



Contents

- Principal's Report
- Open Girls Cricket
- Governing Council AGM
- Interschool Swimming
- Cybersafety Awareness
- Open Boys Cricket
- Lions Youth of the Year
- Materials & Services
- Student Free Day
- Student Absence SMS
- Junior Netball
- PHS Interhouse Athletics Carnival
- Term 1 Calendar

Important Dates

- Monday 22 February 2021**
- Athletics Trials
- Tuesday 23 February 2021**
- 1500m
 - Acquaintance Night
- Thursday 25 February 2021**
- PHS Interhouse Athletics
- Monday 1 March 2021**
- Governing Council AGM
 - Lions Youth of the Year
- Wednesday 3 March 2021**
- Year 8 and 10 Immunisations
- Thursday 4 March 2021**
- Swamp Project

43 Cameron Street
Penola SA 5277
T: 08 8737 0000
F: 08 8737 0050
E: DL.0931_info@schools.sa.edu.au
W: www.penolahs.sa.edu.au



**Government
of South Australia**

Department for Education

Principal's Report

Lesley Okholm

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A year ago our world changed with the arrival and impact of COVID-19 into Australia. Our school, like every other school around the world, rushed to make learning available to every young person and their family whether they are on the school grounds or in the middle of nowhere!

We did this because we know how important quality education is and how much it contributes to future aspirations and success in the future.

The current situation in Victoria reminds us all that we need to be ready to adapt at any time. Whilst it is them now, it could be us next week. I have asked all staff to have their Google Classrooms ready at all times, so your young people can access their learning from home at any time. In a long lockdown, this would be supplemented with online Google Meets, enabling explicit teaching of subjects to occur.



There has been research already showing that across the world (excluding 3rd World countries) there has been MINIMAL impact on learning outcomes for students through online learning or blended learning, when students engage daily as required, to their subjects. This most certainly reinforces the importance of you as parents/caregivers, in maintaining high expectations of your young people to 'attend' and complete learning both at school and online.

Learning at Penola High School

Today I was able to choose menu items for a special lunch, including chicken cold rolls, mini pizzas and more, thanks to Mrs Jaeschke's Year 11/12 Health class. How lucky am I? This is one example of how we try to make learning authentic- meaning that students practice skills in a real life setting. Around the traps I am hearing whispers of egg incubators in Agriculture with Mike Hentschke and I am loving reading Year 8 student responses about their reading to Judy Goodes via Google Classroom. My own Essentials Maths class are looking at simple and compound interest rates and how they impact of the total cost of a personal loan on a car. Mia Tran's Year 9/10 Art and Design class have been using layers to create personal logos using their computers. Tara Millard's Year 10s are learning new skills in Ultimate Frisbee; and throughout all of this we are attending 'Swamp Project' days, Interschool swimming and trials for Athletics Day. NEVER a dull moment here!

Acquaintance Night



Building Strong Relationships

Students and families are cordially invited to our 'Acquaintance Get Together' to be held at Penola High School Tuesday 23 February 2021

- 4.30pm Meet Penola High School staff and other families socially. Sausage sizzle available.
- 5.30pm Hear plans for our Year 8/9/10 students.
- 6.00pm Learn about SACE - critical for Year 11/12 parents/students. (Other year levels welcome.)

5.00-6.30pm 'Industry and Education Forum' - find out what opportunities are available for your young people, in traineeships or apprenticeships with our local businesses.

For catering purposes, please RSVP to Sarah on 8737 0000 or sarah.walker532@schools.sa.edu.au by Friday 19 February 2021.



Attendance



Year to Date (2021)
The average daily attendance rate:
Year-to-Date, derived from student
attendance data sourced from the
school systems as at 12/02/2021

It is very concerning to see our attendance drop from 94% to 86% in a two week period. Many of these absences are unexplained or family related. The Department for Education says the following about absences and attendance.

“Learning is a progressive activity. Each lesson builds on the previous lesson. What a child learns today will help them with what they learn tomorrow. Missing days or parts of days creates gaps. A day away can mean missing out on important learning information or social activities and experiences. Students in our priority populations can experience more consequences from missing school.”

Reasons for absences

Schools can accept the following reasons for a student to miss school.

- If they are too sick to leave the house.
- If they have an infectious illness, such as gastroenteritis, chicken pox or measles.
- If there is a medical or dental appointment that could not be made out of school hours.
- If they have an approved exemption from school.
- If there has been a take home or a suspension from school for disciplinary reasons
- If there is an unavoidable reason a child cannot attend school. This must be discussed with the school principal.

If parents/caregivers place strong value on education this will rub off on the students.

As Principal I am responsible to act on habitual and chronic absenteeism. I will begin making calls and home visits to families involved.

Kind regards

Open Girls Cricket

Tara Millard

The Penola girls headed to Mount Gambier to compete in two 20/20 cricket games. Our first game was against Grant High School.

Batting first, Penola scored 6/68, Grant making it difficult with their experienced bowlers opening the match. Highlights from the match included Indi Venables as our top scorer with 10 runs, showcasing some clean hitting skill which included hitting a 4! Our second highest scorer for the day was Shandeen Balshaw, scoring 6 runs. Others to score runs were Stella Glynn, Breanna Lythgo, Amelia Henry and Olivia Berkin. The girls showed off quality bowling skills making it hard for Grant, who scored 8/69. Indi and Kasey Venables both taking a wicket each during the match.

Our second game was played against St. Martins Lutheran College, with Saint Martins batting first and scoring 6/40. Again, Kasey Venables took a wicket along with Sophie Clifton and Stella Glynn who demonstrated class bowling. Unfortunately, the girls didn't take home a win with Penola scoring 3/17 at the end of the game.

Both games were played in high spirits and the girls demonstrated great sportsmanship. Thank you to Ty Dinnison for umpiring and Bob Reece for driving the bus.



Penola High School Governing Council AGM 2021

**Monday 1 March 2021 6:00pm
in the Penola Community Library**

The Penola High School Governing Council currently comprises 15 members

- School Principal
- Staff Representative (as voted by school staff)
- 11 elected parents
- 2 co-opted members from the Penola High School staff (finance and curriculum purposes)

From the required membership of 11 elected parents we have 9 vacancies to be filled at this year's AGM. Are you interested in joining the school Governing Council? As an active member of Council you will be involved in the decision making processes of the school as well as supporting your child during their time at Penola High School. Council meets, on average, 8 times during the school year. The support given to the school community by parents is greatly appreciated and plays an integral part in the day to day running of the school.

PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL NOMINATION SLIP

Nominator _____

Nominee _____

Signed _____

Acceptance Signature _____

This nomination slip can either be returned to the Penola High School Front Office via your child, or you may phone your nomination through by Friday 19 February 2021.

Interschool Swimming

Chloe Long

This year Interschool Swimming looked a little different, with the 'Combined' schools team withdrawing from the traditional Interschool swimming carnival. This gave Penola, Millicent and Naracoorte high schools the opportunity to recreate the Small Schools Carnival. Excitement and numbers were high, with 24 competitors making their way to the Millicent Swimming Lake for a day full of friendly competition.

The competition was close all day, with the timekeepers having their work cut out for them with some photo finishes. All students achieved success throughout the day, by each taking home at least a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place ribbon. Some students were even surprised with how many ribbons they collected on the day. The excellent swimming of the Penola High School team saw some great results, with Penola High School walking away with the Under 16 Boys shield and the Open Girls shield. We also finished 2nd over all by only 10 points, which gave us a target to beat next year!

Days like this don't happen unless staff and students volunteer to be officials. Many thanks to Jake Klemm, Jo Skeer and Tara Millard for taking on a duty for the day and ensuring that everything run smoothly.

The final placements were as follows:

1. Millicent High School
2. Penola High School
3. Naracoorte High School



Cybersafety Awareness

Olivia Jaeschke

Susan McLean, Australia's foremost expert in the area of cybersafety, visited Penola High School on Tuesday and Wednesday last week to present information sessions around the safety and wellbeing of students with regards to cyber technology.

The aim was to support the community in helping to ensure respectful and responsible online experiences, and she worked with students and parents to help them "start the chat" around cybersafety awareness.

Susan's first presentation was to the Year 9, 10 and 11 students and after recess the Year 8 students were joined by primary students from Nangwarry, Kalangadoo, and Penola primary schools for her second presentation.

The presentations were delivered with Susan's famous 'no nonsense' approach, with the sessions focused on topics such as popular social networking sites and apps, online grooming and cyberbullying. Susan shared information about the legal ramifications, and potential criminal charges of sharing nudes; and the possible social and emotional consequences of sharing inappropriate material. She also shared some potential dangers of gaming and provided some helpful safety tips.

Susan is certified by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner as a provider of high quality cybersafety education to schools throughout Australia. Each year she speaks to over 70,000 young people and thousands of teachers and parents.



Open Boys Cricket

Chloe Long

On Monday 8 February 2021, Penola High School hosted Millicent High School for the annual Open Boys cricket game. Penola lost the toss and were sent out into the field. Archer Virtanen and Ned Skeer opened the bowling, and it was very clear from early on, that Millicent High School had some talented cricketers, and that Penola High School was undermanned. Although Millicent High School were very talented, the Penola High School cricketers had some great moments of play. The first wicket was taken by the brother combo of bowler Toby Zerk and Aaron Zerk taking a great catch at square leg. The next 2 wickets fell to Ned Skeer and the final 2 wickets went to Aaron Zerk. In the second innings Penola headed out to bat, Archer Virtanen making his debut in the Penola High School team. He showed good form and faced some quick bowls. Aaron Zerk continued his form from the first innings by top scoring in the batting.

This was the first interschool sport for the year, with the boys stepping up to the challenge and playing the game in strong spirits with smiles on their faces the whole time. They should be proud of how they played and their sportsmanship throughout the match.



Materials & Services Charge & School Card

Families who were eligible for School Card in 2020 MUST re-apply for School Card in 2021. Application forms are available from the school or families may apply online at the following link: <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>. If you have children attending different schools (ie secondary and/or primary), a separate application form must be completed for each school. However, if you apply online the application can be completed for multiple schools. We encourage all parents to review their financial circumstances to see if their students' education costs can be financed in this manner. Please note that those students in receipt of School Card will have the School Materials & Services charge automatically deducted. Payment of Materials & Services Charge. Parents have the option of paying the Materials and Services charge in full or in instalments by cash, cheque, credit card, eftpos, direct credit or centrepay system. Parents who wish to pay the Materials and Services charge and any other school costs, ie camps etc by instalments, via the centrepay system and/or by direct credit must contact Vicki at the school on 8737 0000 to complete the required paperwork. The Materials and Services charge is due and payable by all parents as soon as possible.

**EARLY REMINDER
STUDENT FREE DAY
TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2021
WEEK 7**

**Student Absence SMS (only)
Notification number:
0400 134 993**



Penola High School cordially invites you to

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR - CLUB HEATS -

Monday 1 March 2021
Penola High School
8:00pm



JUNIOR NETBALL TRAINING IS BACK!

THURSDAY 25TH FEB
4.30PM - ALL 13'S
5PM - 15, 16, 17

ALL INTERESTED PLAYERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.
CONTACT KARLY ON 0438 339 729 WITH ANY QUESTIONS

PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



9:15AM THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2021
BBQ & WATER AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
ALL WELCOME



nurturing individual success

TERM 1 2021 CALENDAR

	MONDAY 26/1	TUESDAY 27/1	WEDNESDAY 28/1	THURSDAY 29/1	FRIDAY 30/1
Week 1	 AUSTRALIA DAY		SENIOR RETREAT	SENIOR RETREAT	SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Week 2	1/2 STUDENT FORUM	2/2 SCHOOL PHOTOS	3/2	4/2 SWAMP PROJECT	5/2
Week 3	8/2 OPEN BOYS CRICKET	9/2 OPEN GIRLS CRICKET	10/2	11/2 SWAMP PROJECT	12/2 INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING
Week 4	15/2 YEAR 8 IMMUNISATION TALK	16/2	17/2	18/2	19/2
Week 5	22/2 ATHLETICS TRIALS	23/2 1500M ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT	24/2 ARMY AVIATION STEM	25/2 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL	26/2
Week 6	1/3 GOVERNING COUNCIL AGM LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR	2/3	3/3 YEAR 8 & 10 IMMUNISATIONS	4/3 SWAMP PROJECT	5/3
YEAR 11/12 OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP					
Week 7	8/3  ADELAIDE CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY	9/3 STUDENT FREE DAY	10/3	11/3	12/3
Week 8	15/3	16/3	17/3 INTERSCHOOL CARNIVAL	18/3	19/3 ROAD AWARENESS PROGRAM
Week 9	22/3 YEAR 8 CAMP	23/3 YEAR 8 CAMP	24/3 YEAR 8 CAMP	25/3	26/3
Week 10	29/3	30/3	31/3	1/4 SWAMP PROJECT	2/4  Happy Easter GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY
Week 11	5/4  Happy Easter EASTER MONDAY HOLIDAY	6/4	7/4 ADELAIDE ATHLETICS	8/4	9/4