Hello families and friends

We have been so busy here with students being engaged in some fantastic opportunities across the school. Several classes have just returned from, or are just about to leave on camps. Students get to be involved in activities and experiences that are not generally available. Teachers learn to cope with sleep deprivation.

Pupil Free Day – The pupil free day on Friday was a great opportunity for Junior and Middle school staff to attend training in moderating writing. Most local schools in the partnership were there giving us a chance to ensure that teacher expectations are aligned especially in regard to grading literacy. We don’t often get the chance to compare outside of our own school so we took full advantage of this.

NAPLAN - Student result booklets have just arrived and while I haven’t had time to look closely at the results there are very positive upward trends across all year levels. We have made significant gains in several areas - particularly punctuation and grammar. NAPLAN results are just one way that schools can reflect on student learning and improvement across 3 years.

IT forward planning - Leadership held a meeting with the DECD IT support group to look at options for future directions. We have decided to run the ‘Windows’ platform across the curriculum areas of schooling and Mac’s in the specialist STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) areas. This will be phased in as we replace older laptops. We are looking into increasing our bandwidth while this will be expensive it will allow us to engage with the new technologies such as holograms and robotics which are aspects of STEM. SACE and NAPLAN are both moving towards online testing environments so it is increasingly important that we have the capacity to support this.

Staffing - The new technology teacher has been appointed, Michael Palmer (Mick) from Mark Oliphant School. He has many skills in the ‘STEM’ area and we are excited that he has chosen to work with us.

LLI – reading intervention - The lessons with students have begun and while it is early days we are very hopeful that we will see improvements in identified students literacy. Staff went to Fraser Park school who have had the program running now for several months. They are very excited about the results they are achieving with many students’ attitude towards school much improved as they can see they are getting better. One concern is the older students who have been identified but don’t want to participate. We are relying on parents seeing the importance of reading and supporting us. Reading is the key to accessing all other areas of the curriculum. Students will struggle if they cannot read and comprehend a text and it may also impact on their accessing VET courses. This is one of those times when we have to be strong and do what is best for our children in the long term.

Facilities - Julie Hunt and I attended a workshop on FAMIS – which is the facilities management system. Julie is well up on all aspects so there are no surprises. The first stage of the Senior School grounds revamp is going through the final planning stages. The School Captains are excited and contributed their ideas. They want lots of wood and a grey and black colour scheme - very sophisticated. Temporary fencing will be going up in the near future.

Just an update on the Certificate 2 Commercial Cookery and Kitchen Operations course - I was given a very nice raspberry and white chocolate muffin. Last week I had biscuits from the Certificate 2 Café Sales & Barista training students – can’t wait to eat what they make this week.

Warmest regards
Michele Holloway

JUNIOR SCHOOL: Wow, what a busy start to the term we have had in Junior School. I was so impressed with the way students have settled straight back into the school routine and their learning immediately. Many of the classes have a special focus on the Olympics this term. Teachers are giving students a voice and listening to their requests about what they want to learn about the Olympics. Teachers are then integrating maths, literacy, geography, The Arts and history into their everyday learning about the Olympics. The Australian Curriculum outcomes - skills and knowledge - will be met and they form the foundation of their learning.

Just a reminder that Book Week is Week 5. The Parade will be held in the Complex from 11.15am on the 25th August. The theme is “Australia”, but students can come dressed in any book character they wish. All families are welcome to attend!

Thank you to everyone who listens to their child read every night. It is crucial that students read and learn their sight words every night to maintain the skills required to be confident at reading. If you have good quality, outgrown uniforms at home, you might like to donate them to the school so we can loan them to students who haven’t had time to look closely at the results there are very positive

I love to see students engaged in play and having fun. The Junior School yard may look like chaos but the students are having a great time! What a great way to have fun with friends and to be safe.

SUB-SCHOOL NEWS

Term 4

Week 9: Wednesday 14/12/16 - Presentation Morning
9:30am at the Complex

SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 3

Week 4:

Week 5: BOOK WEEK - Thursday 25/8/16 Book Week
Parade at 11:20am, Friday 26/8/16 Book Fair Book Sales. (See back page for class times).

Week 6: Thursday 01/09/16 School Photos
It is great to see our students enjoying the different activities offered during lunch and recess play. We have the Create-a-playground back again this term on loan from the Mid Murray Council, scooters, pedal riders, balance walker, hopping balls, totem tennis and pogo sticks, target mat and shape mat for the children to use bean bags to throw at targets. Children are having a blast using these activities. I am super impressed with the way students are sharing, playing cooperatively and helping each other master the skills needed to use some of the equipment.

Michelle Grieger
Junior School Leader

MIDDLE SCHOOL:
It is only the fourth week and we have already been so busy. The Year 6/7 classes have been creating Ancient Greek learning groups that are competing for points, like they did in the Olympics. I know Year 7 Science observed the river ecosystem at Mary Ann Reserve and had a great time getting out of the classroom. The Year 9s have come back from camp and said it was a great experience and I know Ms Groves is planning next years camp already. The Year 8s have been learning about energy in Science, angles in Maths and how to write a good creative story (about half man, half fish) in English. We were also lucky to have some Japanese students come to the school and spend some time working with the Middle School students. It was a great for our students to experience another culture within our school community.

Well done to all the Middle School students who participated in Pedal Prix the other weekend, you represented the school very well. Congratulations to those students who participated in SAPSASA athletics at Unity College. I wish the students who are representing the Murraylands at SAPSASA football and netball all the best for this week.

On the Student Free Day, Friday 12th August the Senior School teachers worked on strategies to assist our Year 12 students be more successful in completing their SACE; individual student information; planning Pastoral Care lessons which will include Study Skills; early start to Year 12 in 2016 and looking at possible 2017 subjects.

Food Processing Course’s being held on Wednesday and Thursdays are being very productive and engaging. There has been some yummy food coming out of the Home Ec Suite.

Charly Elliker
Senior School Leader

JOY'S NEWS

On Thursday 11th August we were treated to a multi-cultural day. From 10am our Japanese teacher Ms Dohnt invited seven Japanese exchange students from Osaka being hosted at Swan Reach to visit our school and participate in fun activities with Year 6, 7, and 8 students. They made origami cranes and played Japanese tongue twisters, hand clapping games and chopstick races (“Rob the nest” using chopsticks games) and joined students at recess and lunch.

After lunch the Interchurch Council had organised the Watoto Children’s Choir ( orphaned children from Uganda Africa — some as young as 6) to perform their concert. The Japanese students joined us as well as seven students from Mannum Kindy, Palmer, Cambrai and Keyneton schools and Aged Care residents and staff from the Mannum Hospital. The Leisure Centre was packed! The choir were amazing, full of energy and had us all up dancing with them and many of us returned for the full concert that evening. What a great day.

Alyssa Quinn
Middle School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL:
Thank you to everyone who supported our Year 10 students during their Work Experience in Week 2. We have had some really good reports back from businesses and students. Thank you Ms Odera for organising the students.

Year 9 and 10 students have the opportunity to attend the VET Taster Day at Murray Bridge on Tuesday 16th August 2016. This is a great way for students to learn more about what courses are available and to set goals to gain entrance into them. In Term 4, packs will be sent out to interested students to apply for courses.
WHAT’S ON AT THE HUB

Kids Club activities for your child/children (5 to 9 year olds) on Mondays from 3:00 - 5:00pm in Term 2 & 3. Bookings are essential. Ask at the HUB for a program

The BUB CLUB for children aged 2 - 4 years old on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 - 10:45.

GUITAR LESSONS Starting on 28th July, Term 3. For ages 8 +. Contact The Hub for more details and to register.

Contact details:
website: www.mmss.com.au
Address: 58 Walker Ave Mannum 5238.
Phone: 85691832 for any enquiries

Watch the school Front Office window for posters of upcoming events.

SCHOOL PHOTO REMINDER

School Photos will be taken at our school on 1/9/16
We are proud that the country’s leading school photographer, MSP Photography will be taking our school photos.

Parents can send the money to the school in the envelope supplied however On-Line Ordering, where parents are able to select their preferred package online makes it much easier for our parent community.

In 2016 the range of options available to you online has increased. As well as the option to download a Low Resolution image for a smart-phone, parents will have the option to purchase a High Resolution Digital Download of their child’s image and Family/Sibling packages will also be able to be ordered online!

An added incentive for our families is that MSP now offers a 10% discount for all family orders above $90.00.

Parents who order family photos online are encouraged to confirm with the school that they wish to have their family members photographed.

BEDTIME FOR CHILDREN

1. Establish a regular sleep pattern
Regular hours of sleep are important. It will help your child understand when it is time to sleep. Also, your child will have better sleep. Bed time should not vary by more than an hour between school and non-school nights. The same goes for the time your child wakes up.

2. A consistent bedtime routine
It is good to have the same routine before bed each night. This will help prepare for sleep. Quiet activities are good e.g. reading a book or being read to or having a bath or shower. In the half hour before bed, there are some things you don’t want your child to do. These are more active games, playing outside, TV, internet or mobile phone social networking and computer games.

3. Make sure the bedroom is comfortable
The bedroom should be quiet, comfortable and dark. Some children like a night light. This is fine. Make sure your child sees the bedroom as a good place to be. You can help do this by not using it as a place of punishment.

4. Bed is for sleeping, not entertainment
TV, computers, mobile phones and other things that distract your child are not good for their sleep. Keep them out of the bedroom. “Needing” the TV to go to sleep is a bad habit. This can easily develop, but you don’t want it to happen. It’s also better if you can check on what your child is watching.

Fruit Smoothie Recipe

1 cup reduced fat milk
¼ cup low fat vanilla yoghurt
1 cup drained canned peaches in natural juice
1 ripe banana
2 teaspoons honey
Pinch cinnamon

Blend ingredients until smooth, pour and your kids will enjoy!

Recipe sourced from Nutrition Australia website – www.nutritionaustralia.org

SCORE A ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW TICKET AND FEEL LIKE ROYALTY!

KIDS
Open a new LittleSaver Incentive Saver Account by 19/8/16 for a child aged 3 and under, and get the royal treatment, with a Royal Adelaide Show child’s ticket. New Incentive Saver customers only. Plus, $10 in their new account.

STUDEENTS
Open a new Complete Freedom Student Account by 19/8/16, and get the royal treatment, with a Royal Adelaide Show concession ticket. New Complete Freedom Student customers only. Plus, $20 in your new account.

For more information visit banksa.com.au/showtickets
LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY BORROWING - Term 3

MONDAY: 6/7 Love
TUESDAY: 4/5 Barnes 1/2 O’Hara R/1 Paech/Clark
2/3 Zrim
WEDNESDAY: R/1 Laredo 1/2 Bennett 2/3 Waters
THURSDAY: Yr10 Falkland 4/5 Deravin
FRIDAY: 4/5 Rowley Yr8 Groves Yr9 Groves
6/7 Lombardi

Rec - Yr 5: 3 books
Year 6 -10: 5 books
Year 11 - 12: 10 books
Students in Rec-Year 2 must use a library bag

Jo Dunn Teacher Librarian

BOOK FAIR BUYING TIMES
Friday, August 26th

9.00 LAREDO R/1
9.15 PAECH R/1
9.30 BENNETT 1/2
9.50 O’HARA 1/2
10.10 WATERS 2/3
10.30 ZRIM 2/3

RECESS
11.10 BARNES 4/5
11.30 DERAVIN 4/5
11.50 ROWLEY 4/5
12.10 YEAR 8/9
12.30 LOVE/LOMBARDI

For younger students we would appreciate it if the money was sent in a sealed envelope with the student’s name and the titles of the book/s written on the front.

Books not available on the day will be reordered.

VOLUNTEER ROSTER

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We are planning our next “RED DAY” for Tuesday 13/9/16. FOOTY COLOURS donut day. Watch out for notes coming home soon.

I am starting to work on our ‘Change over to Summer’ menu for Term 4 and Term 1 2017. If you have any ideas/suggestions I would like to hear from you.

Thanks

Carol Mobbs, Canteen Manageress (85692971)

SA SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL
- MT PLEASANT -

Many quality plant stalls & all things garden related such as garden furniture & decor, ornaments & sculptures! Guest Speakers!

WHEN: SAT. SEPT. 17, 2016
WHERE: MT PLEASANT SHOWGROUNDS
TIME: 9AM – 4PM

Keep your kids smiling

At the School Dental Service, dental care is FREE for all babies, children not yet at school and most children to age 17.

The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Call us now for an appointment!
Your local clinic is: Murray Bridge
School Dental Clinic Phone: 8531 9300

We are part of the RAAH Trust

gold coin donation entry fee - stallholder enquiries welcome - 0418 301 121