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Important Dates

- Monday 8 February 2021**
- Open Boys Cricket
- Tuesday 9 February 2021**
- Open Girls Cricket
- Thursday 11 February 2021**
- SWAMP Project
- Friday 12 February 2021**
- Interschool Swimming
- Monday 22 February 2021**
- Athletics Trials
- Tuesday 23 February 2021**
- 1500m
 - Acquaintance Night
- Thursday 25 February 2021**
- PHS Interhouse Athletics

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**Government
of South Australia**

Department for Education

Principal's Report

Lesley Okholm



Dear Parents and Caregivers

We have had a hectic yet invigorating start to 2021 at Penola High School. I would like to acknowledge, and thank, the numerous members of the community who have been so welcoming to me in this role, and to our new staff, Judy Goodes, Nikki Cook, Tara Millard, Mia Tran and Heather Devlin. We have, as a staff, settled in happily and begun to implement some exciting programs across the school. I am keen to see what Mike Hentschke has in store for our 9/10 class in Agriculture, and have heard that Year 8s are planning their camp at Taillem Bend which is later in the term. Nikki Cook has already started thinking about Lions Youth of the Year, an innovative joint project with the forestry industry around swamps commences this week with our Year 8s, and our Year 10s are in the midst of Peer support training. And a Recreation course is being run for the first time. Djambe drumming will be offered to our Year 8 students starting soon, Mrs Phillips has big plans for STEM and Digital Technology while 6 students commence VET courses, four in Building, one in Childcare and one in Animal studies and another works through his school-based apprenticeship. We have some Year 12 students accessing subjects through Open Access in Digital Technology, Media and Chemistry, and others through other local schools in our WREN network in Physics and Psychology. On top of this, Mr Hentschke is teaching a student from Allendale East in his Year 12 Maths class. The options for our students are unlimited, as we try to match every student's needs and pathways to learning.

Literacy Improvement 2021

We continue to work hard to support our students to be better at understanding what they read, and in writing well for each subject. This term the staff have a strong focus on literacy and will all be monitoring and assessing student's skills in writing persuasive texts (eg the school should have a swimming pool because.... Or hydrogen is a more useful element than oxygen because...) and information texts (eg the use of animals in WW2 or how to cook for someone with a lactose intolerance). Every subject has its own different vocabulary eg names of tools, measures, processes and these can be complicated for students to grasp when doing 5 or 6 subjects. We believe this intentional teaching will lead to more confident writers and improvement in the grades achieved.

Acquaintance Night

What a fabulous afternoon and evening we have planned for you and your young people on Tuesday 23 February 2021. Before the end of the school day we will be running a 1500m race in readiness for the Athletics Carnival. At 3.30pm we will have 2 casual meetings, one for middle years (Year 8-10) families and the other for SACE (Year 11-12) families to enable you to meet the teachers and hear about the plans for your young people. The SACE session is particularly important for young people to attend WITH parents so they fully understand their commitment to completing SACE. At 4.30pm you will be able to grab a free sausage off the BBQ and mix informally with other families and staff. Beginning at 5.00pm is a remarkable invitation to meet with local industry who will be exploring apprenticeships, traineeships and other ways industry can work in our school with your young people towards their future pathways. We encourage you to diary this date for all or part of the event, but especially for our BBQ at 4.30pm. An invitation will follow soon to preorder food, to avoid under-catering.

Governing Council AGM

On Monday 1 March 2021, starting at 6.00pm we are holding our AGM. I am very keen to start working with our Council to talk about directions for our school. It is really important that we have representatives of the diverse range of students we have enrolled so that we ensure we always cater for EVERY student. We are looking for nominations or self-nominations to join this group which meets twice per term. Please do not feel you have to be experienced in any way as we just want a balanced viewpoint of our community on items we discuss.

Attendance

It is not hard to understand that unless young people attend regularly, they cannot learn as they should and they will find it particularly difficult to keep up.

After our brilliant Student Forum day on Monday with attendance at 95%, we were again close to that at 94%. This is a huge improvement on last years' attendance and parents are to be commended for this. I believe we can keep this up throughout the year, with your support and some occasional tough love. Always keep in mind that during the term every class has an online 'classroom', so even when absent, students can keep up to date if well enough to.

Please, at any time, make a time to talk to teachers or meet with myself about any concerns you have about your young people. It takes a team to get them through to be the best they possibly can be!

Kind regards



2021 Stage 2 Results

Lesley Okholm

Hard work and perseverance rewarded students at Penola High School in 2020 with the release of the SACE results.

Ebonie Moulton achieved the top ATAR score of 81.25 from Stage 2 subjects studied over 2019 and 2020. Ebonie completed English (A), Visual Arts (A+) and Research Project (B+) in 2019 as a Year 11 student and added to this with A- for Child Studies and a B+ for Health last year. Ebonie received the Year Level Dux award most years including Year 12 and tops this off with our highest ATAR.

Ebonie Moulton said, "I don't know how I feel, because I wasn't expecting to get as high as that after the year we have had, so I am proud of myself." Ebonie plans to have a gap year and hopes to study Animal Nutrition or something in the Health field.

Amy Whitehouse also achieved well, with an ATAR 70.85 with B in General Maths and Research Project, B+ in English and Visual Arts and A- in Child Studies.

Amy Whitehouse said, "I am excited that this means I can go to University in Mt Gambier to study Primary Education. I plan to travel and work in 2021 as my gap year."

Principal, Lesley Okholm said, "The commitment of these students despite the year we have had, has paid off, demonstrating that great results are achieved through hard work, the motivation to reach your goals and the strong support our students receive from all their teachers."



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.

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

PHS Swimming Carnival

Chloe Long

On Friday 29 January 2021 the three Penola High School houses once again battled it out in the annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival. For the second year in a row, the weather forecast was not favourable for the swimming carnival and it was once again moved to a morning program. The morning was warm and sunny - perfect to get some strong results. The senior students led by example all day, filling every race and having some close finishes. The Under 14 age group is always the most interesting to watch as this is the first time the Year 8s get to show off their sporting talents. A highlight in Under 14 was Amber Morton who competed in every single event the house captains asked. Because of her participation, and swimming success Amber was awarded Under 14 champion, with Emma Jerome close behind. The Under 14 boys also had a strong age group with Archer Virtanen showing the school community what he is made of by taking out the Under 14 championship. Arlie Shadbolt had a great day in the pool, being awarded runner up champion.

The Under 15 boys competition heated up this year, with close finishes and fighting spirit. Toby Zerk and Thomas Currie continued their rivalry in the pool. This year Toby Zerk took out the honours of under 15 champion with Thomas Currie a close 2nd. The Under 15 girls showed that when you put yourself out of your comfort zone you will surprise yourself. Rochelle Crawford and Ebony Wurst had great days in the pool winning the champion and runner up honours.

The Under 16 competition was another close battle in the boys, Lochy Neale took the lead early in the day winning the backstroke event and a 3rd in the freestyle, which secured his Under 16 boys champion award. Bailey Lindner and Seth Lear were neck and neck all day and were both awarded runner up champion.

Ella Hutchesson came back firing this year, a talent in the pool, taking out first place in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly. Ella was awarded the Open Girls champion for this impressive effort in the pool. Breanna Lythgo was also impressive in the pool taking out a close second. The Open Boys' events were strong all day with close finishes and lots of banter at the starting line. Aaron Zerk, Jake Klemm and Tom Skeer had a close competition for Open Boys champion with only a point deciding the winners. Aaron Zerk came away as the champion with Tom Skeer the runner up.

The house captains did exceptionally well in organising their teams and making sure all the events were filled throughout the day. Their moral support and enthusiasm on the side lines proved to be effective in getting their competitors to the finish line. It was great to see all house members contribute to their team's success both in entering events and encouraging and supporting fellow House members. At the end of the day the results were very close, however Yalluminga proved that participation in events pays off by taking home the shield.



Senior Retreat

Michael Hentschke

Our senior students spent their first two days of the year at an overnight retreat at Beachport. The retreat provides the time for our senior students to work through activities to challenge them as they establish the relationships needed to get the most from their senior years at Penola High School.

After setting up the campsite, students in small groups undertook the challenge of the Scavenger Hunt organised by Ms Long. This was followed by balance activities where students created human pyramids of increasing levels of difficulty as the number of people increased. This provided completing (or nearly completing) some complex arrangements.

Students engaged in a number of physical activities back at camp after a quick game of cricket.



Former students, Jake Rowe and Cory O'Connor joined us for tea and spoke to the group. They highlighted how students should make the most of every opportunity to be involved in their senior years. They spoke of their pathways through Year 12 and where it has led them. Jake followed our apprenticeship pathways and is now managing the local business, TK Furniture. Cory is completing a double degree course at Flinders University in Education and Agriculture, while also working on a local farm during breaks.

Interestingly, Jake undertook work experience at TK Furniture as part of his VET program at school, while Cory is still working at the same farm as he did in his gap year prior to starting university. Both spoke about strategies they used during Year 12 to cope with the stresses and how to achieve success. Communication and commitment were two aspects they highlighted.

The night concluded with an activity related to managing factors in students' lives, and how it is important key components are given priority, and to avoid getting bogged down with trivial matters.

On the final day students were given the opportunity to participate in paddleboarding. This was a new experience for many and they quickly picked up the basic skills to operate the boards safely. I was surprised how quickly they were able to move across the water.

"The senior retreat was fun and I think it is a good idea to bring the senior students together. The activities were a good way to get outdoors, and were real fun if you hadn't done them before."

- Kasey Venables

"The retreat was a great way to socialise beyond my normal friendship group and make new friends."

- Tom Jerome
All students were highly engaged with all activities, making the most of the experiences the Senior Retreat provided. They should be commended on their participation and inclusivity as students embraced all challenges and proved to themselves that they are capable of achieving anything they put their mind too.



New Staff

Lesley Okholm

As we start the 2021 school year, I am thrilled to introduce 5 new staff to our community. They are:

Tara Millard : Health and Physical Education (backfilling Chloe Long whilst she is our Middle Schooling Coordinator). A country girl from the west coast, Tara loves small rural communities and of course sport.

Nikki Cook : English (replacing Kate Jones who won a leadership position at MGHS). Nikki and his partner have been looking forward excitedly to move to the country!

Mia Tran : Art and Design (behind Aimee Moretti who continues her maternity leave in Term 1). Mia has a strong background in graphic design which we anticipate will excite our students.

Judy Goodes: Deputy Principal (backfilling me as I enjoy the challenge of Principal). As a local Judy brings a wealth of leadership and teaching experience and already has strong relationships with our students

Heather Devlin : School Community Library Support. Heather is also well know in this area and will complement our current Library staff skills and vision.

Please take the chance to introduce yourselves, and welcome them if you can.



L-R: Mia Tran, Tara Millard, Lesley Okholm, Judy Goodes, Nikki Cook, Heather Devlin

Bushfire Season

Lesley Okholm

Bushfire season is upon us. The school has a detailed plan where each staff member has specific roles to undertake to ensure each person on site is safe. There will be a drill soon to make sure that we are all well versed in these responsibilities.

Important things for families to know:

- On days declared as “Catastrophic” our **school will be open**, but there will be **no buses** operating.
- Total Fire Ban days will be publicised to all students via signs in all classrooms and entrances.
- Total Fire Bans may result in excursions being cancelled as a result of a risk assessment.
- In the case of a local fire, students may be kept at school after the usual dismissal time, on advice from CFS and Police.
- If specific school bus routes or local roads are impacted upon or threatened by fire, staff will make arrangements to supervise the affected students until Emergency Services report that the situation is safe to release them from the site.
- School buses will not leave the site unless a clear directive is given to the Principal by DFE School Care, SAPOL or CFS Incident Management that indicates bus routes are safe to travel. If a bush fire prevents school buses leaving the site the Principal, Deputy Principal and teachers will supervise students remaining on site until parents collect them.

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

Industry & Education Partnership Forum

Grow your own local workforce!

Find out how your business can influence and build your future workforce through a partnership with Penola High School

Discussion Topics include:

- Overview of the *Vocational Education and Training (VET) for Secondary Schools Policy*
- Apprenticeships & Traineeships for school students
- Flexible Industry Pathways
- Industry & Employer Immersions
- Opportunities to partner with schools

DATE: Tuesday 23 February 2021

TIME: 5.00pm – 6.30pm

VENUE: Penola High School

RSVP: Call Sarah on 8737 0000

by Friday 19 February 2021



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.

SCHOOL CARD 2021

****You will need to provide proof of income – such as payslips or Centrelink information****

Eligibility income limits for a student attending a government school

Number of dependent children	Gross annual income limit	Gross weekly income limit
1 child	\$60,867	\$1,171
2 children	\$61,954	\$1,192
3 children	\$63,041	\$1,213
4 children	\$64,128	\$1,234
5 children	\$65,215	\$1,255
More than 5 children	Add \$1,087 for each dependent child	Add \$21 for each dependent child

TERM 1 2021 CALENDAR

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1	26/1  AUSTRALIA DAY	27/1	28/1 SENIOR RETREAT	29/1 SENIOR RETREAT	30/1 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	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	4/3 SWAMP PROJECT	5/3
YEAR 11/12 OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP					
Week 7	8/3  ADELAIDE CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY	9/3	10/3	11/3	12/3
Week 8	15/3	16/3	17/3 INTERSCHOOL CARNIVAL	18/3	19/3
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
REPORT WRITING WEEK					
Week 11	5/4  Happy Easter EASTER MONDAY HOLIDAY	6/4	7/4 ADELAIDE ATHLETICS	8/4	9/4

NAPLAN – privacy collection notice

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) takes place each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN helps parents, carers and educators to see if children are meeting important numeracy and literacy standards.

Collection of personal information

Schools are required by law to collect personal information about you and your child, irrespective of whether your child participates in NAPLAN testing.

The purpose of this notice is to advise parents and carers of how your child's personal information will be used for NAPLAN testing (both online and paper tests) in 2021 and, as part of NAPLAN Online, readiness activities scheduled at various times leading up to the test in May 2021 and May 2022.

Paper-based NAPLAN testing

Since its introduction in 2008, NAPLAN testing has been conducted using paper-based tests for students in all year levels. NAPLAN paper tests are administered every year across a 3 day test window in the second full week of May.

Most schools in South Australia will conduct NAPLAN testing online in 2021. However, some schools will conduct paper-based testing in 2021.

Moving to NAPLAN Online in 2021 or 2022

In July 2013, Australian education ministers agreed to guiding principles for national online assessment. The move to NAPLAN Online started in 2018. Moving online means NAPLAN is transitioning from paper-based tests to computer-based assessments.

Online testing brings many benefits and opportunities including providing better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information.

More information on NAPLAN Online is available at: www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/.

Readiness testing activities

A critical step in preparing for NAPLAN Online is schools' participation in readiness testing activities.

The purpose of readiness testing activities is to ensure your child is familiar with their device and the online test environment, as well as to test school and national infrastructure systems and processes.

Readiness testing is not another NAPLAN and will not formally assess students who participate in the test. Any reports generated will be used for testing purposes only. Readiness testing activities may involve students who are participating in NAPLAN in 2021 or who will participate in 2022.

Disclosure of personal information

For every student participating in NAPLAN Online testing readiness activities, personal information will be uploaded by the Department for Education, as the Test Administration Authority (TAA), to the NAPLAN Online Assessment Platform ('assessment platform'). This information is listed over the page.

NAPLAN privacy collection notice – updated January 2021



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

The information marked with an asterisk (*) is also provided by the department, as the TAA, to Fuji Xerox Business Force Pty Ltd for the purposes of printing paper test materials and reporting student results, and uploading to the Student Participation System which includes the Student Participation Website (SPW). The SPW is used by schools undertaking paper-based tests.

- Student name*
- School name, class and year level*
- Date of birth*
- Country of birth
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status
- Jurisdictional and local school student identifiers*
- Gender*
- Disability adjustments (where applicable)*
- Language background other than English
- Parents' occupation, education and language background

The personal information for students who are exempted, absent or withdrawn from NAPLAN testing is collected and used for reporting purposes.

Data security

Security and privacy are key requirements for the delivery of national testing.

NAPLAN Online

The online assessment platform has been designed to comply with relevant national data security policies and guidelines, as well as data encryption standards.

The assessment platform is managed by Education Services Australia (**ESA**). ESA is a not-for-profit company jointly owned by the Australian education ministers. ESA is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education.

ESA only has access to personal information from a relevant school, TAA or the Australian schools list for the primary purpose of fulfilling ESA's role in supporting the operation of the assessment platform.

ESA's privacy policy can be found at: www.esa.edu.au/contact-us/privacy.

Student Participation System

The Student Participation System is managed by Fuji Xerox Business Force Pty Ltd. Fuji Xerox Business Force Pty Ltd is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education and is only permitted access to personal information from a relevant school for the purposes of providing the contracted services.

Fuji Xerox Business Force Pty Ltd's privacy policy can be found at: <https://www.fujixerox.com.au/en/privacy-policy>

Access and correction

To request access or correction to personal information collected for NAPLAN and held by schools, please contact your school principal in the first instance. Any concerns about a breach of privacy by a school should be directed in writing to the school principal.

More information

Speak with your school principal in the first instance if you have any questions about this information.

NAPLAN privacy collection notice – updated January 2021



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

SUSAN MCLEAN , FOREMOST EXPERT IN AUSTRALIA

GROWING UP ONLINE

CYBERSAFETY COMMUNITY SESSION

- **What are kids doing online? You know Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram and Skype but what about Omegle, Musical.ly, Yubo, Melon or KiK?**
- **Online Grooming. What is it and when/how does it occur? What are the warning signs and what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child?**
- **Cyberbullying. What it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent it and what to do if it occurs?**
- **Sharing Nudes and Sexting The taking and sending of explicit images. The social and emotional consequences as well as the Law**
- **Potential dangers and safety tips. How to assist the children in your care to stay safe online via parental controls and restriction passcodes.**
- **Problematic Internet use and gaming issues**



TUESDAY 9th February

Penola High School Hall, Cameron Street

5.30pm - 7.00pm

COVID SAFE CONDITIONS WILL BE IN PLACE, INCLUDING QR CODE ON ENTRY, HAND SANITISING AND SPACED SEATING

nurturing individual success