

MENINGIE AREA SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL: Ms Monica Williams
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: Mr Mal Jurgs
SENIOR SCHOOL COORDINATOR: Ms Kathryn Hese
MIDDLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR: Ms Kathy Quinn
JUNIOR SCHOOL COORDINATOR: Ms Katrina Hood



info@meningieas.sa.edu.au

NEWSLETTER 1

www.meningieas.sa.edu.au

1st February 2013

TERM 1

Week 2	
6 th February	Governing Council training @ Coonalpyn 7.30pm
7 th February	Early Years Literacy Info Session 5pm Parent & Staff BBQ 5.30 to 8.00 pm
8 th February	Andrew Dallimore (The Gentle Way Campaign) – visit & talk to all senior years
Week 3	
11 th February	Resources meeting 7.30 pm Governing Council meeting 8.00 pm
12 th February	Staff T&D CAMHS Cultural Trauma Response 3.35 pm
12 th February	SCHOOL PHOTOS & ID CARDS
14 th February	MAS Swimming Carnival at Coonalpyn
18 th February (Wk 4)	Interschool Swimming Carnival at Coonalpyn

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Welcome to the 2013 school year. How quickly the last few weeks have flown past and here we are at the start of a new school year. I hope that all families had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and that there was some time to spend together with families and friends in activities away from the daily routine. A warm welcome to new children and their families to the school and local district, particularly those children who are attending school for the first time.

It is my pleasure to welcome 2 new teachers to the school as we begin the school year. Ms Coadette Low is sharing the Year 8 Home group with Vic Woolston and will be teaching in Science and Agriculture for the main part, with the addition of Year 8 PE and Maths. Coadette spent last year teaching at Karkultaby. In 2011 Coadette carried out her prac experience here at

Meningie, so she is quite familiar with the school.

Richard Oliver has been appointed as the year 6/7 teacher. He has major qualifications in PE, Maths, Science and Art.

Richard taught as a TRT in several schools throughout 2012 in the metropolitan area and had a fifteen week contract Playford Primary School. Richard shares a Home Group with Kathy Quinn; Middle School/Well Being Manager.

Ms Sarah Lehmann will be here one day a week through this term. She is going to co-ordinate the MULTILIT program, as well as support reading for Year's 5, 6 and 7. We look forward to working with Coadette, Richard and Sarah, and the skills, opportunities and experiences they bring to our school community.

Parent /Teacher Acquaintance Night BBQ

As advertised in the very last Newsletter of 2012, Parent/Teacher Acquaintance night is Thursday 7th February. As in the previous two years, this is an informal evening giving families and the staff an opportunity to get together.

This event is fully catered, with water and cordial available for children. Parents may like to bring along their own drinks. For catering purposes please return your RSVP or contact the front office with numbers attending by Tuesday 5th February. We look forward to seeing families at our first event for the school year. The evening begins at 5.30 pm and concludes at around 8.00pm.

As an addition, if you are the parent of a student beginning school this year, I encourage you to attend the session being run by Ms Wilamowski, Mrs Woolston and Mrs Starling at 5.00pm on the evening. They will cover a number of topics to support children entering school such as routines, oral language, jolly phonics and reading. This is a session not to be missed.

Refurbishment

During the holidays a program of asbestos removal and upgrade was made on the outside of the main Administration block, notably the shelter over doorways and windows.

Additionally there have been some changes made to the front office area, and both the Principal and Deputy Principal offices.

Hot Weather/Drinks

It has been a cool start to the school year, but I am sure there are still many very hot summer days to come. On days of extreme heat students generally have a recess break outside, but remain inside during lunch.

It is a good idea to send along a water bottle of cold water so this can remain with the student while in class, hence reducing the amount of time going to and from the bubblers during learning time.

Year 12 Results

Congratulations and best wishes to our 2012 Year 12 students. Every student who stayed at school for the whole school year worked well and achieved to the best of their ability. Most students have moved into either further study and/or employment.

New Regional Director

Our District of Murray & Mallee has a new Regional Director. Mr David Craig has been appointed to the position. David in his most recent career has been Regional Director, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island, and prior to that Regional Director, of Far North & Aboriginal Lands. Ms Alana Girvin, Regional Director, Murray & Mallee throughout 2012, has been appointed as Assistant Director, Workforce Management in Human Resources central office DECD.

I, along with the Principals in the Coorong Cluster have a joint meeting planned with the new director next week where we will discuss with him the priorities and directions of DECD, the Murray & Mallee Region and those of our individual sites. In the next Newsletter, I will outline in some detail what that means for our site 2013. In short though, the following are priorities that I have spoken about before and are definitely areas for improvement across DECD:

- Attendance and participation.
A site target of 90% in 2013

- Numeracy & Literacy.
- Quality teaching and learning.

School Uniform

It is really good to see most students in school uniform. The wearing of school uniform is strongly supported by the Meningie Area Governing Council for the following reasons:

- It creates a sense of identity and belonging
- It enables all students to be easily recognised in the yard
- It removes competition in wearing designer labels
- It helps create a safe environment as visitors are easily identifiable.

In addition, we seek your support in ensuring your child/children is/are appropriately dressed for participation in H & PE, which is a compulsory subject.

For reasons of OHS&W students need to be in lace up shoes. While slip on canvas shoes are very much in fashion, especially amongst middle/senior school students, they do not provide enough grip or support for students to engage in the types of games played and the skills being taught.

P.E teachers will be sending home a list of requirements for HPE that include participation for swimming as well.

Further to this, students who are involved in Ag Science, Tech Studies, Home Ec and other practically based subjects need to have suitable footwear for the activities they are involved in. The canvas slip-on shoes do not provide adequate protection. If parents/caregivers have any problems with this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Allergies, Asthma and other Health Issues Requiring a Health Care Plan and/or Medication

A letter will be sent home next week to parents who have indicated via the Student Swimming/Aquatics Consent Form that their child has a health issue, with important information regarding the student's medication and Health Care Plan.

Reminder of School Routines

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.am. 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.

Monica Williams
Principal

SCHOOL CONSENT FORMS

Could parents please ensure that all forms have been completed and returned to the school as soon as conveniently possible.

The Swimming Consent forms are to be returned to the school whether your child intends to swim or not, as these are valuable in collecting information about student's medical conditions, whether this information has changed or indeed whether your child requires any medications while at school.

CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL HOUSE SYSTEM

A Sports review was held in 2012 it was decided that and the school would adopt a two house system. A survey was sent out to obtain names for two new teams. This week staff, students and parents completed the voting and with overwhelming support the houses became Kungari (Swan) and No:ri (Pelican). An extensive process saw the placing of students into Team A & Team B, and on Wednesday the teams got together to choose a representative. Team A chose Spencer Hincks (The youngers member in the team) whilst Charlotte Treloar was the Team B rep. Spencer from the hat first and his team became known as Kungari, Charlotte then got to draw for the team colour and she chose 'yellow'.

The two houses are now officially known as: Kungari (Swan) and their team colour is Maroon No:ri (Pelican) and their team colour is Yellow



All students from reception to year 12 have been placed into a house. Points will not only be awarded for sports/swimming days but also other activities that occur during the year such as Premiers Reading & Be Active challenges, attendance & uniform. An annual trophy will be awarded at the end of year presentations. Attached to the newsletter is a complete list for each house.

Design a Logo

A competition is being held to design a logo for the new houses. It must be original hand drawn or computer generated artwork on A4 paper and clearly include the artists name. The competition is open to all members of the school community, entries must be received at the Front Office by 4.00pm Friday 22nd. A panel will then shortlist the entries to be voted on by the individual houses. Winning entries will be published in the Newsletter and on the school website.

House Captains

Senior students are currently in the process of applying for the position on House Captains. Further information will go home in the coming week.

Lunchtime Swimming

There will be supervised lunchtime swimming training from Monday 4th February for students in Year 3 and older who can independently swim the length of the pool. Students not lap swimming will be asked to leave.

Week 2	Monday 4 th Feb	Tuesday 5 th Feb	Wednesday 6 th Feb	Thursday 7 th Feb	Friday 8 th Feb
	Kungari	No:ri	Kungari	No:ri	Kungari
Week 3	Monday 11 th Feb	Tuesday 12 th Feb	Wednesday 13 th Feb	Thursday 14 th Feb	Friday 15 th Feb
	No:ri	Kungari	No:ri	MAS Swimming CArival	Interschool competitors only

Afterschool Swimming:

Melanie Treloar will be supervising afterschool swimming training from 3.30pm – 4.00pm on Monday 4th, Tuesday 5th, Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th February for students in Year 3 and older who can independently swim the length of the pool. Students must follow all of Melanie's directions or they will not be able to participate in the training session.

Katrina Hood
Events Manager 2013

An Invitation

All students and families are invited to an
informal Parent/Teacher
Acquaintance Evening

When: Thursday 7th February 2013

Where: Junior School Shelter

Time: 5.30 – 8.00 pm (approx.)

What: BBQ Tea

- All meat sausages & patties),
salad & bread provided.
- Water, cordial and iceblocks
for the children/students also
provided.
- BYO drinks

Why: To meet informally with your
child/ren's teacher / new
teachers and mix with other
families.

We look forward to seeing you at our
first event for the MAS school year.

*Please advise the front office by Tuesday
morning 5th February if you are
attending.*

SCHOOL ZONES

With the return of school on Tuesday 29th January Police would like to remind motorists to take extra care in and around school zones. There will be extra traffic around schools, along with large numbers of students walking to and from school.

Police remind motorists that speed restrictions apply around schools, with a 25 kilometre per hour speed limit along many roads. We would also take this opportunity to remind drivers to comply with parking restrictions around schools as penalties will apply.

Patina Pearson

Senior Constable
Crime Prevention Section
Murray Mallee LSA (200)
South Australia Police

SA DENTAL SERVICE

The School Dental Service is available to children aged from birth up until 18 years of age at public dental clinics throughout South Australia. Dental care is provided by teams of dentists, dental therapists and dental assistants.

For all toddlers and preschoolers dental care is free.

Fees apply for primary school or high school aged students unless your child is the dependant of, or holder of, a current Centrelink Concession Card, Department of Veterans Affairs Pensioner Concession Card, School Card or Medicare Teen Voucher.

It is very important that children develop good dental habits early in life. Dental staff will talk to you about your child's individual dental needs.

Contact details for the Murray Bridge South Dental Clinic are:

Phone – 85323051

Address – Joyce Street, Murray Bridge

Open – 8.30am – 4.30pm Mon-Fri

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photo Day is Tuesday 12th February.

Information sheets were sent home with students yesterday.

PLEASE MAKE SURE STUDENTS ARE WEARING SCHOOL UNIFORM, ESPECIALLY JUMPERS AND T-SHIRTS.

Envelopes will be sent home with each student when they arrive at the school.

SCHOLASTIC ORDERS



Scholastic brochures e.g. Lucky Book Club, will be sent home with students next week.

Orders, with payment, can be made at the book room until Friday 15th February 2013.

MILO in2CRICKET PROGRAM

MILO in2CRICKET is a fun introduction to the game of cricket for boys and girls in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. It provides children with an enjoyable and safe environment where they can learn skills and play games.



Your nearest Centre will be run at Meningie Cricket Club, Meningie Town Oval (Narrung Rd, Meningie) starting Saturday 2nd February from 9-10am.

The cost of the Program is \$65 per participant. Every registered child receives an in2CRICKET Pack including bat, ball, t-shirt, bucket hat, backpack and some other goodies

To find out more details about your nearest Centre and to register for this season log on to www.in2cricket.com.au and type in your post code.

As a back to school bonus the staff at Meningie Branch will increase the new account gift voucher from \$1 to \$10 per new incentive saver account opened before 31st March 2013.

School banking day is Thursday. So don't forget to send your child's bank book to school and set up a regular savings plan.

Tracy Hill - Branch Manager

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Learning to save for the future or that something special is a valuable lesson for all children. It serves your child well as they grow up, and of course it forms a part of their life education. At BankSA we recognise the importance of regular saving and how your child benefits by watching their savings grow. We also aim to make saving fun with our LittleSavers Club.

The BankSA Incentive Saver Account and LittleSavers Club offers:

- A gift voucher for the first \$1 to deposit into every new Incentive Saver Account.
- A FREE LittleSavers bag, complete with a school banking wallet, money box, fridge magnet and calculator
- Access to the BankSA LittleSavers website - including games, competitions, newsletters and information to learn all about money and making saving fun
- Monthly bonus rate incentive* for savers
- Weekly school bank collection from participating schools
- No monthly account service fees
- Unlimited deposits and one free everyday banking withdrawal per month. Other fees and charges may be payable.
- Application Packs are available from your local school.



Literacy in the Early Years

The R-3 teachers at Meningie Area School would like to invite you to attend a brief literacy information session on:

Thursday, 7th February at 5pm

(Just before the Parent/Teacher BBQ)

The information will include an overview of:

Oral Language: Speaking with your child

Reading with your child, and

An introduction to Jolly Phonics

We look forward to seeing you there!

Carly Wilamowski

Reception teacher

Judy Woolston

1-2 Class Teacher

Wendy Starling

Junior School Reading

Support Teacher

EMAILING OF NEWSLETTERS

In the coming weeks we will be trialling the emailing of our school newsletters to those parents who have provided us with an email address on the contact information form which was filled out recently.

If we do not have your email address but you wish for the newsletters to be emailed to you, please provide your address by Monday 11th February.

BOOK ROOM SALES

Uniforms are available from the bookroom from 8.30 to 9.00 am daily. Fees/camps, etc. can also be paid at this time and books, pencils, etc. purchased.

FOR SALE

1 X Size 10 Girls Uniform dress.

As new \$25.00

For enquiries please contact Loretta 0499215990.