

Staff News

20th May 2019

Year 12 Phys Ed Camp 5th-8th March

Seven Stage 2 Phys Ed students travelled to the Murray River with Chloe Long and Mike Hentschke to undertake three days of sailing and thus complete a compulsory Practical Unit. Numerous skills were developed over the three days of the camp. A strengthening wind on the first day saw many capsized their boats. After a day devoted to basic skill acquisition, the students participated in highly competitive races.

When asked for a highlight of the camp, the boys nominated Mike Hentschke's amazing cooking.

Student Free Day 12th March

The improvement of students' academic writing and reading comprehension formed the focus of our first student free day. A whole school Literacy Agreement was drafted and, subsequently, teachers will be particularly focused on the development of subject specific and technical vocabulary.

GRIP Conference 14th March

SRC leaders Jesse Martin, Charlotte Neale, and Brooke and Ella Hutchesson attended the GRIP Leadership Conference at UniSA, Mt Gambier. The students attended a number of workshops and enjoyed the opportunity to talk to student leaders from other sites.

Bullying No Way 15th March

The National Day Against Bullying and Violence was recognised through activities in Learning for Life. Students focused on bullying, bystanders and ways to reduce bullying at PHS.

At Recess and Lunchtime there were games and activities in the Hall, including Giant Jenga and a Photo Booth. Students also came and signed the pledge wall to say they agree to stand up against bullying at our school.

Lions Youth of the Year: Regional Finals 17th March

Ebonie Moulton and Jesse Martin competed against eight other finalists in the Regional Final of the Lions Youth of the Year Quest. Both students gave polished performances and received positive feedback from the judges. Jesse was runner up for this section of the Quest.

Interschool Athletics 20th March

The 74th Annual SESSA Athletics Championships were held in Bordertown, with students from eight schools competing. The PHS Open Boys Relay Team deserves special mention for their sterling effort in placing equal first in their event. Students who received an individual top three placing were Bailey Lindner, Joel Virtanen, Jesse Martin, Dylan Morton, Shandeen Balshaw, Ryan Zerk, Tom Jerome, Nakita Bormann, Aaron Zerk, Stella Glynn and Sam Gartner.

Year 12 Jumpers

Our students (and Vicki) are now resplendent in their senior's tops which they worked together to design in 2018.

Stage 1 Outdoor Ed Camp 26th-28th March

Our students joined others from Naracoorte in a trip down the Glenelg River. The students paddled canoes from Moleside to Pritchards on the first day, and then on to Wilson's Hall before ending their

trip at Sandy Waterholes. As well as holding their own on the water, our students demonstrated good camping skills throughout the whole adventure.

The March Charge 29th March and 1st April

With support from other SRC members, Brooke Hutchesson initiated and implemented an event over two days to raise awareness of the work of the Cancer Council. Students from our feeder schools visited PHS where they joined our students in an assembly, participated in a STEM Challenge, creating gym equipment, and completed an obstacle course. A group mural and individual pins were created, the latter to be worn in an awareness walk.

PHS students participated in a separate walk event, with some sterling individual performances, and joined in fund raising through Home Groups.

This extremely well-organised and coordinated event was deemed a great success.

Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Competition 2nd April

Who other than Mike Hentschke to organise students' participation in such a competition organised by the Australian Maths Trust? Our congratulations are extended to Ella Hutchesson and Phoebe Tregenza who both received Credits for their efforts.

STEM PD 4th April

2019 School Sport SA D Grade Athletics 8th April

Members of our athletics squad participated well in training for their day at SANTOS stadium and approached the carnival in high spirits and with determination to succeed. Our students produced many exceptional performances on the track and in the field events, with a substantial number of students finishing in the top three for their event(s). Amongst those who shone individually were Shandeem Balshaw, Nakita Borman, Ebonie Moulton, Jessie Martin, Joel Virtanen, Codi Kellett, Alex Attenborough, Reese Balshaw, Olivia Berkin, Brad Gartner, Sam Gartner, Jess Gerritsen, Amelia Henry, Ella Hutchesson, Bailey Lindner, Caleb Lythgo, Jess Lucas, Dylan Morton, Charlotte Neale, Lochy Neale, Tom Skeer, Lachie Summers, Indi Venables, Kasey Venables, Georgia Winter, Aaron Zerk and Ryan Zerk. Students really pulled together in the relays, ensuring the overall success of our team. There was much excitement at the end of the day as our boys were announced as winners of their division, and the team as a whole was placed first.

Much credit goes to the students who put in all day and consistently gave of their best, but also to Chloe Long who prepared the team and developed its positive culture.

Senior Art Excursion 8th-10th April

Year 11/12 Visual Arts and Design students travelled with students from Grant and Allendale East to Adelaide to immerse themselves in the city's Art culture. On the way, students stopped to investigate the paintings on the silos at Coonahpyn. In Adelaide, events began with a visit to the Central School of Art for workshops on sculpture, drawing and painting, followed by a quick look at street art on the way to the Art Gallery of South Australia. Students toured the Ben Quilty exhibition and saw some of the permanent collection before moving to Rundle Mall and its sculptures.

This experience was designed to support the development of student folios and practical work. The Year 12 SACE Art Show and the TAFE Light Square Gallery provided stimulus and the opportunity for research, as did the students' tour of the Jam Factory.

Health Career Opportunity 9th April

Four Year10/11 students, interested in a career in health, attended an information session presented by Flinders University Rural Health Society at Millicent High School. Students participated in hands-on sessions focusing on Medicine, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Physiotherapy and

Optometry. These were followed by a Q&A session where students could ask questions about the courses and university life.

ANZAC Remembrance 10th April

Year 9 students, under the guidance of Miriam Williams, led the ANZAC Day remembrance service. The students shared biographies of four local veterans and read two war poems. Invited guests, Mr Roen Lynn and Mr Peter DeGaris, representing the Penola/Coonawarra RSL, attended and Roen shared memories of his time in New Guinea.

A wreath was laid and the Ode recited. The ceremony came to a close with the playing of the Last Post, a minute's silence and Reveille.

Our SRC Co-Presidents, Brooke Hutchesson and Jesse Martin represented the school at the town observance on ANZAC Day.

Kids' Time

End of Term Assembly 11th April

Youth Parliament

Stage 1 student, Ruby-Lee Robinson was selected to participate in the Youth Parliament. During the term break, she spent time in Adelaide meeting fellow parliamentarians and becoming familiar with the processes and protocols of Parliament, an experience which she relished. Ruby is now preparing her contribution to a Bill which is to be presented at the next sitting of the Youth Parliament.

South Australian Sheep Expo

Jess Eastwood attended the South Australian Sheep Expo during the holidays. Here is her report.

During the holidays I went to Adelaide for the annual South Australian Sheep Expo. Whilst camping at the showgrounds we participated in a wide variety of workshops and lectures. These included new technologies, such as virtual fencing, along with learning about sheep breeds, breeding, livestock judging and selection, and wool on and off farm. We were given an assignment to write a cover letter for a job, so not only was I learning about the sheep industry but building life skills as well.

I was given a Dohne ram to care for and train during the time of the Expo. On the last day we all got to showcase our knowledge and skills by showing our sheep in Handlers Classes. These were hotly contested, with the judges commenting that they struggled to choose placings due to the tight competition. I was lucky enough to receive 3rd in my handlers class. This was my first time ever showing livestock and will definitely continue in the future! The SA Sheep Expo is a new event offering young people a platform to develop a better understanding of the sheep industry. The Expo has taught me so much not only to do with the sheep industry but life in general and making lifelong friends. I encourage more kids to participate in events like these as you get so much out of it and have loads of fun!

Student Free Day 29th April

The term began with staff travelling to Lucindale Area School where they joined with staff from Lucindale, Kingston Community School and Allendale East and Kangaroo Inn Area Schools for a day of intensive training and development. After a session focused on the Literacy and Numeracy Progressions, staff attended a number of learning area work shops where they shared and developed learning tasks they will use this term. Working with colleagues in this way is very beneficial for teachers and directly influences practice in the classroom.

Paint the Town Read 30th April

The Paint The Town REaD relay visited the library with one community member and their parent in attendance! The two presenters, Rhonda and Barbie, and the mayor, who read the story, appeared to have a great time!

Stage 1 Child Studies Babies

Students undertaking Stage 1 Child Studies hosted electronic 'babies' for several days – and nights, and found the experience to be both challenging and satisfying.

St Vincent de Paul Visit 8th May

Jayne Shortt from the St Vincent de Paul Society (Adelaide) visited the Year 11/12 Health Class to raise awareness of the cost of living. Students were involved in a 'Monopoly' style activity featuring real life scenarios, including the difficulties faced by those living on the New Start Allowance. Students were very engaged and left with a heightened awareness of the challenges of living on a small income and some of the difficult decisions which have to be made.

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews 8th-9th May

In a new venture designed to make Parent/Student/Teacher interviews more accessible to members of our community, these meetings were held over two evenings. Many families availed themselves of this chance to talk with teachers about students' learning and next steps which should be taken. Teachers were pleased with the response and found the interviews to be very valuable. Parents who were unable to attend on either of these evenings were welcome to arrange alternative times.

Rostrum Voice of Youth 8th May

Eleven of our students participated in this year's 'Rostrum Voice of Youth' public speaking competition. Students in the Junior section were required to deliver a six-minute prepared speech, while the bar was set at eight minutes for senior students. As well, students were given 15 minutes to prepare a three minute speech on one of three set topics. A considerable challenge! Our students formed almost 10% of students competing across SA and the NT, and acquitted themselves well. This was an excellent opportunity for students to develop their public speaking skills and confidence.

Touch Football 10th May

Four keen and enthusiastic teams of students travelled to Mt Gambier to compete in the local rounds of Knock Out Touch Football. The first match was between our senior girls and a team from Tenison Woods College. This was a tough game, and, although the game was lost, the girls developed their skills throughout. Also facing Tenison Woods College, our senior boys came out victors in a tough match. The boys also won their second match, played against Grant High School. The afternoon began with the Year 8 and 9 girls going down to a team from Mt Gambier High School, but the boys came away with a convincing win.

Open Boys Football 13th May

The Open Boys football team, ably coached by Chloe Long, travelled to Naracoorte where they played the Bordertown team in the first match. The boys began strongly and built on this base. Significant contributions came from forward half players Jack Kain, Sam Gartner, Jacob Robbie, Joel Virtanen, James Foggo, and defenders Jesse Martin, Dylan Morton, Brad Gartner and Tom Jerome. Jye Whitehouse and Bailey Lindner also contributed, with the outcome being a strong win for Penola.

The second game, against a strong Naracoorte side, saw notable contributions from Caleb Lythgo,

Ryan Zerk, Aaron Edwards, Ty Dinnison and Tom Skeer, playing on the wing throughout the day. Our thanks go to our volunteers, Justin McDonald, Darren Skeer and Pat Merrett, without whom our boys would not have had this opportunity.

Year 8 STEM Day 13th May

NAPLAN Testing 14th-16th May

Our NAPLAN testing ran smoothly, with students successfully completing their tests on-line.

SRC Assembly 14th May

An SRC assembly was held in the stadium with Brooke Hutchesson opening proceedings with the Acknowledgement of the Land. A video of the 'March Charge' event was shown, and various SRC members recounted some of the term 1 highlights. Logan Burr and Seth Lear introduced the new recess and lunchtime sports equipment and spelt out the details of the borrowing system. Chloe Long presented certificates from the very successful Athletics Carnival at SANTOS and acknowledged a considerable number of sporting achievements of members of our school in the wider community.

Kimberly-Clark Year 12 Chemistry Trip 15th May

Our four senior Chemistry students joined with others from Naracoorte and Millicent High Schools and Lucindale and Kangaroo Inn Area Schools to undertake a tour of the Kimberly-Clark mill at Millicent. Students listened to a presentation before touring the site itself. Many connections were made between information gleaned on the tour and the content of the Stage 2 Chemistry Curriculum statement and students had the opportunity to gather information for their 'Science as a Human Endeavour' tasks. We are most fortunate to be permitted by Scott Whicker, manager, to make this visit, and to learn from engineers, Stephen Say and Josef Marzouk.

Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival 16th-19th May

Once again, our school community has enjoyed close involvement with the Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival, with staff and students involved in many ways.

The Official Festival Opening 16th May

The Festival was officially opened in our Hall, with Ngaire Benfell overseeing proceedings. Starting with the Acknowledgement of the Land, Ngaire oversaw proceedings with a steady hand. The winner of the Festival Design Prize was announced. Many of our students, supported by Kathleen Phillips, entered this event, and their work stood up well against that of experienced designers. Following this announcement, visitors had the opportunity to view the entries in the John Shaw Neilson Acquisitive Art Prize while being plied with fabulous hors d'oeuvre prepared and served by Year 10 Café students under the tutelage of Olivia Jaeschke. (One visitor was heard to say that the prawns were so good, he followed the student with the plate!)

Community Art

Much behind-the-scenes hard work was carried out by our redoubtable and enthusiastic Art teacher, Aimee Moretti, who led students and community members in the preparation of the hay bales which adorned the main street, the painting of stobie poles in Portland Street, preceded by a Street Art Workshop, and the execution of the mural on the side of the vet. clinic.

Catherine Martin Literary Award

Encouraged and supported by English teachers, Kate Jones, Jessica Cope and Jane Pryor, many of our students entered the Catherine Martin Literary Award, with several having their work shortlisted. Ben Hutchesson was runner-up in the 13 to 15 year old category, while Olivia Berkin was placed first. Jacob Robbie was runner up in the 16 to 18 year old section of the award, while Amy Whitehouse

came first with an imaginative tale of a football match. In their comments, the judges highlighted the strong points of each short-listed piece and provided constructive feedback. All short-listed entries are displayed on the board near the door of the library and are very interesting to read.

[Library Activities for Children](#)

Two sessions of brush painting for children under the guidance of a visiting artist were held in the library.

[Community Sporting Achievements of our students](#)

Our congratulations are extended to the following students for their sporting achievements in the wider community:

Georgia Winter – Competed in the Australian Country Junior Basketball Cup, travelling to New Zealand where she won a gold medal. Georgia will also play in the Under 16 National Championships in Darwin in July this year.

Joel Virtenan – was a part of the Glenelg under 16s team, which won the U16 Torrens University Cup Grand Final.

Kasey and Indi Venables – have both been selected for the South East Academy for netball
Shandeen Balshaw – has been selected for the Training Squad for the South East Women's football zone team.

Aaron Zerk – has been chosen for the Adelaide Crows training academy for football.

[Cancer Council Fund Raiser 16th May](#)

Staff enjoyed a fund raising morning tea as part of the Cancer Council's 'Australia's Largest Morning Tea' campaign.

[Library News](#)

Penola School Community Library is excited to announce the successful receipt of a \$1500 grant from the Good Things Foundation, which aims to support older Australians gain basic digital skills and confidence over a maximum of a 10 month period.

Due to matters beyond our control, the opening hours of the library have been reduced. Currently, the library is open to the public from Tuesday to Friday, including Wednesday evening, but closed on Saturday mornings. Members of the community who like to use the library with their children on Saturdays are concerned by this, so community members are being consulted about two proposals: to continue as is, or to close to the public on Tuesday and reopen on Saturday morning. Voting slips are available on the front desk in the library if you wish to vote.