Students with a GROWTH MINDSET learn from criticism.

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**A BUSY TERM AHEAD**

This term is nine weeks in length and, as you can see from the term diary within this edition, is already very busy. There is, of note for your calendar, the last of our 4 Student Free days for the year on Friday 6th November, which has been approved by the Education Director. All known planned events have been included in the enclosed term planner...significantly the last day for Year 12 students is Friday 13th November with their final assembly on that day. This year Presentation Night is once again in the last week of Term 4 on Monday 7th December. The date for the Junior School Christmas Concert is to be finalised and you will be advised in due course.

As we head into the last term of the school year there are at least eight weeks of learning ahead of all students from Reception to Year 10. For students in year 12 their year is rapidly coming to a close with final assessments and exams. Students in Year 11 have a slightly longer year with work completion Friday 27th November. Year 10 students may finish school on Friday 4th December, but will need to come into the front office on the last day of school to collect their Term 4 report. However for all other year levels school does not conclude until Friday December 11th and attendance at school is a requirement. All reports not collected will be left in the library for collection over the holiday break.

**TERM 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>21 October</th>
<th>3rd Immunisation 10.30 am – Year 8’s</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 October</td>
<td>Year 8/9 History Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 October</td>
<td>Super 8’s Cricket at Tintinara</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>26 October</th>
<th>Resources Meeting 7.30 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Governing Council Meeting 8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 October</td>
<td>Murraylands Choir Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 October</td>
<td>Kindy Transition Parent Meeting 1.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 October</td>
<td>Scholastic Book Club Orders CLOSE</td>
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</tbody>
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**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FOR PRESENTATION NIGHT:**

Monday 7th December at 7pm

**NOT**

Tuesday 8th December as previously advertised.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

The Front office staff are quite happy to pass on messages to students, however many of these are phoned in to the school around 3pm. This makes it difficult for staff as the front office is occasionally manned by only 1 person, so if this can be avoided please phone earlier.

Thankyou!
One of the biggest challenges we have as teachers in this final term of the year is keeping students engaged.

Being here at school daily and on time helps to build strong relationships between your child/children, the teacher and the other students in the class. We seek your support in this as we strive to complete the required curriculum at each year level and for students to get the best opportunities in meeting their full learning potential. Once again teachers will be working with the students in their classes to set a goal for the term, develop strategies and take steps to reach them. This approach is aimed at getting students to take responsibility for their own learning achievement and to strive for improvement. We look forward to seeing all students reaching their full potential this term.

NEW PRINCIPAL MENINGIE AREA SCHOOL 2016

As you may be aware, the position of Principal at Meningie Area School was advertised during Term 3. In the lead up I made a decision that I would not be applying for a further tenure.

I am pleased to announce that Iain Love, the current Principal at Leigh Creek, has won the position of Principal from the start of the 2016 school year.

I complete my leadership role as Principal of Meningie Area School incredibly proud of the achievements made as Principal these past 10 years, as evidenced in the External Review conducted in Week 10 of Term 3.

The next 8 weeks remain business as usual, as we work towards closure of the 2015 academic year and the planning for 2016 and beyond.

BUSHFIRE ACTION PLAN – CATASTROPHIC WEATHER CONDITIONS

With warm weather upon us already, it is timely to remind the school community about what happens on days of a CATASTROPHIC BUSHFIRE.

As the site is located in a Category 3 fire danger region and is a low risk, Meningie Area School remains open.

However, in the event of a fire on a bus route the school has a plan with regard to the management of such an event. Please see the insert within this edition and keep it handy for future reference.

2016 TERM DATES

For your convenience and forward planning we advise the following Term dates for 2016:

Term 1: Monday 1st February to Friday 15th April 2016
Term 2: Monday 2nd May to Friday 8th July 2016
Term 3: Monday 25th July to Friday 30th September 2016
Term 4: Monday 17th October to Friday 16th December 2016

Monica Williams, Principal
**PAT Testing**

The DECD Numeracy and Literacy Strategy talks about information from the PAT testing that occurred in weeks 7-10, Term 3 being incorporated with other forms of assessment, such as NAPLAN and class work, to give the teacher a holistic and broader view of student progress or areas needing further development. The PAT tests have not been designed as a separate test like the NAPLAN, but one that is part of the overall assessment process, consistent across all government schools. In this context there is no formal PAT report provided systemically. These tests, which included Acer General Ability Tests in Term 1 and PAT-Reading Comprehension, PAT-Reading Vocabulary and PAT-Maths 4th edition, will help guide teachers’ classroom learning focus and be used to guide conversations about individual student learning, including strengths and weaknesses in the Parent-Teacher Interview Process. If you would like to find out your child’s results please contact either the subject or Home Group Teacher to arrange for an appropriate meeting time.

**Ag News**

After the excitement of the show, the Ag. Block has quietened down and much of the work is about housekeeping and getting ready for the summer.

We need to acknowledge the support of Swan Brothers, who once again have supplied and spread our fertiliser needs this year free of charge. Thank you to Craig and all of the staff there for this.

We also need to thank Michael and Tania VandenBrink for cutting and baling the hay in our Coonalpyn Road paddocks.

Without the support of people and companies such as these our work in providing learning opportunities for our students in the VET Ag and our SACE Ag programs would be that much harder. Thank you to everyone who has supported us throughout the year so far.

**Pirate Day**

In Week 9 of last term, there was a salty sea breeze in the air, and the Fernery Cove of Meningie Area School found itself under siege by pirates! These cunning pirates arrived in the Reception, Year 1/2 and Year 4 classes and celebrated ‘Talk Like a Pirate Day’ by constructing maps, pirate poems, wanted posters and flags. There was even talk of treasure!

The students had a wonderful time talking like pirates, and it was a fantastic way to end the term.

Miss W and Mr Oliver
Circus Skills in the Reception and Year 4 Classes

In semester 2, the Reception and Year 4 classes have been hard at work in their PE lessons learning circus skills with Mrs Torrealba. The students have been learning different acrobatic tricks, how to walk on stilts, juggling, and various skills with circus items like poi, spinning plates, hula-hoops, and scarves.

The children have persisted and practiced until they have learned some amazing skills, and we hope to show off their talents at a performance at the end of the year. Watch this space!
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Scholastic Book Clubs

The new Scholastic Book Clubs brochure (which is now condensed in to one easy to read booklet) was sent home with students early this week. Parents may continue to order and pay in the traditional way i.e. at the bookroom by cash, cheque or credit card, or may use the new ‘LOOP’ (Linked Online Ordering & Payment) platform now provided by Scholastic Australia on their website. Orders will close on Wednesday 28th October 2015.
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‘CATASTROPHIC’ FIRE DAY
BUS ARRANGEMENTS

BUS ARRANGEMENTS

- Meningie Area School is not classified as either an R1 or R2 government school and will, on days of a Catastrophic fire rating for this region, be open.
- All school bus services travelling through the affected Fire Ban District will be cancelled.

NOTIFICATION PROCESS

1. When a catastrophic fire day rating is forecast the afternoon before, parents/caregivers will be advised via the SMS system/phone or email that the regular bus service has been cancelled and will not be running at all the next day.

   This means that parents and caregivers will need to make arrangements for their child/children to get to and from school on that day.

2. When a catastrophic fire danger is forecast on the morning of the day of the conditions, the school bus service will operate as usual unless advised by the authorised Emergency Services personnel.

For further information in relation to DECD Bushfire information please refer to http://www.crisis.sa.edu.au/pages/welcome/bushfirepreparation
For information with regard to your bush fire district refer to Country Fire Service www.cfs.gov.au