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## Important Dates

### Monday 10 May 2021

- Open Girls Football

### Tuesday 11 May 2021

- Harmony Day

### Friday 14 May 2021

- School Closure Day

### Monday 17 May 2021

- School Closure Day

### Tuesday 18 May 2021

- Parent/Teacher Interviews

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Penola SA 5277  
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**Government  
of South Australia**

Department for Education

## Principal's Report

*Lesley Okholm*



Welcome to Term 2. We welcome this term Adam Perrotta who has come to us from Adelaide. He will be teaching a range of subjects. Currently Kevin Knott is on long service leave and we are lucky to have Andi Zerk filling in for him. You may be aware that Nikki Cook had a fall late last term and is struggling with a back injury. He is trying to return as soon as he gets medical clearance and whilst laid up, is going above and beyond by planning all learning, and particularly working with his Year 11 and 12s from home.

### Semesters, subjects and interviews

Already we are into our learning with a vengeance, knowing we have 8 weeks until the end of semester and resulting our Stage 1 and 2 SACE students. This time last year, as a recent newcomer to Penola High School, I didn't fully grasp what a change in semester means. Being primarily from a primary education background, where we cruise from term to term, this end of semester came with a jolt. I wonder if parents understand this also? This means for all students other than Year 12, they will all change subjects in Week 9 of term 2. For Year 8s it is a little change, from Home Ec to Tech or vice versa, in Year 9 two subject choices change, by Year 10, PLP is commenced, the first step in achieving their SACE, and 2 choice subjects, and for Year 11s, perhaps every subject changes and Research Project is added. Why am I telling you this? Because I am hopeful you take up a couple of opportunities in the next weeks.

Firstly, book in for student/teacher/parent interviews if your young person is in Years 9/10/11 or 12 on Tuesday 18 May 2021. (Information out this week) Make sure you bring your young person because this is a place we can work together to help make decisions and ensure we select the best mix of subjects with them.

Year 8s are holding Round Table meetings as a trial at the end of semester for their parents so stay tuned for more information later in the term.

Secondly, start talking with them now. Talk about how they believe they are going, and any concerns they have. Be ready for 'it's boring', and then dig deeper by asking questions like 'what are you learning about?' or 'can you see this being something useful for the future?' If they cannot answer this then we as teachers, need to know as these understandings and connections are the start of students selecting their pathway to future employment.

### Pupil Free Days: Friday 14 May 2021 and Monday 17 May 2021

Our school hosts the Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival opening and the John Shaw Neilson Art Show, on Friday 14 May 2021. I know many students work for local businesses and are no doubt booked up to work over this weekend. We have chosen to close on Friday to allow students and families to be a part of the Festival, however, our CAFÉ students, and other Food and Hospitality students play an enormous role in catering for this opening. We need as many as possible, if not committed, to come to school on Friday afternoon and early evening to prepare, cook, serve and clean up this event. This forms a large component of their assessment. Please support us by encouraging those who can, to help out and in doing so put a proud face forward for our school.

On Monday 17 May 2021 our staff are working on Task design as a team. We provide a range of assessment tasks in all subjects across all year levels already. However, we know that if students are to be able to get high grades, tasks need to change at times. Our SACE and Year 8-12 data shows we are getting very few As and our goal is to change this. We hope to work with a Learning Improvement Officer from Adelaide and our Principal Consultant to challenge any old ways of thinking and move to exciting changes.

**Our grounds are changing..**

Slowly! Latest update regarding the carpark and court situation is we are a very low priority for asphalt due to road construction occurring. Whilst I have attempted to get this moving, it appears we just have to wait. However, other projects are beginning. Justin, Dave and the boys groups are removing overgrown shrubs in the quad so we can paint the seating and replant a mediterranean style food garden. The lines are bold and bright on the basketball court with a new 4 square court especially for Year 7s. Planting has begun and we are beginning to design spaces for students to congregate along the front areas of the school. We hope to soon rip out the ghastly 60's concrete and pebble feature near the front foyer doors and establish a small indigenous garden and seating area there. Out in the Agriculture area we have Hocus Pocus, Hula Hoop, Heather and Hopscotch our mini goats who are settled and loving life. Slow and steady.....

**Attendance**

Week 1 attendance was an enormous improvement at 85%. Well done. This compares to a very concerning 74% at the end of Term 2. (Most of these were unexplained or family reasons, not being unwell)

**Governing Council**

On Monday 17 May 2021 at 6:00pm our Governing Council meets.

Two important agenda items are:

1. Ruth Schubert (Education Director) will be speaking with Council about what the school communities prioritises in the new Principal. This position will be advertised later this term.
2. The mobile phone policy draft will be considered
3. All are welcome to attend these meetings, held in our Library. Contact one of our Council members if you wish your opinion to be heard. They are Chairperson, Tamara Ploenges, Megan McGuinness, Stacey Marlow, Deirdre Crawford, Bridgitte Cutchie, Ben Henry, Steven Mitchell, Charmaine Moulton, Emma Neale, Teresa Stewart, Lesley Okholm, Vicki McDonald-Burgess or Judy Goodes.

Kind regards



**Student Illness**

Parents and students are reminded that if a student is feeling unwell or is injured at school, they are to report immediately to the front office for assistance. Students are reminded NOT to contact their parent from their mobile phone – students are to report to the front office to wait in the Sick Room while staff contact their parent/guardian to arrange transportation home and then the office staff can record the absence as an early departure if the student goes home.

**Buses**

Parents of bus students are reminded that if you have a concern regarding behaviour/issues on the bus, it must be directed, in the first instance, to the Principal of that young person's school, and then if need be, to Penola High School, as they manage the bus routes. Parents should NOT contact bus drivers regarding any bus issues.

**Materials & Services Charge and School Card**

*Vicki McDonald-Burgess*

**Material and Services Charge**

Parents have the option of paying the 2021 Materials and Services charge in full or in instalments by cash, cheque, credit card, eftpos or centrepay system. Parents who wish to pay the Materials and Services charge and any other school costs, eg, camps, either in instalments and/or by direct debit and centrepay system please phone Vicki at the school on 8737 0000 to make the necessary arrangements.

**School Card**

All families are encouraged to review their financial situations as the School Card limits for 2021 have increased. If you were ineligible in 2020 you may be eligible in 2021. If eligible in 2020 a reminder that you must re-apply for 2021. Applications can be completed online at <https://www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard> or by contacting the school for a paper application form. For further information, again, please contact Vicki McDonald-Burgess on 8737 0000.

**PRIOR NOTICE**

**SCHOOL CLOSURE**

**FRIDAY 14 MAY 2021**

**STUDENT FREE DAY**

**MONDAY 17 MAY 2021**

**Open Boys Football**  
*Tara Millard*

The lack of numbers didn't damper the boys spirits and it showed as their work rate and their ferocity at the contest was commendable. Game 1 saw Penola take on the traditional powerhouse, Naracoorte, with a closer game than anticipated in a 14 v 14 match. Penola moved the ball swiftly allowing Flynn Kain to kick the first goal. We had a strong first 3 quarters with an unstoppable backline force from Bailey Lindner, Ned Skeer, Lochy Neale and Tom Barnes making it difficult for Naracoorte to score. Aaron Zerk and Dylan Morton worked hard to transition the ball through the middle. Ty Dinnison presented well in the forward line with impressive hands to the ball. Unfortunately, Naracoorte proved to be too strong in the last quarter taking the win. Game 2 saw the boys take on Kingston, a side noted for their impressive skills. Kingston making it difficult from the start. Kingston were team players and provided us with two boys to allow for a 16 v 16 game. Both sides played a hard game demonstrating good sportsmanship. Kingston will progress through to round 2 of the knock out tournament. Thank you to Bob Reece for driving the bus and goal umpiring. Also huge thank you to Vesa Virtanen for coming out and umpiring the boys.



**Photography Workshop**  
*Lesley Okholm*

Last week Benedetta Rusconi visited Penola High School to hold a photography workshop with some of our students. Students learnt about exposure, shutter speeds and focal lengths. Benedetta will visit the school again over the next few weeks as she trains the students in readiness for them to assist her in photographing the huge array of events during the Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival. After the festival, Benedetta will return to the school to help the students select and edit photos for publication. Currently we do not run photography at Penola High School, so we highly value Benedetta's generosity in giving volunteer students a taste of the world of photography.



**PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**HARMONY DAY**

**TERM 2 WEEK 3 TUESDAY**  
**SPIKE BALL and FINSKA at the FRONT LAWN**  
**YEAR 9 BBQ AT LUNCH IN THE QUADRANGLE**

**WEAR ORANGE**



*nurturing individual success*



We invite you to join us at our

# TWILIGHT TOUR

Wednesday 2 June 2021  
5:30-7:15pm

All prospective families from Penola and surrounding areas are invited to a student-led guided tour to view Penola's extensive facilities and spacious grounds, discovering our broad range of academic subject choices, co-curricular and activities. It is a chance to learn about 7- High School, Senior Secondary, SACE and VET pathways.

Our Year 12 student leaders Ella and Charlotte will welcome you along with Principal Lesley Okholm and Coordinator of 7-High School and Wellbeing Olivia Jaeschke.

Our Teaching Team and Student Leaders will be on hand to answer any questions at the end of the tour.

Please RSVP to Penola High School on 8737 0000.





Just Picked

Ann Carpenter



Pears

Jean McArthur

The members of Gallery 54 invite you and your friends to

# HARVEST

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A Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival Exhibition

**Friday 14 May – 30 June 2021**

*An exhibition exploring the concept of Harvest through Painting, Printmaking, Drawing, Textiles and Ceramics by Gallery 54 Members*

**Jo Fife, Ann Carpenter, Anne Miles, Jean McArthur, Diana Wiseman, Kaye Riley, Sally O'Connor, Sue Shaw.**

Gallery hours: 10am – 3pm Thursday to Sunday.

T: 08 8737 2808

[www.gallery54.com.au](http://www.gallery54.com.au)

Like us on Facebook and Instagram

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# Child + Family Services **UNPLUGGED**

**Limited spots.  
Bookings essential!**

A workshop to help young people aged 12+ and parents learn how problematic gaming can lead to gambling behaviours and to develop practical strategies to support healthier gaming and internet use.

## The valuable workshops cover:

- How to create balance, develop alternative interests, and set healthy boundaries in relation to gaming.
- How to identify signs of problematic gaming and gambling and its impacts.
- Game development and the implementation of gambling features ie: micro-transactions, loot boxes, in-app purchases.
- Practical tips and proven strategies to combat problem gaming and gambling behaviours.
- How to manage associated problems (eg: school attendance, sleep issues and difficulty concentrating).

## Australian Research

- Of 1200 SA high school students, 11% have been found to use technology at an unsafe level.
- 10% have of young people are using the Internet for more than nine hours per day.
- By age 15, half of all young people have participated in some type of gambling.
- 54% of games on Facebook include gambling themes.
- Five out of 22 popular video games reviewed met the criteria for gambling including the option to cash out winnings.



**Date** Monday 28th or Tuesday 29th of June

**Time** 6.30pm - 8.00pm

**Location** Lifeline SE SA

**Address** 5 mark st, Mt Gambier

**Monday:** <https://www.trybooking.com/BQWUX>

**Tuesday:** <https://www.trybooking.com/BQWVE>

**Contact** unplugged@ucwb.org.au or 8245 7100



UnitingCare Wesley Bowden



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