



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education
and Child Development

MENINGIE AREA SCHOOL

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



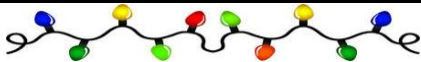
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NEWSLETTER 21

www.meningieas.sa.edu.au

11th December 2014

TERM 4

Week 9	
12 th December	<p>Last day of the 2014 school year</p> <p>Whole School Assembly 12.15 pm</p> <p>Students dismissed 2.20 pm</p> <p>Buses depart 2.30 pm</p>

2015 TERM DATES

Term 1: Tuesday 27 January
to Friday 10 April

Term 2: Monday 27 April to
Friday 3 July

Term 3: Monday 20 July to
Friday 25 September

Term 4: Monday 12 October to Friday 11
December

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



2014 has been a great year in the life of Meningie Area School. It has been a busy year once again, reflecting the world we live in today. As I look back over the 2014 school calendar, I am amazed at the events that have taken place and the opportunities that students have been able to engage in through both classroom curriculum and extra curricula opportunities.

For the past few years the focus of my Principal Report at Presentation Night has been in relation to the Site

Improvement and our areas of priority, such as improved student attendance, student learning achievement in Literacy and Numeracy and the intervention program of support across the school.

My theme on Tuesday evening was that of engagement and the relationship of our mindset in learning success. It is about and how our thinking about learning can shape our learning outcomes from a very early age.

This year as teachers our work in Professional Development has centred on this topic. How to engage students in their own learning, getting them to take more responsibility for their own learning, setting goals and looking at strategies to reach them.

Improved Teaching and learning is one of the priorities of DECD in relation to better outcomes for students. It is the *How* of our work. How to engage students is central to our work. It is such an important issue that work in the area of student engagement will continue to be a priority in the Coorong Mallee Partnership to which our school belongs and will focus on Mindsets.

At the heart of success for all of us is our Mindset. This does not just apply to school or academic success, this applies to almost everything we do and learn in life. It is about how we think about it.

At Presentation Night we presented parents and caregivers with two diagrams. These may also be found at the end of this newsletter. The first diagram on the left is about Fixed Mindset and the belief that Intelligence is static. As you can see this type of thinking leads to a desire to look smart and therefore have a tendency to avoid challenges, give up easily when there are obstacles in the way, see effort as fruitless, being unable to take useful criticism, and feels threatened by the success of

others. As a result students with this Fixed Mindset may be the type of learner who plateaus early and achieves less than their full potential.

On the other side the diagram relates to a Growth Mindset. This thinking is that intelligence can be developed. Students with this thinking have a desire to learn and therefore show a tendency to embrace challenge, persist when faced with obstacles and setbacks, see effort as mastery and worthwhile, learn from criticism, and are able to find inspiration in the success of others. As a result they reach higher levels of achievement. Even Einstein wasn't Einstein before he put in the effort!

For a moment reflect on your own experiences in life as a learner. What did you believe about yourself as a learner and what impact did that have on your grades in school? As I reflect on my own learning and success as a student I know that there were subjects in which I had a growth Mindset and subjects in which it was fixed. For me this was especially so of Maths. Now I am not exactly sure when I picked up on this, but I suspect sometime in my primary years, however I got the message rather quickly that I did not have the intelligence for Maths.

Firstly, the message was Math was hard and it was only for the really smart kids. Now I am not blaming my parents here, but I vaguely remember Math homework, and Mum would say things like why don't you ask your father, where as she would gladly help out with English and reading. Message – Mum is not good at this this. Dad is. I'm not expected to be. I mustn't be that smart. This message was as I reflect reinforced at school, in that boys are good at Maths. The other side of this, girls are good at reading and spelling. These were well known stereotypes and sadly still resonate today. Well for me before long my thinking focused so much on not being able to do the math work that I couldn't, and in a very short space of time the challenges were too hard, the obstacles too great the effort too much and so the story goes. I never realised my potential, just like so many others I am sure. Does it sound familiar? Maybe it wasn't Maths for you but some other subject or area study. The point is I had a fixed mindset.

You know the frightening thing is we have young children, reception children coming in to school these days with fixed mindsets and have already made up their minds about their intelligence and can quickly disengage in things that require challenge, effort and persistence. How do we know? Well, because it is what they say. The language that they use about their beliefs about themselves as learners

Where does this come from? Research work carried out by Carol Dweck of Stamford University and the likes have spent a lot of time on Mindset, and the impact on learning and success. Such messages can come from all around us, and even innocent remarks by well-meaning parents, grandparents, friends, and teachers; almost anyone can impact on how we think about ourselves and our learning.

Since reading Dweck's book, '*Mindset: the New Psychology of Success*', I have come to realise the importance of what I say to children and young people. It is really not easy though, and I have to constantly be focusing in on this.

I use a sporting example to make my point about what we say to children and the influence it can have on developing a fixed mindset.

How often do you hear people talk about natural talent? I can think of so many areas where this applies, sport, music and art to name just a few. Think about this scenario for a few minutes. Let's take football or netball. I have heard it said of so many children that he / she is a real natural, just look at the way he / she handles the ball. Great ball skills!!! How often is that child praised, admired because of talent. How long before the child believes the praise? Natural talent. The message to the child - I am already great. I don't have to practice. And if I do and I don't perform as well as people expect then I am not great anymore. Better not to try, not to give it a go, not to put in effort. There can be a whole range of reasons why a child may shine at this point. Maybe he/ she developed before his/ her peers and does have better skills at this stage, whatever this is dangerous talk. A fixed mind set can readily set in.

I must preserve my talent, my ability thinks the child, so only engages when he/ she feels they have nothing to lose. Plateau early. Does it sound familiar?

What Carol Dweck says is that people differ in natural abilities, but she stresses that it is the continuous effort that makes the ability blossom. Children who have learnt to develop a growth mindset know that effort is the key to creating knowledge and skills.

CONGRATULATIONS TRAE RIGNEY

Congratulations must go to one of our Year 11 school captains who recently won a Sporting and Leadership Boarding Scholarship to the Indigenous Academy at Rostrevor College, Adelaide in 2015. Rostrevor College is based in Woodforde and has a school population of 1100 students. The Indigenous Academy was initially set up in 2008 and its overall objective is to encourage Indigenous students to engage in their education, sport, and leadership development opportunities, equipping students with skills to enable them to become future leaders in their communities.

This scholarship is both a fantastic achievement and an amazing opportunity for Trae and we wish him all the best for the future.

MATERIALS & SERVICES FEES

These can be paid at the school on:

Wednesday 21st January 2015 from 9am-2pm

Friday 23rd January 2015 from 9am – 2pm

School uniforms may also be purchased at the same times

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SCHOOL IS NOT OPEN ON
22ND JANUARY DUE TO WHOLE STAFF TRAINING &
DEVELOPMENT**

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Meningie Area School Presentation Night was held in the school hall on Tuesday 9th December at 7.00pm.

It was fantastic to see so many parents, caregivers and friends help celebrate the achievements of our students;

- ❖ Year 5 Graduation
- ❖ Year 9 Graduation
- ❖ Year 12 Graduation
- ❖ Subject & Special Award Presentations
- ❖ Music & Band Performances
- ❖ Governing Council and Principal's Reports

Thank you to all staff, who without their commitment the achievements at Presentation Night on Tuesday 10th December would not happen. Evenings such as Presentation Night are only made possible with the generosity of our sponsors and of our guest performer who gave up his time to share his musical experiences with both students and guests.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

MS Arts - Holly Vandenbrink

SS Visual Arts – Alysha Eckert

Music – Woodwind – Shania Weetra

Music – Brass – Taylor Long

MS English – Holly Vandenbrink

SS English – Lauren Bagshaw

MS HPE – Harry Tiver

SS HPE – Brenda Baldock

MS Mathematics - Kobie Hood

SS Mathematics – Jessie Bland

MS Science – Holly Vandenbrink

SS Science – Tessa Bagshaw

SS Agriculture – Jessie Bland

Ag Practice – Dale Appelkamp

MS SOSE – Aleisha Williams

SS SOSE - Alysha Eckert

PLP Award – Brenda Baldock

MS Technology Studies – Daniel Bland & Kobie Hood

SS Technology Studies – Alysha Eckert

MS Technology Studies – Alysha Eckert

MS/SS Home Economics – Renae Camac

MS/SS Photography – Jemma Williams

SS ICT – Caitlin Koolmatrerie

MS Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnin – Meshayla Shaw

SS Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnin – Trae Rigney

SS VIP – Shania Weetra

Creative Writing – Alysha Eckert & Lauren Bagshaw

OAC Group 1 Arts & Humanities – Lauren Bagshaw

OAC Group 2 Maths & Science – Zac Vandenbrink

Research Project – Lauren Bagshaw & Alysha Eckert

VET 1 (female) – Jessie Bland

VET 2 (male) – David Bristow

Traineeship Award – Dale Appelkamp

Reconciliation Awards – Brenda Baldock & Alex McPherson

Middle School Achievement Award – Kobie Hood

Year 5 Graduation Award– Georgia Brooks & Henry Turner
Year 9 Graduation Award – Holly Vandenbrink
Long Tan Award – Brenda Baldock & Lauren Bagshaw
Sports Award – Zac Vandenbrink
Caltex Best All-rounder – Lauren Bagshaw
Encouragement Award – Brenda Baldock
Community & School Involvement Award – Dale Appelkamp
Governing Council Achievement Award – Dale Appelkamp
Principal's Award – Alysha Eckert

Well done to these students and a big thank you to our many sponsors, whose continued support ensures events such as Presentation Night are made possible.

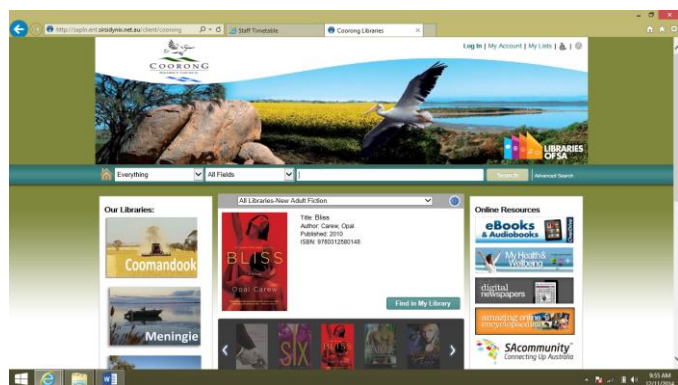


Children visiting and borrowing from the library during the holidays why not get a head start on the Premiers Reading Challenge for 2015. Visit the library in the holidays and **pick a lucky dip, have a lolly from the lolly jar** and for each book loaned enter the raffle for **two tickets to see these two great movies.**



**LIBRARY OPEN FOR
 ****EVERYONE******

**9 – 5 Weekdays
 10 – 1 Saturday**



Try the LIBRARY CATALOGUE FROM HOME
www.libraries.sa.gov.au/coorong

SCHOOL HOLIDAY HOURS
 ARE THE SAME AS USUAL EXCEPT WE ARE
 CLOSED MONDAY and lunchtimes

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE
Sunday 21 December 2014
up to and including
Monday 12 January 2015

LOCAL HISTORY FUNDRAISER

Copies of 'A Diverse Land' History of the Lower Murray Lakes and Coorong by Rob Linn are available from the Library for **only \$15** with all money going toward the Local History Collection in the Library. **A Great Gift Idea!**

Bernie Ryan
Librarian

VACSWIM 5 – 10 JANUARY 2015 MENINGIE AREA SCHOOL POOL

You can enrol online now at

www.vacswimsa.com.au

until 21st December 2014.

Royal Lifesaving will be running "Courage" and "Wonder" classes for children 6 months to 5 years of age. Enrolments also need to be made online for participation in this.

Contact Mel Treloar for more information.



SCHOOL WATCH – CHRISTMAS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Christmas School holidays start in South Australia on Friday 12th December 2014 and students return to school on Tuesday 27th January 2015. With the impending Christmas School Holidays Police are asking everyone in the community to keep an eye on local schools. Staff, students, parents and members of the community can assist police to keep schools safe and free from damage by reporting any suspicious activity to police on 131 444.



Government of South Australia
Central Northern Adelaide
Health Service

S. A. DENTAL SERVICE – MURRAY BRIDGE

Dental Clinic open / closed times during the holiday period

"The School Dental Clinic at Murray Bridge, 45 Beatty Terrace, will be closed from 19/12/14 to 4/1/15 inclusive.

Patients of the School Dental Service who require emergency care during the period that the clinic is closed should call:

19th Dec - 22nd Dec Mt Barker School Dental Clinic Ph: 8391 0858

23rd Dec – 28th Dec Marion GP Plus

Ph: 7425 8400

29th Dec – 4th Jan Victor Harbor Dental Clinic Ph: 8551 0460

STUDENT EXCHANGE TO BAVARIA, GERMANY

In late November this year around 40 students from various other schools and myself, said goodbye to our families and travelled by plane to Dubai airport. From there the group was split in half and 21 students including myself flew to Munich airport to meet the

families we would be living with until late January while the other group flew to Hamburg. Once I passed through customs I met my host family the Mareis': my host parents, Stephanie and Anton, my little brothers Konstantin and Benedikt and of course I was reunited with my exchange partner Anna.

My host family lives in a small village of 10,000 people called Vilsbiburg. My host father owns a chain of bakeries that are all over Vilsbiburg and Landshut. The bakery is usually where Anna and I get our lunch for school. I go to school in the city of Landshut and have to catch a train there every day. I go to a private catholic school called Seligenthal which has about 900 students and is co-ed.

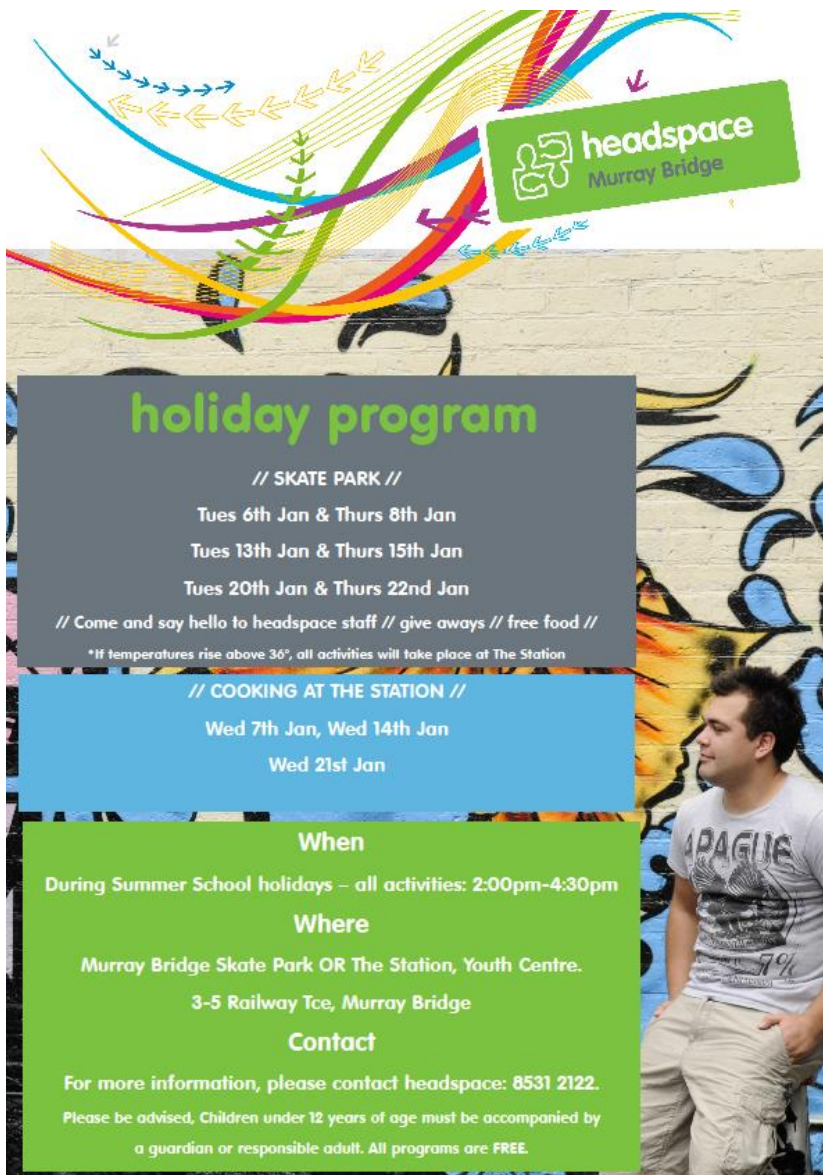
I have seen many historical parts of Bavaria particularly in Landshut I have seen the town hall, the castle of Landshut and St Martins Cathedral which is the largest church in the world made of brick. I am also going to Munich, the Christmas markets of Landshut and Nuremberg and the other exchange students and I are going on a trip to the capital city of Germany, Berlin.

I definitely recommend this exchange program because you get an exchange partner who will look out for you in those new environments such as school and sport. Learning a new language is challenging at times however the people are really nice and are happy to help me. German culture is completely different from Australian and it never ceases to fascinate me. This exchange has been wonderful so far and I'm looking forward to the different experiences coming up like snow, mainly snow, especially snow...just snow.

Tessa Bagshaw



The view from the castle of Landshut, St Martins Cathedral



headspace
Murray Bridge

holiday program

// SKATE PARK //

Tues 6th Jan & Thurs 8th Jan
Tues 13th Jan & Thurs 15th Jan
Tues 20th Jan & Thurs 22nd Jan

// Come and say hello to headspace staff // give aways // free food //

*If temperatures rise above 36°, all activities will take place at The Station

// COOKING AT THE STATION //

Wed 7th Jan, Wed 14th Jan
Wed 21st Jan

When
During Summer School holidays – all activities: 2:00pm-4:30pm

Where
Murray Bridge Skate Park OR The Station, Youth Centre.
3-5 Railway Tce, Murray Bridge

Contact
For more information, please contact headspace: 8531 2122.
Please be advised, Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a guardian or responsible adult. All programs are FREE.



**We wish all families
safe and happy
holidays**

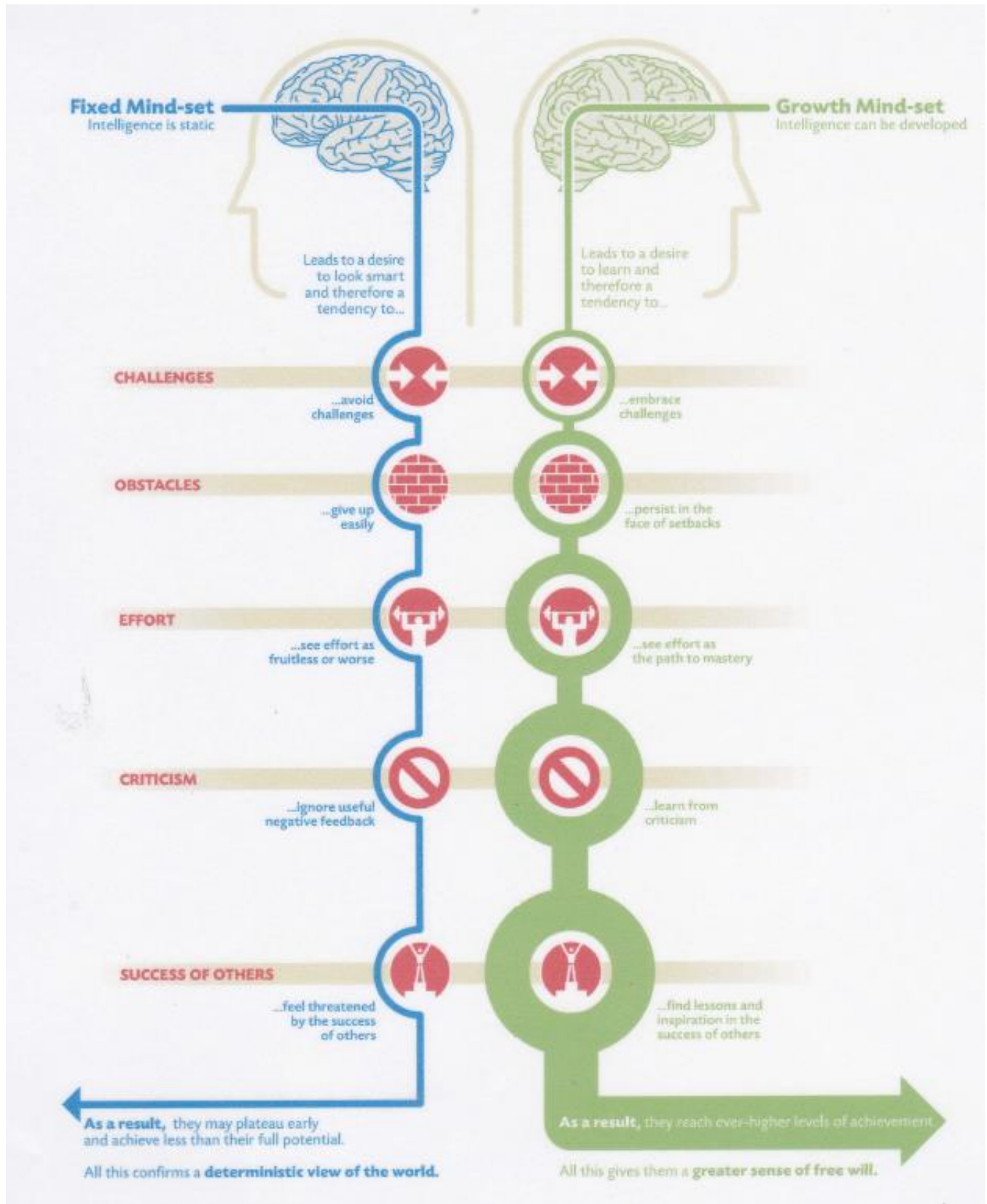
END OF YEAR 5 QUOTES

As our novel study we have studied the book, *'The City of Ember'* written by Jeanne Duprau. Two quotes we have learnt from the book are:

"The main thing is to pay attention. Pay close attention to everything, notice what no one else notices."

"What you get is what you get. What you do with what you get though ... that's more the point, wouldn't you say?"





WK	DATE	DAY	MEETINGS	PLANNED EVENTS
1	26 Jan	Mon		AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
	27	Tues	General Staff 3.35 pm	
	28	Wed		Parent/Staff BBQ evening 5.30 to 7.00 pm
	29	Thurs		
	30	Fri		Newsletter
2	2 Feb	Mon		
	3	Tues	Staff T&D 3.35-5 pm	
	4	Wed		
	5	Thurs		Senior First Aid (All Year 10's) online component
	6	Fri		Senior First Aid (All Year 10's & 6 staff) 8.30am-4.30pm
3	9	Mon		
	10	Tues	General Staff 3.35 pm	
	11	Wed		MAS Swimming Carnival at Coonalpyn
	12	Thurs		
	13	Fri		Newsletter
4	16	Mon		
	17	Tues	Sub Schools/PLC's 3.35 pm	
	18	Wed		
	19	Thurs		USE Interschool Swimming Carnival at Coonalpyn
	20	Fri		
5	23	Mon		SCHOOL PHOTOS
	24	Tues	General Staff 3.35 pm	
	25	Wed		
	26	Thurs		
	27	Fri		Newsletter
6	2 Mar	Mon		SSSSA Swimming
	3	Tues	Staff T&D 3.35-5 pm	
	4	Wed	Library Board Meeting 4pm	
	5	Thurs		
	6	Fri		
7	9	Mon		ADELAIDE CUP - PUBLIC HOLIDAY
	10	Tues	General Staff 3.35 pm	
	11	Wed		MAS Athletics Day
	12	Thurs		
	13	Fri		Regional Team Sailing at Meningie Newsletter
	14	Sat		Regional Team Sailing at Meningie
8	16	Mon	ONLINE TESTING WEEK	GOVERNING COUNCIL AGM 7.30 pm
	17	Tues	Sub Schools/PLC's 3.35 pm	
	18	Wed		
	19	Thurs		
	20	Fri		HARMONY DAY (21 st)
9	23	Mon		
	24	Tues		
	25	Wed		USE Athletics Carnival at Tintinara
	26	Thurs		
	27	Fri		SAPSASA Country Swimming Championships in Adelaide Newsletter
10	1 Apr	Mon		
	2	Tues	General Staff 3.35 pm	
	3	Wed		SSSSA Athletics at SANTOS Stadium
	4	Thurs		
	5	Fri		
11	6	Mon		
	7	Tues	Sub Schools/PLC's 3.35 pm	
	8	Wed		
	9	Thurs		Newsletter
	10	Fri		Last day of Term 1 School finishes 2.20 pm Buses depart 2.30 pm
Hols	15-18			State Team Sailing Championships

REPORT
WRITING
-MEETING
FREE