RESULTS PLUS FOCUS ON NUMERACY

Over the past few years our site has been on an improvement journey with significant data to show the growth in literacy across the site. Whilst focus in this area remains critical, we have intensified our focus on creating the same “lift” in student outcomes in the area of Maths/Numeracy.

Mal Jurgs, Katrina Hood, Kathryn Hese and I have attended a range of excellent professional development which has focussed on how to achieve the “lift” in student learning and outcomes, particularly in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy.

Research shows that teacher quality and their ability to grow their expertise are critical factors in improving student learning outcomes.

In terms of student outcomes, not only do students from the classes of expert teachers show better achievement levels, they also “appear to exhibit an understanding of the concepts targeted in instruction that is more...
integrated, more coherent, and at a higher level of abstraction than the understanding achieved by other students”. Teachers Make a Difference: What is the Research Evidence?, John Hattie, Oct. 2003

Mal Jurgs and Katrina Hood are spearheading this initiative, working with teachers of Mathematics from Years 4 to Year 10. Wendy Starling and her team are spearheading the initiative across the Junior Primary. Drawing on the research evidence our focus is on helping students deepen their understanding of the “big ideas” and “key concepts” in Mathematics so that they are able to apply their mathematical knowledge and understanding across curriculum areas, and more particularly in real world contexts.

Yesterday the Primary and Secondary teachers worked intensively with Rosslyn Shepherd in developing a common approach to planning and programming, lesson structure and approaches to teaching Mathematics. They have each identified key areas to focus on and will be working with Rosslyn in Term 3 to review their progress towards achieving their goals in their chosen area of focus.

Today, Rosslyn continues her work with the Junior Primary team, supporting them in reviewing processes and programmes so that they are able to identify their key areas of focus and set individual and group learning goals.

Developing an effective improvement cycle in Mathematics/Numeracy across the site is also influenced by our continued professional development in assessment, with a focus on how we can improve the gathering of feedback on learning from students so that we are able to improve targeted programmes as well as improve the quality and effectiveness of the feedback on learning which we give students.

Our work across the Partnership in analysing and acting on student feedback provided by the TfEL Compass Data has identified that students want to:

- Have the opportunity to work more collaboratively
- Want teachers to “talk less”
- Want to be “let into the secrets” i.e. know what it is that they are learning, why it is important and what they need to do/provide evidence of to meet or exceed the expected educational standard.

It is interesting that the feedback from students across the Coorong Mallee partnership listed above links really closely with the research evidence from around the world on what makes a significant difference to student learning outcomes.

Mal, Katrina and Wendy will be contributing articles in future newsletters, letting you know how we are progressing in these areas, as well as offering advice to parents on how you can support your students in their learning journey and in continuing to develop a growth mindset.

PARENT FEEDBACK OPPORTUNITY – GOVCHAT

The South Australian Government wants to help parents support their children to be actively involved in learning from birth onwards. Research shows that children become better learners when parents are actively involved.

Call the GOVchat line to provide feedback directly to government decision makers, including Education and Child Development Minister Susan Close, about how the department can better support you in understanding and participating in your child’s education.

When: Monday 4 July 2016
Time: 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Find out more at www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/govchat4

Iain Love, Principal
CHOIR SO FAR IN 2016

Some students from Years 4, 5, 6 and 7 have made the commitment to be part of the choir for 2016. As time progresses during the year students are finding out more about the performances they will be part of - Festival of Music performances in Adelaide at the end of term 3, The Murraylands choir performance in term 4, as well as performances locally.

Our school had our assessment the other day with the Director of the Adelaide Festival, Robyn Filmer (ex Tintinara), coming to Meningie to assess us. She was very pleased with our choir and helped us learn some more new pieces.

Also, we have travelled to Tailem Bend to be part of a combined choir rehearsal with other Murraylands schools. We had a great time singing through some of the songs in a combined choir numbering about 300 students from Mannum, Karoonda, Mypolonga, Jervois, Tailem Bend, Coonalpyn, Tintinara, Murray Bridge North, Murray Bridge South and Meningie.

Hopefully you can all hear us sing during the year.

Anne Wright, Teacher

NEW Library Opening Hours

NOW OPEN
Weekdays 8.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday 10am – 1pm

During school holidays the library will be closed Mondays and lunchtime

meningie.library@gmail.com
8575 1681
Band at Waikerie

On Friday 13\textsuperscript{th} May the senior band students from Meningie Area School, along with other students from other Murraylands schools; Mannum Community School, Coomandook Area School and Murray Bridge High School, travelled up to Waikerie Primary School for a combined band gig.

The bus trip was long but the effort was worth it. While there, the students from the Murraylands schools joined with students from the Riverland. Other school students were from Waikerie High, Loxton High and Renmark High Schools.

During the morning, the students learnt 5 new pieces. They were lead and mentored by John Morrison – well known drummer and Jacki Cooper- an excellent vocalist. After much hard work and learning a performance was given for the Waikerie Primary students and community.

Meningie students involved are Jai Ling, Kobie Hood, Kayla Rebner, Dakota Wenske, Aimee Brooks, Tom Schaefer and Riley McNicol. These students are doing a regional VET music course and these regional performances are part of this program. Mr Longden and Mr Williams, our Instrumental Music Teachers, supported us during the day and throughout the program.

Many thanks to Karin Rebner for her help on the day.

Anne Wright
Teacher
Music at Meningie

As part of the Music Program at Meningie Area School this year, we are continuing our excellent Instrumental Music Program. Our school has weekly visits from Mr Peter Longden (who teaches woodwind instruments - flute, clarinet and saxophone) and Mr Rod Williams (who teaches brass instruments - trumpet and trombone). These teachers are available to us through the Instrumental Music Service (a DECD department) and the lessons are FREE to the students.

The students from Year 5 to 10 who take part are provided with an instrument FREE of charge to them by the school. This is a huge commitment from the school.

Currently the Year 5, or first year players, are our beginner players and are learning as an ensemble group. They are learning trumpet, clarinet or flute.

The Year 6, and second year players, are called our continuing band and have a band rehearsal lead by Mrs Wright every Tuesday morning and a lesson during the day. They are progressing well as a group and we are working on some small band pieces together.

The Year 7-10 students make up our concert band. We currently have students on flute, clarinet, trombone, trumpet and saxophone. They are sounding great, and it is good to see students working well as a team, overcoming difficulties and cooperating to make the end result sound like a real band - tight and strong.

This year the Year 4 students are learning recorder to start them on the music reading and listening program. We, also, have 2 private providers at school on Mondays - Jack Love and Georgia Steinert, who are providing individual lessons at a cost to parents.

Music making is a great activity to learn team building skills and to develop memory, both of body and mind. The breathing, fingers and mind all need to be in sync. And that is only to play as an individual... imagine how many useful skills are being learnt in a band music situation.

Please encourage your students to practise at home so that they can achieve the best they can, both for themselves and about themselves. If your student/s are having trouble practising, or even being able to take their instrument home to practise, can you please contact me so that I can try to solve the problems? We need to train our brains and bodies.

As you can see, we have Year 9 and 10 students studying a VET music course that will help them accumulate some SACE points.

Towards the end of next term, we are hoping to have the other music students from the Murraylands in Meningie to be part of a combined practice and performance. I hope to see you there.

Anne Wright
Teacher

More R/1 Reading Rockets!

Congratulations to Elliott, Lachlan and Tye, who have read 100 books this year!

Ms Wilamowski R/1 Teacher
Danger Kids are Coming……
5th and 6th July

Da da doo da, da da doo da (James Bond theme)
The 2016 Meningie Area School Production is a joke and
dagger musical to be performed on 5th and 6th July during
week 10.

Once again, the year 6 and 7 seven students are playing the
lead roles, with the Reception to Year 5 students performing the roles of Danger Kids singers, Legionnaires,
game players and Swiss yodellers. The props have been made by the students and the senior Home Economics
class have produced some excellent costumes for the classes and the cast. The senior ICT class have produced
the tickets and posters.

TICKETS WILL BE Adults $10 and Children $5 AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE FROM
MONDAY 27th JUNE - All students in the performance will not need a ticket.

Please come along and support our excellent students in the Arts Performance. Remember all MAS students
from R-7 will be in the performance. The students can be left at their classrooms with their teacher at 6:30 pm
ready for dressing and make-up. Main cast members will need to be here at 6:15 pm for a 7 pm start.

A BRIEF SYNOPSIS (what is it about?)
In a secret crisis meeting at a cinema, the heavily-disguised Heads of Government (HOGS) are discussing the
problem of CARMEN SANFRANCISCO, the evil scientist and master game-player who is preparing to launch a
rocket in 48 hours. His rocket contains a satellite that will control the world’s video games ... so that only the
baddies ever win. All the usual secret agents have failed. It is time to send in ... the DANGER KIDS.

In their cubby hideout are the Danger Kids (CODY the brains, BUTLER, the organiser, GIZMO the inventor and
GAUCHO the bumbling detective). No sooner have they received their mission from the HOGS than they get a
mysterious message on their computer. It is a cryptic clue from none other than CARMEN. He is playing his own
game with them. The Clue sends the DANGERKIDS to the Sahara. They don their ‘tracking bracelets’ and hit the
Dangermobiles.

CARMEN and his assistant, CLUEDO, have been hiding and watching. They are always around, disguised, to
watch the fun as the DANGERKIDS race to save the world.

In the Sahara, the KIDS meet the RUNAWAY LEGIONAIRES and get their next clue ... sending them to ... Switzerland. Meanwhile, the disguised HOGS are having a very tricky secret meeting on a roller coaster. There
are now only 36 hours left.
In the Swiss Alps the KIDS come across the VON SHUT-YOUR-TRAPP FAMILY SINGERS, who introduce them to the delights of yodelling. They also run into MAXWELL SMARTYPANTS and his assistant 98.6. They have also been on the trail of CARMEN SANFRANCISCO.

The next clue is discovered and, in the excitement, MAX and the DANGERKIDS head off in different directions and GAUCHO gets lost.

Meanwhile, disguised at a football match, the HOGS become concerned. There are now only 24 hours left. A disguised CARMEN slips them a fake message, allegedly from the DANGERKIDS. They head off to Gibraltar.

The KIDS and MAX and 98.6 all end up in a Chinese restaurant, where the Dance of the New Moon is being performed. But, divided by screens, they do not see each other. GAUCHO arrives and finds MAX and 98.6.

While checking the tracking bracelets, looking for GAUCHO, CODY notices 4 blips on the screen – the HOGS! They could be heading into a trap! The KIDS split. Meanwhile, GAUCHO gets a clue in a fortune cookie and he and MAX & 98.6 head to Gibraltar.

Meanwhile, the HOGS are on board the HMS BRITANNIA, squabbling over the deckchairs.

CARMEN and CLUEDO are holed up in Mystery Manor, on the Rock of Gibraltar. Their rocket is hidden but ready. They await the arrival of their ‘guests’, looking forward to winning the game. First to arrive are the HOGS.

CARMEN makes them sit – to witness his triumph. The DANGERKIDS arrive, but cannot find the rocket. Then GAUCHO arrives with MAX and 98.6. An old grandfather clock chimes down the last, remaining seconds when GAUCHO puts the clues together, turns the clock around and reveals … the rocket! GIZMO disables it just in time.

CARMEN and CLUEDO escape, but the world is once again safe … thanks to the DANGERKIDS!
USE KNOCKOUT NETBALL
On Thursday 16th June Meningie Area School students Shania Weetra and Wanda Shaw travelled to Keith to compete in the Upper South East Knock-Out Netball competition. The girls played against teams from Keith, Naracoorte, Penola, Millicent and Kingston. The USE team consisted of girls from Coomandook, Meningie and Tintinara. Although our girls had never trained together, and were a bit shaky in the first 2 games, they found their rhythm by the 3rd game. We became strong competitors for our remaining 3 games, coming away with a win against Millicent and a close match against Keith. It was a privilege to coach an amazing group of girls who really worked well together and were so positive and encouraging. Well done girls! Maybe next year!
A special thankyou to Gena Mansfield who umpired all of our games on the day and did a fantastic job!
Ms Lehmann (HPE teacher)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Naracoorte</th>
<th>USE</th>
<th>Keith</th>
<th>Millicent</th>
<th>Penola</th>
<th>Kingston</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penola</td>
<td>L: 10-18</td>
<td>L: 6-26</td>
<td>L: 8-29</td>
<td>L: 11-29</td>
<td>L: 14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingston</td>
<td>L: 24-27</td>
<td>L: 6-37</td>
<td>L: 12-33</td>
<td>L: 4-33</td>
<td>W: 15-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3 – 133.5%</td>
<td>1 – 19%</td>
<td>2 – 34.5%</td>
<td>0 – 11.5%</td>
<td>5 – 119.5%</td>
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Tree Planting

Last Wednesday 54 of our Year 6 – 10 students travelled to Narrung Stud Rd to plant trees to assist with fund raising for the Canberra trip later this year. In all, 2500 trees were planted on the day, and all of the students contributed positively to this outcome. These funds will be added to those received from tree planting last year and from the sale of cattle that were donated as calves by the Wright family and raised in the school’s ag block.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th July</td>
<td>Coonalpyn Archery&lt;br&gt; Come and Try Afternoon&lt;br&gt; From 2pm– 4pm&lt;br&gt; Book a spot to have a go.&lt;br&gt; Ages 7-12&lt;br&gt; Town Oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th July</td>
<td>Tailen Bend Sewing– make a drawstring bag&lt;br&gt; Use the sewing machines to create your own bag with Janelle&lt;br&gt; Ages 9-12&lt;br&gt; TBCC 2pm-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14th July</td>
<td>Meningie Archery&lt;br&gt; Come and Try Afternoon&lt;br&gt; From 1pm– 4pm&lt;br&gt; Book a spot to have a go.&lt;br&gt; Ages 7-12&lt;br&gt; Town Oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15th July</td>
<td>Tintinara Crafternoon&lt;br&gt; Have a go at Sand Art, jewellery making, birdhouse building and more. Ages 5-12&lt;br&gt; 1pm–3pm&lt;br&gt; Memorial Hall</td>
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</tbody>
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**NAIDOC Blue Light Disco**

Friday 8th July  5.30pm to 7.30pm

@ The Station, Railway Tc, Murray Bridge

Ages 5-13 years, all welcome.

**Free Entry**

Games and Prizes to win
DJ Steve from Power FM
Lock in event, fully supervised
Food & drinks available to purchase
Free water & sausage sizzle
Meningie Area School Production

DANGER KIDS

July 5 and 6 – 7pm

Poster designed by Lenni Hincks Year 1