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## Important Dates

### Friday 21 June 2019

- Science & Engineering Challenge

### Monday 22 July 2019

- Student Free Day

### Monday 29 July 2019

- Year 5-8 STEM Day

### Thursday 1 August 2019

- Australian Maths Competition

### Friday 2 August 2019

- Year 10 - TAFE Try a trade day

43 Cameron Street  
Penola SA 5277  
T: 08 8737 0000  
F: 08 8737 0050  
E: DL0931\_info@schools.sa.edu.au  
W: www.penolahs.sa.edu.au



**Government  
of South Australia**

Department for Education

## Principal's Report

*Ngaire Benfell*

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope you all enjoyed a long weekend together last week. It is important to take time to relax and re-energise for our busy lives. There are two weeks left of this term then students will have extended time to do this.

### Semester Two Timetable

In the last newsletter, we informed you of a structural change to the timetable that will be implemented on Monday 24 June. For parents who are new to high schooling, our year works in two semesters or half-yearly timetables. We (and most other high schools) change from semester 1 to semester 2 at the end of week 8 term 2. For all except our year 12 students, this means subject changes such as Year 8 students changing from tech to home ec, sometimes teacher changes, for example a change of English teacher and changes to when a subject is scheduled. For example maths may change from Fridays to Mondays. This is a lot of change for year 8 students and may cause some anxiety for a period of time. To reduce the degree of change, Penola High School is shifting to a 'block scheduled' timetable. That means, instead of 7 lessons in a day, potentially 5 of them with different teachers, we will run three learning blocks a day. This means three subjects a day, three teachers a day and MUCH less movement and loss of learning time. I am excited to see how this improves learning for all our students.

### Genius Hour

Within our new timetable structure, we are implementing a period of time on a Friday morning called Genius Hour. Research shows that students in high schools need to be prepared for a rapidly changing world where critical and creative thinking skills are highly valued and the ability to work in a team and solve problems is an essential skill. The structure and nature of our Genius Hour has been led by Chloe Long and Mike Hentschke and enthusiastically developed by pairs of teachers. The Year 10 students will use the time for their STEMIE project, a fantastic problem solving, team-based program that our current year 11s did for the first time last year. The year 8, 9, 11 and 12 students have been formed into mixed groups, providing leadership and role-modelling opportunities for our senior students within multi-level problem solving groups. No subjects have been reduced in time to facilitate this and I am really looking forward to seeking student feedback on the value of engaging them in this way, by week 4 term 3.

I have begun collecting evidence of the learning experiences in our classrooms by visiting classes and asking students questions about what they are learning. In addition, in the last week of school, randomly selected students will be interviewed about how writing is taught in their subjects. The information given to us by our students will be used to measure the progress we are making in implementing strategies to improve writing across the school.

Kind regards



Touch Football

Chloe Long

On Wednesday 19 June, Miss Long and Ms Moretti travelled to Naracoorte with 2 football teams to compete in a 9-a-side competition with Georgia Winter coaching the 8/9 girls' team and Miss Moretti coaching the year 10 team. The first game of the day was the 8/9 girls taking on Keith. The girls started off slowly and were a bit unsure of the game play, however, a half time speech from their coach saw the girls pick up in the second half. An unfortunate injury to Reese Balshaw saw the girls playing with 7 for the rest of the day. The 8/9 girls grew in confidence with every game. Harmoniee Smith and Jess Gerritsen tackled hard and were unstoppable defenders. Kasey Venables and Sophie Clifton moved the ball quickly and took some 'specky' marks. Nakita Bormann was our leading goalkicker for the day. The year 10s also had an undermanned team, led by Shandeem Balshaw and Indi Venables, who encouraged everyone to have a go and keep going throughout every game. Stella Glynn showed her talent, working hard to score many goals and setting her team mates up for success. Shakayla Pierce and Shayla Sommer work hard all day, taking lots of marks and chasing down their opponents. Breanna Lythgo grew in confidence throughout the day, while Skye Peterson was a tackling machine. Overall the girls improved a lot over the course of 5 games and should be proud of their efforts. Special thanks to Georgia Winter and Miss Moretti for coaching, Sam Gartner and Jacob Robbie umpiring.



Library

Miriam Williams

Following on from the recent poll about the Penola School Community library hours, we would like to announce the results. Option 1: 59, Option 2: 27 and Informal: 6.

Our hours will therefore be

Tuesday:	8:30 – 4:30
Wednesday:	8:30 – 7:00
Thursday:	8:30 – 4:30
Friday:	8:30 – 4:30
Saturday:	CLOSED
TOTAL HOURS:	<b><u>34.5</u></b>

Give me 5 for kids

In near arctic conditions, SRC co-presidents, Brooke Hutchesson and Jesse Martin, accompanied by fellow student Ruby-Lee Robinson and SRC coordinator, Olivia Jaeschke cooked a bbq breakfast as part of the 'Give me 5 for kids' fundraiser early on Thursday morning this week. Funds raised will go towards children's wards in our local hospitals.



Art Excursion

Aimee Moretti

On Wednesday 12 June, students in the year 9/10 visual arts & design class visited Majella Winery in the company of Ms Long and Mrs Moretti to take photos for the 2019 Penola Show Photography Competition. The weather was less than ideal, although this did not stop the enthusiastic students. Stella Scanlon, who works at Majella took the students on a tour right through the winery. Students were shown almost every stage of the wine making process and definitely made the most of the photographic opportunities, including the cellar door, the vineyards, stained wine barrels, winemakers, merchandise and scenery. The students engaged with the task enthusiastically, finding various angles and perspectives allowing them to capture interesting shots. The students were encouraged to be creative to capture the winery from their own unique perspectives and to work towards using specific photograph techniques they had learnt about. The students spent two hours photographing a range of locations at Majella. All the staff at Majella winery were very welcoming and accommodating. It was an enjoyable experience for the students who also had the opportunity to develop their digital SLR camera skills, and photography techniques. Students will print their photographs and display their work when they enter photos into the 'Majella Montage' Photography Competition at this year's Penola Show.

