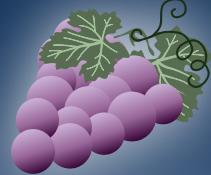


# Penola High School

4 November 2021



Issue 18

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## Important Dates

Monday 8 Nov-Friday 12 Nov 2021

- PE Week

Monday 8 November 2021

- 5-A-Side Soccer

Tuesday 9 November 2021

- Staff v Student Competition

Wednesday 10 November 2021

- Lawn Bowls

Friday 12 November 2021

- Festival of Sport

Monday 15 November 2021

- Transition Evening
- First Aid (half day)

Tue 16 Nov-Wed 17 Nov 2021

- Year 7 Transition

Thu 18 Nov-Fri 19 Nov 2021

- Year 6 Transition

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Penola SA 5277

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W: www.penolahs.sa.edu.au



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education

## Principal's Report

*Lesley Okholm*



### Dear Parents/Caregivers

We farewelled our Year 12 students last week, ending the formal lessons they will have with us as they head into final assessments and exams. From all accounts, their final assembly which was led by our Year 11s, was an emotional and fitting way to celebrate their achievements as learners across many years. I sincerely apologise for my absence due to illness.

### Leaders 2022

As we farewell this group, we excitedly prepare to welcome in our next Leadership team. This year we were thrilled to have healthy competition to lead our students and I now wish to congratulate the following:

SRC Presidents: Logan Burr and Georgia Winter

SRC Executive Members:

Secretary: Aaron Zerk

Treasurer: Kasey Venables

Public Relations: Amelia Henry

The willingness of these young people to step up and take on these traditional and new positions is heart-warming and certainly shows their ability to look beyond themselves and toward the betterment of our whole school. The growth in student voice this year looks certain to be even stronger in 2022 and it is well known that students who have a voice, achieve great things.

### Making a difference: Attendance

Last Monday we met as a full staff to look at how we are tracking around student learning outcomes, by looking at a range of information/data including tests like NAPLAN, surveys, like our student wellbeing one, attendance and grades that we have given all year across all students.

We use this to then decide how we can improve. We, as teachers and SSOs will bend over backwards to make learning fit student needs, tweaking how we teach as we go. We do an enormous amount of professional learning to ensure what we are doing is supported by current research and is shown to make a difference.

However, we cannot do this in isolation from our families and community and currently we are alarmed by around 15% of students who OFTEN do not attend school, and another 20% who regularly miss school. These absences are often unexplained or 'family' in nature.

I believe that **EVERY** parent and family can help us make huge changes for every young person and their life choices IF we have them at school on a regular basis. I challenge you to make this your business from now on. Education is an amazing privilege we have for all young people in Australia and we should not underestimate it.

Please contact myself, Judy Goodes or Jessie Cope if you need help getting your young person to come to school.

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## **Building upgrades**

I guess that while we have been so very lucky in remaining COVID free, the works we have planned for our school have hit yet another ‘speed bump’. Due to there being an extreme shortage of building supplies owing to COVID, our conversion of the Year 7/8 space and the community doorway into the Library are unable to be completed for the start of the 2022 school year.

Personally, and for Penola High School, I am extremely disappointed that all of our planning over 2 years still will not be in place for our new students, however ‘all good things come to those who wait’ is an oldie that we need to fall back on for now. What I know is that this work IS going to happen and when it does, we will offer facilities which are modern, functional and the best fit for our middle school learners.

On a better note, it is exciting to see the work occurring around Café 43. I thank most sincerely Ben Henry and family for the massive work clearing the block around the Café, Penola High School staff and their band of Year 9 helpers, and Matt Phillips for their work on trees and building garden beds. Also thank you to all community members/businesses who have helped us out with materials, including Gambier Earth Movers, Penola Hardware and Penola Primary School (seedlings).



Finally, the work our Year 10s are doing with Aimee Moretti on murals around our garden beds is starting to come to fruition and will be a vibrant and exciting vista in the quad area. Students being able to take on school community projects as part of their learning is invaluable and instils a sense of pride in us all.

Work in progress.....



## **Staffing 2022**

I am pleased to be able to announce the appointment of Hillary Trotter as our Deputy Principal for the next 4 years. Hillary brings to us enormous experience and skills at Senior Secondary level.

In announcing this, it is with some sadness that I let you know that Judy Goodes is pursuing her passion for primary education in 2022 by taking on the Principal’s role at Padthaway Primary School for 6 months. Her energy and passion to support the young people of Penola and District this year has been second to none, and she will be missed.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally'.

## Student Representative Council

Olivia Jaeschke

On Thursday 28 October 2021 the Student Representative Council celebrated a successful year of fundraising and implementing positive change to the school community, as well as farewelling this year's Co-Presidents Ella Hutchesson and Charlotte Neale.

This year the SRC organised and implemented many amazing projects, including Shelley Crawford and Taylah Burr who worked hard on setting up a regular and sustainable canteen structure 2 days a week, Georgia Winter who managed the planning of the School Formal fundraiser for Dolly Dream, and senior students who went to Governing Council about the addition of grey track pants to the school uniform. The SRC were also involved in supporting many other causes throughout the year.

We look forward to the 2022 Student Representative Council continuing on this years success.



## Defence Force Recruiting

Shelly Crawford and Skylar Petrie

Year 9 students Shelley Crawford and Skylar Petrie recently went to Adelaide to visit the Defence Force Recruiting Office. They learnt the pathways you can choose from in the Defence Force and the different career opportunities available. They also heard about leadership roles and what courses can be taken to achieve this goal.



## Clothing Donation

Riley Edwards

As a part of the Partnership Innovation Projects curriculum, Riley Edwards and Archer Virtanen have organised a fundraiser for the charity 'Treasure Boxes'.

Treasure Boxes is an Adelaide based charity, providing support to families around the state who are struggling to provide their kids with the essentials of life such as, bedding, clothing, toys and meals. Circumstances could be due to poverty, homelessness, and/or domestic violence. The boys are calling for donations of toys, books, clothing – especially teen clothing. If you are able to help, please drop into Penola High School.



## Penola High School 60th Annual Presentation Night

Penola High School  
Wednesday 8 December 2021  
7.15pm for a 7.30pm start

### Art Display in the Foyer

All students are expected to attend and wear school uniform.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all family members must book a seat. We are required to allocate designated seating for the public attending the event.

Please phone 8737 0000 to reserve a seat.  
Students do not need seats booked.

## Year 12 Last Day

Mike Hentschke

Our 2021 Year 12s finished their formal learning last Friday, being the last day of scheduled lessons.

Their day started with breakfast at Greenrise. To the teacher's surprise and amusement, each student came dressed as a staff member. It showed great imagination and creativity as they modelled us very well.

The Year 12s then returned to school to welcome younger students into the newly decorated foyer. It is always amusing to see the pranks and tricks of the Year 12 class for that year.

Our Year 11s hosted the formal farewell assembly for the Year 12s. This assembly heard a farewell message from Principal, Lesley Okholm, which was read in her absence by Judy Goodes. Year 12 Leader, Mike Hentschke also reflected on the student's time at Penola High School and the varied opportunities that lie ahead of them.

A final report from our SRC leaders Ella Hutchesson and Charlotte Neale was followed by Tom Skeer and Stella Glynn speaking about reaching the completion of Year 12.

The traditional morphed photos show the student changes from Year 1 to Year 12. The Year 12s prepared a video that reflected on activities over their time at Penola High School.

Thanks go to the Year 11 students for hosting this assembly and to their homegroup teachers Tara Millard and Andi Zerk for their assistance in its organisation.

Again 2021 has thrown some challenges at our Year 12s, but as they now finalise assessment items and complete their exams - they have shown resilience and determination to complete the year in a positive manner.



## Year 9 Home Economics

Andi Zerk

As part of the Year 9 Home Economics course, students researched the packaging process of foods. They learnt about protection from damage/contamination to ensure consumers buy in the best condition, as well as how the right packaging helps to preserve the food and increase the shelf life. Students were also given information about the characteristics of good packaging and how the label should be appealing to the consumer.

Students then created their own biscuits and designed their own packaging, including the nutritional values.



Recently Shane and Kerry McPherson from Penola IGA generously donated sausages and bread for a FREE sausage sizzle at Penola High School. Staff and students enjoyed a sausage for lunch, some even two. The school community greatly appreciates their amazing donation.



### Resilience In Our Teens for Parents

An interactive teen development webinar. Parents can learn to reduce anxiety and build resilience in 13-18-year-olds with **Michael Hawton, MAPS**

Held over 3 interactive webinar sessions

**25th November, 2nd & 9th December**

**6.30pm - 8.45pm (AEDT)**

Only \$99

Register here:

[www.parentshop.com.au/parents/resilience-in-our-teens-parents](http://www.parentshop.com.au/parents/resilience-in-our-teens-parents)



Very insightful course. I love how it combines scientific evidence with practical guidelines. It will help me with my own anxiety as well as coaching the kids.

Thank you!



**Parentshop**  
lifelong behaviour change

- Eliza



### OPPORTUNITY FOR 4 HOURS WORK

Please note this is not ongoing employment

You will be paid for your time and lunch is provided.

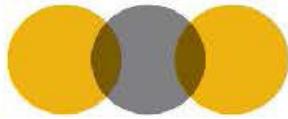
We are looking for someone to play mellow acoustic guitar for a Men's Pamper Day on Thursday 25th November 10am until 2pm.

You must be fully COVID-19 vaccinated, hold a current National Police Clearance and be prepared to sign a confidentiality agreement.



Please contact Danielle Ashford on 8724-7270 if this sounds like an opportunity for you.





# Stand Like Stone

Inspiring kindness and courage



## SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW OPEN

**Apply today!**

**Link to the application form  
and guidelines available at -  
[www.standlikestone.com.au](http://www.standlikestone.com.au)**

**Applications Close 30/11/21**

**We are here to support  
the Limestone Coast**

We have a variety of general scholarships available as well as for arts, trades, music, nursing and viticulture for students with a connection to the Limestone Coast.

Contact us today - Ph. 7701 9259 or [info@standlikestone.com.au](mailto:info@standlikestone.com.au)

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**Are you concerned about the drug or alcohol use of someone close to you?**

**Are you at a loss as to what to do?**

**Do you feel helpless and alone?**

Family Drug Support are holding their award winning course in Mt Gambier in November

## **Stepping Stones**

When: Saturday & Sunday 13-14 & 27-28 November 2021

Where: UniSA 170 – 174 Wireless Road West, Mount Gambier

Time: 9.00am – 4.00pm (each day)

**Lunch Provided (please notify dietary requirement when registering)**

Cost Free Course

Workbook \$40.00 FDS members \*

\$70.00 non-members (includes \$30 annual FDS membership)\*

\*assistance available for those experiencing financial hardship

**To Register and for further information contact:**

- Sally (FDS Course Leader) Ph 0490 536 989 Email [sally@fds.ngo.org.au](mailto:sally@fds.ngo.org.au)
- Sophie (SMLC) Ph 0429342 175 Email [sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au](mailto:sophiebourchier@smlc.com.au)

**RSVP by Friday 5 November 2021**

### **Feedback from past participants**

*"The course was a life saver! It provided skills for me to survive. It opened up new ways of seeing and dealing with myself and the drug user. It was a great relief and support to be with others" Joan*

*I can now support my son in a way that will lead to positive outcomes. I have the skills to support and love him without needing to control. I have also taken back my life and value myself as a person" Pete*



SMLC is funded by the Federal Government and supported by the Limestone Coast Local Government Association



UNSTUCK



**Penola Wellness Group Presents**

# **Mental Health Awareness Evening**

**We all feel stuck sometimes join us to hear stories, gather resources  
and make connections to find out about becoming unstuck**

**Brands Laira Cellar Door**

**6pm Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021**



**MC**

**Jessica Adamson**

**Journalist, Speaker, Event Host / Facilitator, & former 7 News Presenter**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Anne-Marie Williams**

**Inaugural Member Penola Wellness Group**

**Graham Cornes**

**Ex-AFL Footballer and Media Personality**

**John Mannion**

**Mental Health Commissioner**

**Dr Flip Oberholzer**

**Clinical Psychologist**



**\$25 entry fee includes light dinner  
drinks available for purchase**

Tickets for COVID numbers at:

<https://unstuckmentalhealthevening.eventbrite.com.au>

RSVP By 16<sup>th</sup> November

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