Hello families and friends

As you are probably aware I have stepped into the role of Principal this term. For those who are unfamiliar with me, my name is Michele Holloway and I have been the Junior School leader for 2 and a half years now. I am dedicated to Mannum School and the Community – having had family here for three generations. My father attended the former High School and I’m sure he would have spent time in my office if the stories he tells are correct. The position of Junior School leader has been advertised and we hope to have a result early Week 4. The leadership team have always worked very closely and we support all areas of the school regardless of our roles.

THE STORM

The entire school and community is to be congratulated on their response to the storm. Wow – Mannum can really turn it on! Our immediate concern was to ensure that all students and staff were safe. Teachers kept students calm and learning continued despite branches flying, gutters swinging and dust blowing everywhere. We notified parents that it was not safe for children to walk home and that the buses would not be running. Parent’s response was tremendous and the last children were collected at 3.50. Donna in the front office is to be commended on her organisation and particularly the info on Facebook. Liz sent out the text messages and I know these were appreciated. Chris the groundsman put in a herculean effort returning the school to its normal pristine state. Much thanks also to the council who had trucks on Walker Avenue first thing in the morning cleaning up tree damage. Well done all.

NAPLAN

Congratulations to everyone involved in the NAPLAN. Teachers reported that the students’ approach to the test was much more positive than in previous years. Students reported that they felt quite comfortable and confident with the questions and we hope that this equates to some good results. The data collected from the test gives us a good snapshot of how the programs we implement have impacted on the focus areas of Literacy and Maths. The reports we receive help us to make decisions about future directions.

STUDENT FREE DAY

We have a student free day on Friday 10th of June (Week 6). This day is part of our cycle of school improvement. Many staff will be travelling to Murray Bridge to look at the new ‘Technology’ curriculum and how to implement this in their classrooms. Some staff will be joining with Murray Bridge High to look further into ‘Growth Mind Set’. Several of the Senior School staff will work here at school with Charly developing their understandings of SACE.

CONTACTS

I know that this was in the last newsletter but it is still a real issue. During the week I needed to contact a parent on a serious matter and none of the five numbers we had were current. Being able to contact a parent or at least an emergency contact is very important. This was highlighted in the recent storm when we needed to contact the entire parent group. Please update your records as a matter of urgency.

SAFETY AND BUSES

The roadway used by buses is not a drop off zone for students. We looked into this as a possible option last year and were advised that there were multiple safety issues. This roadway is used by teachers accessing the staff car park and the buses only. Class groups regularly cross this area on the way to the garden, complex and Baseby. Please avoid this area at all times.

FACEBOOK

Thank you to parents who have responded positively to the information being shared by the school on Facebook. It is a great way to showcase some of the great work being achieved by students that otherwise you might not see. It was very helpful in getting information out during the storm.

CELEBRATING OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

There are so many ways that our wonderful volunteers support the learning and programs delivered in our classrooms as well as canteen. As a small token of our appreciation they were invited to a morning tea in the staffroom on Tuesday. We are fortunate to have the number of volunteers that we do and several of our new families have indicated that they would also like to help.

Kind regards
Michele Holloway

WE ❤️ VOLUNTEERS

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Week 4:
Tuesday 24/5/16 - Year 6/7 Rugby

Week 5:
Wednesday 1/6/16 - Year 8/9 nine-a-side football

Week 6:
Thursday 9/6/16 - X Country at Oakbank
Friday 10/6/16 - Student Free Day

Week 7:
Monday 13/6/16 - Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Thursday & Friday 16 & 17/6/16 - Year 2/3 (Zrim) camp

Week 8:
Monday 20/6/16 - Finance Meeting and Governing Council
Thursday & Friday 23 & 24/6/16 - Year 2/3 (Waters) camp
JUNIOR SCHOOL: We are in the process of backfilling behind me while I am in the principal role. There are many qualified, passionate and respected staff who may apply and I am very confident that who ever steps into the position will do an excellent job (hopefully not better than me). This in turn may require a contract to fill behind them.

Teachers have been thrilled with the children’s approach to NAPLAN – the best ever was a comment from one teacher. Congratulations to all. The writing was a narrative – a story – this is the hardest of the text types to do well but children seemed comfortable.

We have started our lessons on brain theory – the first class being with Tracy Barnes’ class – the lessons will teach students the parts of a brain and their function. They will learn about how to activate memory and emotions. Part of the course is to look at a real sheep’s brain – some are excited by this – others not so much.

I think I’ll give the pogo sticks a try. We also purchased some equipment for Middle School. Thank you to our wonderful SSOs who did the audit.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Well done to all the Middle School students who participated in the NAPLAN, we had nearly all students participating. The students worked hard, used the time wisely and showed great perseverance to do the best they could do. The results will come out in Term 3. The Year 9 students went to the Murraylands Careers Expo in Murray Bridge on Friday (13/5/16) all reports say that it was a valuable experience and will support their learning in Work Studies. Overall well done to Middle School you have settled into Term 2 well; students are showing the RIVER values and pink slip behaviours have minimised.

SENIOR SCHOOL: We are focusing on uniforms this term – it is really good to see so many students wearing correct uniform. Unfortunately there are still a couple that are not complying (see Senior School News article for further information). It may seem trivial to some that we are enforcing the uniform policy but it prepares students for the workforce as it teaches them responsibilities of following workplace agreements, etc. It also teaches students to take pride in the school community and be outstanding role models to the younger students.

WHAT’S ON AT OUR SCHOOL

THANK YOU
A huge thank you to the Boyes family for donating money to enable a child to attend the Year 4/5 camp in Term 3. Jessica Boyes has a Facebook page titled H.O.P.E. to support the Mannum Community. She would love support.

INTERESTED IN HELPING YOUR CHILDREN WITH THEIR LEARNING?

There is a free App called Learning Potential, developed by the Federal Government with more than 160 hints and ideas for parents to help their children with their learning. It’s very popular, with over 110,000 downloads since its launch in August 2015. Additional content and functional improvements will continue this year. It is available for both Android and Apple devices.

For more information visit www.learningpotential.gov.au

BIG MORNING TEA
On Wednesday 11th May a group of Year 10 and 11 students met at the Mannum Football Clubrooms at 8:30am to support the Shared Stitches Group with providing morning tea for community members. There were about 120 people in attendance. The students who attended were: Craig, Breony, Alesha, Claire, Sophie, Maddi, Daniel, Nikayla, Tahlea, Tamika and Codie.

Overall it was a great day; everyone worked really hard to make the day a success for all of those who attended. We hope we can be involved in the future.
Year 9 – 11 students participated in the Murraylands Career Expo on Friday 13th May 2016. Students were fantastic and I have heard nothing but great comments from organisers and other schools. They have come back with a lot of information for possible careers and courses.

Eleven of our students participated in the Shared Stitches Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea at the Mannum Football Clubrooms on Wednesday 11th May. These students assisted Shared Stitches with making sandwiches, preparing cakes and cakes, serving people and doing dishes, etc. The students mingled with everyone and were a credit to the school. Thank you to Kaye Davey who supervised the students on the day.

The students in the Certificate 2 in Construction have built two outdoor picnic tables with attached seats. They have painted them bright colours in fond memory of our Case Manager Sandy Vanderaal who lost her battle with cancer earlier this year. Correta Odera took the Stage 1 and 2 Food and Hospitality students to Regency Park TAFESA on Thursday 12th May. This was an eye opener for the students. The Year 11 and 12 students have now requested visits to other TAFESA Campuses to look at other courses.

Student Attendance is becoming an issue with some of our Senior School students. Students are required to be at school Monday to Friday from 8:40am to 3:00pm unless they have made alternative arrangements with me. It is extremely important that students attend all their lessons and private study sessions to keep up with their studies. Face to Face with teachers in class is essential as this is the bulk of their learning and they are supported by the teachers.

We are having a big push on wearing the correct school uniform in the Senior School. MCC shirts and jumpers must be worn. Black shorts, skirts (both below fingertip length) and jeans can be worn. Leggings or skins are not acceptable unless under a skirt or pair of shorts. All headwear (hats, caps, beanies, bandannas, etc) are to be removed before going into classrooms or buildings. If your child can not wear the correct uniform on a certain day, please put a note in their diary.

Mobile Phones – congratulations to all the students that have worked with us with not having mobile phones in lessons. We have the rule of no phones during lesson time and have the consequences for breaking these rules displayed in every room. So far only a couple of students have been caught with their phones.
LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY BORROWING

MONDAY: 6/7 Love  6/7 Lombardi
TUESDAY: 4/5 Grieger  4/5 Barnes  1/2 O’Hara
WEDNESDAY: R/1 Clark
THURSDAY: 2/3 Zrim  Yr 10 Falkland
FRIDAY: 4/5 Rowley  Yr 8 Groves  Yr 9 Groves

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

JOY’S CORNER

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF AND YOU WILL ACHIEVE

WHAT’S ON

AT THE HUB

After school activities for your child/children (5 to 9 year olds) on Mondays from 3:00 - 5:00pm.

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

Mid Murray Family Connections meeting: Monday 6th June from 9:30 - 12:30. Please contact Kiran to find out more on 0438 832 460.

Why not contact the MANNUM COMMUNITY HUB and ask for a program.

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

MANNUM LEISURE CENTRE

TABLE TENNIS

$5 ENTRY
EVERYONE WELCOME
STARTS FRIDAY 27th MAY at 4:30pm
Every fortnight
For further details phone: 0419860044
Or email: jmanuel@mid-murray.sa.gov.au

AROONA SCOUT GROUP

HELP KEEP SCOUTS ALIVE IN OUR DISTRICT

For further information please phone
Ingrid on 0448113175

MANNUM COMMUNITY HUB

CANTEEN NEWS

NEXT RED DAY

TUESDAY 7th June
Watch out for notes coming home soon.

Carol Mobbs,
Canteen Manageress (85692971)

VOLUNTEER ROSTER

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