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## Important Dates

**Monday 19 August 2019**

- Governing Council

**Mon 19 Aug-Fri 23 Aug 2019**

- Year 10 Work Experience
- Book Week

**Thursday 22 August 2019**

- SAPOL visit

**Wednesday 28 August 2019**

- Cafe 43 open
- Course Counselling Night

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**Government  
of South Australia**

Department for Education

## Principal's Report

*Ngairie Benfell*

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We have had some wild weather during the last two weeks! This has not dampened the enthusiasm of our students for the learning experiences they have been engaging with.

### Student Free Day

We will have our final Student Free Day this term, on Friday 6 September 2019. We will be working with Senior Leaders from the Australian Science and Maths School, which is co-located on site with Flinders University. The purpose of the day is to investigate models of Middle Schooling design, in particular, curriculum delivery that engages and challenges young adolescents. The model we will be learning about is Interdisciplinary Learning. We will plan and trial 5-week units of learning that integrate several disciplines (subjects) during Term 4. Prior to the Student Free Day, teachers are revising and learning about the most effective practices for teaching young adolescents. Middle Schooling philosophies recognise that the adolescent brain is in a special phase of pre-adult development. Research about this stage of development states that educational practices should seek to engage and challenge learners, while fostering relationships with adults. At Penola High School, we believe that this learning and practice will place us in a highly favourable position when Year 7 students are enrolled at our site in 2022.

### Student Programs

During the last two weeks, Penola High School students have performed in some outstanding ways. On Wednesday 7 August 2019, our hall was filled yet again with students participating in the annual MASA Quiz Night. I never cease to be impressed with the motivation of Penola High School and other South East students for solving mathematical problems and working effectively in a team to do so. Our students are always excellent models of behaviour as hosts. Four teams of Penola High School students travelled to Mount Gambier to compete in the Debating Eisteddfod, showing once again that the public speaking skills developed at this school are exemplary. In addition to debating with her team, Ella Hutchesson was also participating with her classmate Stella Glynn in a three-day Science Experience at UniSA. The girls negotiated to participate in the debating at 10.30am then return to prepare for their presentation at 2.30pm at the University. Great skills in flexibility, negotiation and problem solving!

Did you read about Brooke Hutchesson's Stage 2 Health project in the Pennant? Brooke's major investigation has resulted in the creation of an uplifting and supportive space for girls. The work she and other girls did in designing and painting the toilet doors in the girls' bathroom is an outstanding example of student collaboration.



### School Improvement

On Monday 12 August 2019, teachers viewed the video clips of students being interviewed about their writing experiences. We considered their responses in terms of the effective strategies happening in classrooms, the support students need to improve and how we can work together to provide rigorous instruction for writing improvement. As a result of our discussions, we will be focussing on teaching the features of the types of writing each subject requires and strengthening our use of assessment rubrics to share the criteria for success with students.

Kind regards

## Try a Skill Day

Michael Hentschke

Nine year 10 students visited the Mount Gambier TAFE campus to participate in their Try-a-Skills day. This year the options available for the students were increased from the initial program offered last year to include more of the learning areas available at the site as well as the traditional trades.

These included sessions for careers in Aged Care, Nursing and Childcare, Cookery and Hospitality as well as Automotive, Construction and Engineering pathways. Students were able to select from these options with each session providing an introduction to the trade as well as practical activities that would form part of their learning. Presenters from MGET and GTE also spoke of the pathway students may undertake as they move to VET pathways through apprenticeships and traineeships. They also impressed upon the students the importance of work experience in assessing the suitability of a trade for a career and also as a means of showing interest to potential employers involved in the trades. This was timely advice as our students undertake work experience as part of their PLP in the next few weeks.



## Flinders University Visit

Nicole Liebelt from Flinders University in Adelaide visited Year 11 and 12 students to provide information about university life including accommodation and the many exciting courses available through Flinders. Nicole also stressed the support which universities can provide for students and the number of pathways they can follow when seeking admission.



## ConocoPhillips Science Experience

Ella Hutchesson



Year 10 students Ella Hutchesson and Stella Glynn went to UNISA to participate in the ConocoPhillips Science Experience on Wednesday 7 August to Friday 9 August. Wednesday was an introduction to the experience for the next three days, we learnt about energy efficient houses with guest speaker Associate Professor James Ward and did a practical exercise to learn what the best house design is. Stella said the

Virtual Reality trip through Kenya was very interesting. On Thursday the girls did some coding and soldering to create a temperature reading circuit board that reads a personal message when it turns on. On Friday the girls started to make a water filter but were interrupted by the senior debate that was on the same day. We finished the experience with a big presentation on what we did. Ella found that it was a great way to learn and meet new people. We encourage year 10 students next year to sign up.



# STUDENT FREE DAY

- FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2019 -  
FRIDAY, WEEK 7

## Maths Quiz Night

Winsley Wighton

Our hall provided a welcoming setting for the annual Maths Quiz Night held on Wednesday 7 August. About 125 students, in 33 teams, supported by teachers and parents, gathered to enjoy an evening of Maths and General Knowledge quiz questions. Twenty-two of our students were joined by students from Grant and Mount Gambier High Schools, Lucindale Area School, St Martins Lutheran College and Kangaroo Inn Area School.

Throughout the evening, students worked together to solve Maths problems and puzzles, answer general knowledge questions, and tackle an extended Maths problem. The Hall was alive with enthusiastic student discussion and debate. Some chocolate was also consumed.

As well as providing a different setting for tackling Maths problems, the evening provided students with a great opportunity to get together and share a good time with friends.

Prizes were awarded to the Best Overall, Best Mathematical, and Best General Knowledge teams in both Junior and Senior sections. Teams from Mt Gambier High won the Best Overall section and the Best General Knowledge section for the Juniors, with Grant High taking home the Best Overall Award. The Senior Best Overall Award went to a team from Grant High School, while a team from St Martins took out the Best Mathematics award. A team from Lucindale Area School was successful in the Senior Best General Knowledge section.

The event was well-supported by staff members from both home and visiting schools who were involved in looking after proceedings in the Hall and the marking of students' work.



## STEM Penangadoo Project

Kathleen Phillips

On Thursday 1 August we hosted our second student session for the Penangadoo STEM Project. Year 5, 6 and 7 students from Nangwarry & Kalangadoo worked with our year 8 students to start the Immersion phase of our Project. In our last session last term, students worked together to identify problems that they felt were important to them. From there we looked at the problems and chose to focus on "What activities are there in our towns for children and teenagers to do?"

The Immersion Day allowed students to reconnect with each other and begin to gather data which will help them to create a solution to the problem. Students took part in team building activities, geocaching, walking around Penola examining the activities there are for children and teenagers to do.

Our next session is our Synthesis Day which will be on Monday 19 August at Penola High School. We will be having our STEM Expo on Wednesday 25 September 2019 at Kalangadoo Institute Hall at 5.30pm, where students will present their solutions.



## Eisteddfod Debating

Kate Jones

Once again three brave teams of debaters travelled to Mount Gambier to compete at the Wehl Street Theatre in the annual Interschool Debating Eisteddfod. This year all three of our teams were debating against Monivae College from Hamilton. Our Year 8 team, consisting of Ozzy Morton, Jess Gerritsen, Emily Timms and Olivia Balk in reserve, produced a well-researched case on the topic 'that vampires are better than werewolves'. Our team presented the negative side and while they presented many reasons as to why we should prefer werewolves Monivae went home with the win. Emily Timms was awarded best speaker for her excellent rebuttal. Well done Emily!

The Year 9 team, Seth Lear, Breanna Lythgo and Logan Burr, were arguing the affirmative case for the topic 'that we are slaves to fashion'. They brought the audience's attention to many relevant and important issues such as fast fashion and child labour, but unfortunately were not able to beat the opposing team. The Year 9s received many positive comments from the Adjudicator, who praised their teamwork, rebuttals and delivery. Though they lost their debate, they achieved a higher score than the other four teams who spoke before them. The Year 9 team was supported by two reserves, Kasey Venables and Skye Peterson, who made an excellent Chairperson and Time Keeper for the debate between Grant High School and Mount Gambier High School.

Three Year 10 students, Tom Skeer, Ella Hutchesson and Charlotte Neale, made up the senior team, debating the negative side of the topic 'that modern society produces less resilient people' against senior students from Monivae College. Once again Monivae got the better of us, however this debate was extremely close, with Penola presenting strong arguments and excellent rebuttals. Unfortunately, the charisma of the opposing team's third speaker got them over the line.



All students should be proud of their achievements, everyone did a fantastic job of preparing excellent speeches and delivering them with fluency and sophistication. This wonderful opportunity provided students with a unique learning experience and opportunity to showcase their English skills outside the classroom. Thank you to the students for their commitment and passion and to Jessie Cope for working with the junior teams and her support on the day.



## Open Basektball

Chloe Long

Tuesday 30 July saw the highly anticipated Open Girls and Boys basketball competition, a favourite amongst the Penola High Students. Our students really looked the part in the new Penola High School Basketball Uniforms.

The Open girls team included girls from across the school, with Olivia Berkin making her debut for Penola High School. The Girls had an even competition throughout the day with all the games being close and hard fought battles. Georgia Winter showed her class throughout the day, making plays and being our highest points scorer. Indi Venables showed her strength in fighting for the ball and moving the play around the court. A highlight for the day was Olivia Berkin driving into the basket multiple times and taking on girls twice her size. Most members of this team came from years 8-10, watch this space to see how successful they will be in the year 10 competition next term.



The Open Boy's team, for the first time was a pure 'open' team, only taking away year 11/12s. The boys were confident on the bus trip over, even though only 2 of the team had played basketball before. Miss Long was surprised by the skills displayed throughout the day, obviously all those lunch time stadium sessions have paid off. The boys came away with 1 win for the day against Saint Martins, however, the games were very close. Jack Kain led the charge for the win, getting plenty of rebounds and scores on the board. The quick ball movement paid off for some, however the ball seemed too move to fast for Sam Gartner. The boys have improved every year, let's see if they can win 2 games next year. A special thank you to Sarah Walker and Georgia Winter for umpiring and scoring, these days just don't happen without volunteers like these.



## Knockout Netball

Chloe Long

On Monday 5 August 2019 the Knockout Netball competition took place at Mount Gambier. Travelling with a roster ranging from veterans, the year 12s, and freshmen, the year 8s, the teams knew they were in for some tough competition playing against some of the big schools from Mount Gambier.



The first part of the round saw the 8/9 and Open teams playing three games back to back. The 8/9s played a strong Mount Gambier High School team first. Mount Gambier High School scored early, however our girls improved throughout the game. The second game saw Penola High School get their first win of the day, with the girls coming together as a team led by Georgia Winter and Kasey Venables. The third game saw the girls take on Bordertown High School, yet again the girls played well, but Bordertown were just too strong. This loss saw us play in the consolation finals taking on Saint Martins and Grant High School. This gave us an opportunity to give everyone a go in different positions. Breanna Lythgo and Amelia Henry surprised us with their secret talent for shooting goals.

Over on the Open team, Penola had a much tougher draw against Millicent, Tenison and Bordertown. Throughout all the games the Open girls worked together as a team to improve their skills. Kasey Morton's performance was a highlight, playing WD she worked hard to put lots of pressure on the opposition while also being a great back up option for our attackers on the line. Kate Skeer showed her leadership throughout the day, coaching the team and keeping the talk positive. The team should be commended for their attitude throughout the day showing a high level of respect for each other and the officials. Miss Cope and Miss Long were thoroughly impressed by the girls' attitudes on the day, especially the pace at which they cleaned up our allocated zones and got to the bus. Thank you to Sarah Walker for umpiring.



*nurturing individual success*

**PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL**

# Quiz Night

**FRIDAY 30 AUGUST 2019**

**6.30PM, FOR A 7.00PM START**

**PHS HALL**

**\$10 PER PERSON // MAX. 10  
PER TABLE**

**BYO NIBBLES & DRINKS  
RING PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL TO BOOK - 8737 0000**

## TERM 3 2019 CALENDAR

	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	22/07 <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>	23/07	24/07	25/07	26/07
<b>Week 2</b>	29/07 Year 5-8 STEM day (PHS)	30/07 Open Basketball	31/07	01/08 Maths competition STEM Immersion day	02/08 TAFE Try a Trade day
<b>Week 3</b>	05/08 Year 8/9 and Open Netball	06/08	07/08 Flinders Uni visit Maths Quiz night	08/08 Junior debating	09/08 Senior debating
<b>Week 4</b>	12/08 Year 10 First Aid	13/08	14/08	15/08	16/08
<b>Week 5</b>	19/08 STEM Ideation day Governing Council meeting	20/08	21/08	22/08 SAPOL 9:00am – Year 11 11:30am – Year 12	23/08
PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL TRANSITION VISIT					
YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE					
BOOK WEEK					
<b>Week 6</b>	26/08	27/08	28/08 Café 43 open Course Counselling night	29/08	30/08 SRC Quiz Night
<b>Week 7</b>	02/09	03/09	04/09 Café 43 open Year 8 Robotics	05/09 Course Counselling day STEM Prototype day	06/09 <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	09/09	10/09	11/09 Café 43 open	12/09	13/09
<b>Week 9</b>	16/09 Governing Council meeting	17/09	18/09 Café 43 open	19/09 STEM Expo Formal	20/09
REPORT WRITING WEEK					
<b>Week 10</b>	23/09	24/09	25/09 STEM Stakeholders	26/09	27/09 STEM celebrations

# TRANSITIONING TO TERTIARY

## *Information Evening*

Wednesday 28th of August  
6pm start

**FREE PIZZA AND  
SOFT DRINK**

TAFE SA Mt Gambier Campus - Conference Room  
Wireless Road West

### *Answering questions for Parents and Students*

ATAR

Scholarships

Centrelink Payments

Accommodation

Alternative Entry Pathways

Gap Years

Student Life

**tafesa**



University of  
South Australia

SINCLAIR *Wilson*  
ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS ADVISORS



**Flinders**  
UNIVERSITY

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