



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

This term has been a very busy start to the year for our SRC. We have selected a hardworking team for our Executive Committee including:

- Kai, Chairperson (Year 11)
• Charlotte, Vice-Chairperson (Year 8)
• Casey and Siennah, Co-secretaries (both Year 6)
• Acacia Nuske, Treasurer (Year 12)
• Charlie, Publicity (Year 10)

All SRC representatives have attended meetings and a few attended a leadership conference in Adelaide. Together we have been working flat-out as a team to help improve our school but also bring some more fun into it by jazzing up upcoming events.

The SRC is working towards how to follow through with our ideas for the following terms under these difficult situations.

Congratulations to the top four place-getters in our COVID-19 education competition: Amy, Caleb (joint 1st), Casey (2nd) and Stuart (3rd).

Charlie
Publicity Officer, SRC



Above: SRC reps enjoyed a brain break during the Week 9 meeting.



CYBER SAFETY

Cyber safety will be critical during the coming months as young people and adults spend more time online, connected through the internet. Why not download the StopIT app in case you see unsafe behaviours or feel unsafe



yourself?

MCC's StopIT app empowers students by providing an easy way to safely and anonymously report concerns - from any form of bullying or harassment to mental health issues.

Students can live message anonymously with Senior Leaders. If a student isn't directly involved but witnesses something, they can report it by uploading photos or videos.

The school's StopIT app is available via free download on Android (Google Play) and Apple (App Store). Our access code is MCCSTOPIT. Parents can also report anonymously, upload

The Mannum Christian Churches want to support the school community at this time. We believe that although we need to keep our distance from each other, God does not practice social distancing and is close to all of us.

Our Churches are closed but if you would appreciate Spiritual support please contact:

- Rev Colin Nieass (Mannum Community Church) 0432 141 637
• Pastor Harry Pickett (Mannum Lutheran Church) 0403 947 859
• Joy Marks (Pastoral Care Worker) 0428 897 847

You can listen to Vision radio available in Mannum on FM 87.6

You may find support from the following links:

- www.youversion.com (The Bible App + the Bible App for Kids)
• www.prayforme.com
• www.vision.org.au/coronavirus
• www.publicchristianity.org/in-the-media/

Streamed and Recorded Local Church Services

- Mannum Lutheran Church
o Live streamed services Sunday 9am on
https://www.facebook.com/Mid-Murray-Lutheran-Parish
o Uploaded on YouTube https://youtu.be/LwAUQ1GXl4g
• Mannum Community Church
o Updates on https://www.facebook.com/mannum.church
• Birdwood United Church
o www.birdwoodunitedchurch.org.au (Audio Sermons)

CANTEEN & BREAKFAST CLUB

The canteen will be closed for the first 5 weeks of Term 2.

The Lions, Kiwanis and FoodBank-sponsored breakfast club will continue to operate every morning offering toast, fruit and various drinks.



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3 - 7th April 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thank you to our whole community who have been very understanding of the additional measures MCC has put in place to slow the spread of the COVID19 virus. I am very proud of the responsibility and respect shown to keep our school community safe.

Parents and carers are supported in their choice to keep their children home and if they have the capacity to keep students at home they are encouraged to. This is making it very challenging for our teachers to run regular classes while supporting students learning from home.

In South Australia, schools and preschools will stay open until otherwise advised. The school holiday dates in South Australia will not change however the Education Minister announced four pupil-free days before Easter (6, 7, 8 and 9 April) for all of our schools and preschools. This will give us some time to focus on transitioning to flexible teaching and learning ready for Term 2. We do not know what Term 2 will look like in regards to learning at this point in time. These pupil free days will create some space to help us plan and prepare for new models of learning that can be delivered consistently to students at home and at school. The Happy Haven OSHC will be open on the Pupil Free Days, please book online at https://www.happyhaven.com.au/mannumhomepage/.

Vulnerable Students and Families:

There are some students - those of our essential services personnel (doctors, nurses, emergency services, truck drivers, educators) and some of our most vulnerable children - who might not be able to continue their learning at home. We need an option for these children. We will continue to do our very best so that vulnerable students don't fall through the cracks. If you feel that your family or children require additional supports within this group, please make contact with the school to discuss options.

Junior School:

The main way of sharing information with families will be through the Seesaw Application. All students have access to Reading Eggs, Study Ladder, Seesaw and Prodigy Maths applications.

Middle School:

The main ways of sharing information with families & students will be through email, Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams. If relevant,

students have their logons to various applications e.g. Mathletics.

Senior School:

The SACE Board is being flexible with assessment in 2020 but not with students who choose not to engage in their own learning. All work will be available through Google Classroom, via email direct to teachers or, if needed, hard copies can be printed for students or families to collect from the front office. Students have also been provided with the below links and useful resources from various sources including the SACE board and the department:

- SACE Board - www.sace.sa.edu.au/covid-19-coronavirus
• Our Learning SA - www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa

Middle & Senior School Reports:

Due to changing priorities, Middle & Senior School reports will be posted home in the first week of the Term 1 holidays.

Advice to students studying at home:

- Be kind to the adults who are trying to help you. None of us have ever experienced this before.
• Do not spend all of your time on the computer when learning from home. Mix up your online time with other learning activities.
• Where possible, keep teacher contact to normal school day and times between 0830 and 1600. Remember, they also have families.

Mental Health Support at this time:

- Headspace: https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-cope-with-stress-related-to-covid-19/ e-Headspace: free online counselling platform: https://eheadspace.org.au/
• Kids help line: WebChat counselling: kidsshelpline.com.au/get-help/webchat-counselling Phone counselling: 1800 55 1800
• Youth Beyond Blue: youthbeyondblue.com

Please feel welcome to contact us via the front office if you have any questions.

Regards,

Kylie Eggers
Principal

TERM 2

WEEK 1

Monday 27th April

School starts (Pupil-Free Day cancelled)

WEEK 3

Monday 11th May

Governing Council meeting

WEEK 4

17th to 22nd May

National Families Week

Monday, 18th May

IDAHOBIT

WEEK 5

27th May to 3rd June

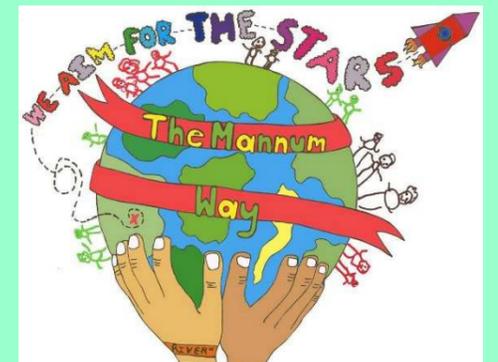
Reconciliation Week

WEEK 10

Friday, 3rd July

Last day of school - early dismissal

SCHOOL CALENDAR



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL/JUNIOR SCHOOL LEADER NEWS

I'd like to acknowledge the compassion and understanding families have shown our teaching staff during this unprecedented time. We are all trying our best while working together as a team to achieve both wellness and education for the students at our school.

It's certainly offered us some challenges with teaching and learning but also some new opportunities. Despite the uncertain climate, teachers are continuing to work to deliver quality learning outcomes across the Junior School.

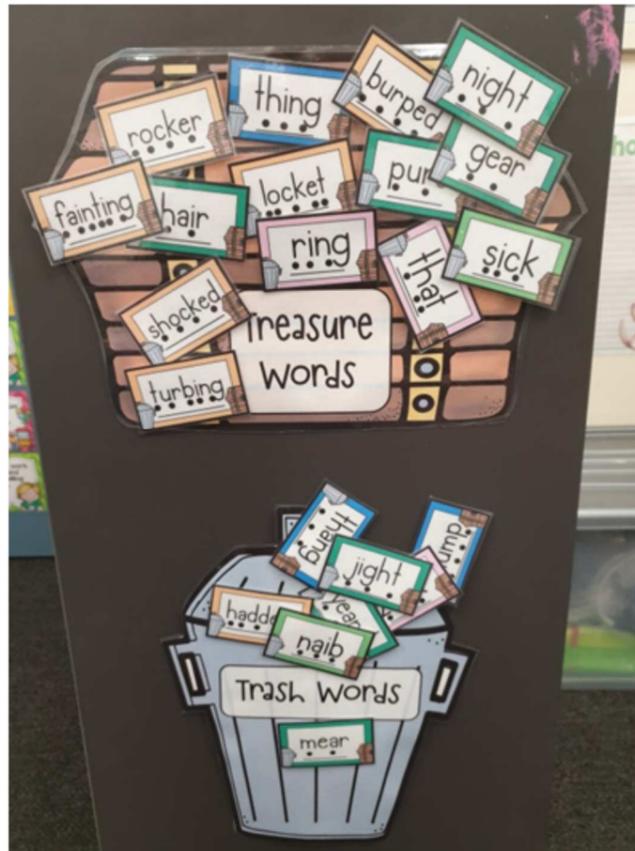
I wanted to share some positive learning throughout the Junior School with all classes participating in daily Phonemic Awareness instruction (Heggerty) which supports reading and decoding skills.



Teachers use a multisensory approach to engage student learning with the use of actions and repetition. Students look forward to the routine and predictability of Heggerty every day and teachers are noticing an improvement in students ability to 'have a go' with their writing and attempt to decode new words.

To the left, Mrs Zrim from Room 2 is demonstrating how to use the decoding skills.

Classes are using traffic light word wall displays to systematically teach vocabulary. This explicit way of teaching builds on prior knowledge of student comprehension and understanding to articulate relevant answers to a question using tier 2 / 3 vocabulary.



Another positive: Rebecca Eli has accepted the Senior Leader Learning Improvement position for the Murraylands Partnership for terms 2 and 3. Bec will be based at MCC so staff can continue to work closely with her. We wish her all the best in her new role.

We have been fortunate to secure Natasha Krznaric who will continue the quality learning program for Room 4 students. She comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience not only in Australian schools but also in the United Kingdom.

Stay calm, safe and healthy.

Michelle Grieger
Deputy Principal

Some suggestions for students learning at home:

- * Have a set time to go to bed every school night.
- * Have a set time to be out of bed every school day.
- * Have a set time for starting and ending breakfast.
- * Have students get dressed in the morning. Staying in pyjamas can be demotivating and may feel like a holiday from learning.
- * Set healthy snack, morning tea and lunch breaks each day.
- * Keep TVs and radios off during formal school lessons.
- * Set reward activities such as limited TV or gaming time so your child can relax after normal school times. Make sure that media exposure is age-appropriate. Junior School students should only be accessing G and PG-rated games, movies and TV shows.
- * Be firm that children must continue to learn and take part, even if they are not actually at school.
- * Give your child lots of positive encouragement and acknowledge their efforts.
- * Keeping to regular routines will be incredibly important so they are able to transition easily back to school when the time comes.



WELLBEING INFORMATION



Continuity of Wellbeing Services During COVID-19

We know that the COVID-19 outbreak has posed some of the greatest challenges we have faced in recent memory. Schools are not exempt from these challenges which have resulted in significant changes to the way learning communities will operate now and possibly into the future.

Change, particularly when it is the result of an unprecedented event, can result in people experiencing unusual emotions and may also trigger behaviours that have not been witnessed in the past.

Now more than ever, our social and emotional skills become *vital* in ensuring we look after our own wellbeing, do everything we can to protect children and young people, and also make efforts to support the wellbeing of those in our wider school community.

In the event of a school closure, the Wellbeing Team at GGHS are committed to provide ongoing continuity of wellbeing support to our students in a variety of ways.

MCC Wellbeing Services

If your child is already accessing support from me, our Pastoral Care Worker (Joy) or external support services, this will still continue via Microsoft Teams, Zoom meetings, phone or email.

If your child is not currently accessing support but would like to connect with someone you or they can ring or email the school with the request for someone to get in touch.

We'll continue to provide details of resources and tips to further support your child's mental health and wellbeing via the school's Facebook page and other remote learning communication channels.

Mentors

If your child is receiving support from a community mentor, and you'd like this to continue remotely, please contact Joy and she will work with tech-savvy mentors to make this possible.

Headspace

If your student is currently connecting with Andrew from Headspace, our in-school counsellor, you will be (or have already been) contacted by him individually to arrange ongoing online conferencing.

External providers

If your child accesses wellbeing support from an external provider such as AC Care's Reconnect, Centare's Supporting Children and Youth (SCY) team, The Mannum Community Hub Parenting Under

Pressure (PUP) coordinator or via Centacare's domestic violence support service, they will make contact with you directly to arrange their ongoing service.

There are many ways to keep these connections and relationships alive. Don't hesitate to speak with us if you're unsure how it all might work.

Supporting your child's wellbeing at home

As their world changes around them in the wake of COVID-19, children may be impacted by fear and anxiety. Maintaining a stable routine can be extremely grounding and remind students of what aspects of their lives are within their control. Your own routines and rituals will become really important at this time when some parts of your life are disrupted. Here are some tips on how to ensure your children are supported:

- Give your children extra attention and reassurance. Where possible, minimise their exposure to media and social media that may heighten anxiety.
- Include your children in plans and activities around the house so they feel a sense of ownership and empowerment.
- Maintain routines around sleep and meal times as much as possible. These routines connect young people to 'normalcy'.

If you've chosen for your child to learn from home and they show unusually high levels of anxiety and worry, talk it through with them and be patient as they settle into the new 'normal'. If you don't see an improvement in 3-4 weeks, or if you're concerned extreme behaviours, seek professional help. The school wellbeing team can help with these connections and formal referrals.

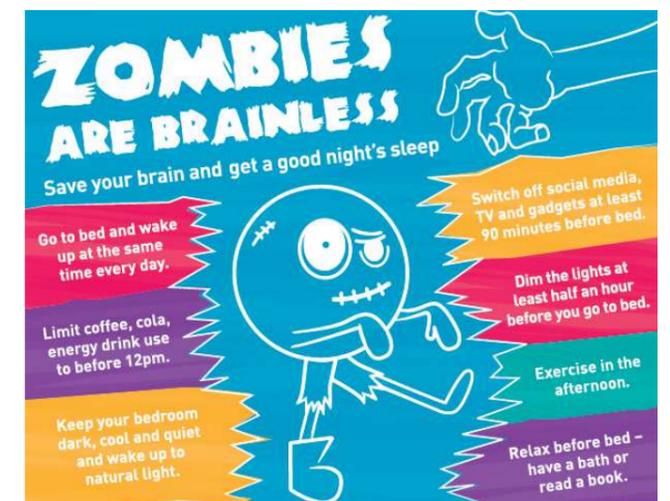
Online and phone resources in addition to those on page 1:

- ReachOut.com (youth mental health), <https://au.reachout.com/>
- Kids Helpline (5-25 year olds), 1800 55 1800
- Life Line, 13 11 14
- 1800 Respect (domestic violence) 1800 61 44 34
- Regional Access (online and phone counselling), 1300 032 186
- National Coronavirus Helpline 1800 020 080
- School TV special reports, https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news

If you have questions, queries or concerns please reach out to our team via our email dl.1834.wellbeing@schools.sa.edu.au

Best regards,

Bobbie Taylor
Wellbeing Leader



SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATE

Senior School COVID-19 Planning

In response to the COVID-19 situation we find ourselves in, please note the following information in relation to our senior students and their learning. This is similar to the information provide for Middle School students to provide consistency across both sub-schools. This information has also been explained to students as a directive from the Department for Education.

- Teachers are only required to set current class work for students, if they choose to provide additional learning tasks this is out of goodwill and their commitment to our students' learning.
- **Note:** If we move to an online or remote teaching and learning model, teachers will be doing their very best to ensure our students and your children are able to access assessment tasks, subject specific content and the resources needed to complete and submit work from home.
- All work will be available through Google classroom, via email direct to your teachers or if needed hard copies printed for yourselves and families to collect from the front office.



Students have also been provided with the below links and useful resources from various sources including the SACE board and the department.

SACE Board - <https://www.sace.sa.edu.au/covid-19-coronavirus>

Our Learning SA - <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa>

This is a trying time for all and from all of us at MCC we hope that families are doing ok. Rest assured our Senior School teaching staff are doing all they can to prepare and provide resources for our senior students to continue them on their learning path.

Laptop Initiative

A large portion of our senior students have taken up the school's laptop initiative to support online learning, particularly to meet the requirements of the SACE. This allows them full access to their own laptop computer both while at school or learning from home.

If your child has not yet accessed this opportunity and you would like to discuss how it can enhance their learning ability, particularly if they will be learning from home, please contact the school.

Regards,

Kieran Jaensch
Senior School Leader



INFORMATION FOR YOU

STUDENT ABSENCES IN TERM 2

Under current legislation, all absences from learning for school students require a valid reason provided by the student's parent or caregiver. This is still the requirement for Term 2 regardless if whether students will be learning at school or from home.

Learning from Home

For 'learning from home' students, parents are still required to contact the school at the start of each day to notify of any days where the child is unable to 'attend' their virtual classroom. For middle and senior classes, each subject teacher will keep a roll book to ensure all students are engaging with their learning consistently.

Learning at School

Parents must sign child/ren in and out at the Front Office if they are arriving LATE (after 8:40am) or leaving EARLY (before the end-of-day bell). Roll books are marked in Home Group (before 8:50) and at the commencement of each lesson. If a student is not in class, they are marked 'U' for unexplained' and staff will be following up. All other absences must be notified to the school.

SMS NUMBER: 0437 944 801

Please save this number in your phone for future use.

Options for parents to notify the school of absences include:

- Family-chosen or prioritised activities (e.g. holidays, funerals) (coded F)
- illnesses without a medical certificate (coded I)
- Illnesses with a certificate (coded C)
- Refusal to attend/engage in learning (coded N)

JOY'S CORNER

We all hit a time when we've lost hope and need someone to put their arms around us and say: "I've got you right now, I won't let you face this alone."



www.iampoosie.com

MIDDLE SCHOOL - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dear Middle School parents and caregivers

In response to the COVID-19 situation and directives from the Department for Education, it is important to note the following in relation to our Middle School students and their learning:

- Teachers are only required to set and make available current class work for students. If they choose to provide additional learning tasks this is out of goodwill and their commitment to our students' learning.
- **Note:** When we move to an online or remote teaching and learning model in future weeks, teachers will be doing their very best to ensure students are able to access assessment tasks and the necessary resources needed to complete and submit work from home. We are using the student free days to prepare for this.
- All work will primarily be available through Google classroom, via email direct to teachers or if needed hard copies printed for students and families to collect from the front office. Some teachers will take advantage of Microsoft Teams, but this will be communi-



cated first through email.

Students have been provided with the link below.

Our Learning SA - <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa>. This website has been created by the department for additional learning for all age groups.

This is a trying time and, from all of us at MCC, we hope that families are safe and well. Rest assured our Middle School teaching staff are doing all they can to prepare and provide resources for our students to enable them to continue their learning journey. We understand some families will choose to keep their children away from school at this time and we respect that decision.

Most students have also been provided with middle school teachers' email addresses to contact them directly when needed. **It is important that students check their emails regularly** so they are up to date and access the required learning platforms in a timely manner. For quick reference please find a list of teaching staff emails below.

Year 6/7:

- **Home Group, Maths, English, HASS, Science:** Sue Love, Sue.Love869@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Art:** Monika Hatcher, Monika.Hatcher92@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Design & Tech:** Mick Palmer, Michael.Palmer972@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Japanese:** Tanya Dohnt, Tanya.Dohnt900@schools.sa.edu.au
- **P.E:** Bryan Wilsdon, Bryan.Wilsdon907@schools.sa.edu.au

Year 6/7A:

- **Home Group, Maths, Science, Health:** Sonny Lombardi, Sonny.Lombardi427@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Art:** Monika Hatcher, Monika.Hatcher92@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Design & Tech:** Mick Palmer, Michael.Palmer972@schools.sa.edu.au
- **English:** Alyssa Quinn, Alyssa.Quinn93@schools.edu.au
- **Civics and ICT** Angela Groves,

Angela.Groves.110@schools.sa.edu.au

- **HASS:** Kathryn Hese, Kathryn.Hese802@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Japanese:** Tanya Dohnt, Tanya.Dohnt900@schools.sa.edu.au
- **P.E:** Bryan Wilsdon, Bryan.Wilsdon907@schools.sa.edu.au

Year 8:

- **Home Group, English, Health, P.E.:** Alyssa Quinn, Alyssa.Quinn93@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Art:** Graeme Buchan, Graeme.Buchan107@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Civics and HASS:** Angela Groves, Angela.Groves110@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Japanese:** Tanya Dohnt, Tanya.Dohnt900@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Maths and Science:** Sonny Lombardi, Sonny.Lombardi427@schools.sa.edu.au
- **STEM:** Mick Palmer, Michael.Palmer972@schools.sa.edu.au

Year 8A:

- **Homegroup and Science:** Georgia McLaren, Georgia.McLaren136@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Homegroup:** Kathryn Hese, Kathryn.Hese802@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Civics, ICT and HASS:** Angela Groves, Angela.Groves110@schools.sa.edu.au
- **English:** Alyssa Quinn, Alyssa.Quinn93@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Health:** Bobbie Taylor, Bobbie.Taylor851@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Japanese and Maths:** Tanya Dohnt, Tanya.Dohnt900@schools.sa.edu.au
- **P.E:** Bryan Wilsdon, Bryan.Wilsdon907@schools.sa.edu.au
- **STEM:** Mick Palmer, Michael.Palmer972@schools.sa.edu.au

Year 9:

- **Homegroup and History:** Angela Groves, Angela.Groves110@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Art:** Graeme Buchan, Graeme.Buchan107@schools.sa.edu.au
- **English:** Kathryn Hese, Kathryn.Hese802@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Food & Hospitality:** Correta Odera, Correta.Odera855@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Geography:** Kaye Davey, Kaye.Davey510@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Health:** Bobbie Taylor, Bobbie.Taylor851@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Maths:** Sonny Lombardi, Sonny.Lombardi427@schools.sa.edu.au
- **P.E:** Bryan Wilsdon, Bryan.Wilsdon907@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Science:** Georgia McLaren, Georgia.McLaren136@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Stage:** Monika Hatcher, Monika.Hatcher92@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Technology & Construction:** Kieran Jaensch, Kieran.Jaensch265@schools.sa.edu.au

Requirements and circumstances are transforming and changing on a daily basis, but we will aim to keep you as updated as possible as we progress through this difficult time. If you have any queries or concerns in relation to your young person's learning, please feel free to contact me and or subject teaching staff via the school telephone number or email.

Best regards,

Kathryn Hese
Middle School Leader

