting, 10 May to 29 June
From 4 – 5pm

Where
The Station, Youth Centre
3-5 Railway Tce, Murray Bridge

Contact
For more info please contact
headspace 8331 2122
Stalls are essential to cover all costs

This program is offered FREE of charge to young people in the Murraylands region.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY – TUESDAY 5TH APRIL @ 10.30 AM – ALL WELCOME!