



Contents

Principal's Report
Podcasts
Merry Christmas
Market Fete
Splash Carnival
Presentation Night
Robin Ey Tennis Tournament

Important Dates - 2024

Monday 29 January 2024
• PHS Year 7 and 12 students on site

Wednesday 31 January 2024
• PHS All year levels on site

Friday 2 February 2024
• Interhouse Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 7 February 2024
• School Photos

Mon 12 Feb-Wed 14 Feb 2024
• Middle School Camp

Friday 16 February 2024
• Interschool Swimming Carnival

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



Principal's Report

Steve Carli-Seebohm



2023...where did the time go?!?

As I reflect on the year that has been, I do indeed wonder where the time has gone. It feels like it was literally only yesterday that I was welcoming everyone into the new year and the first steps of our journey into 2023. I look at the items on my office wall, whether they be pieces of information, resources, posters, policies, education propaganda, or motivational messages, in this moment, each piece has somehow helped define the course and pathway that has led to this point in time.

"1 Year equals 365 Opportunities"

This is one of my favourite sayings. It really means, that no matter what, each and every day you get to start over. You get to choose your next adventure. You can restart and reset. You can zig instead of zag. You can break, or repair, but most importantly, you get to do what you need without any impact from the day before. We all make mistakes, that's called being human. We all fall down, but how you get back up is what is important.

I think back on the diverse range of learning opportunities that our student cohort has had access to across the year, and the list becomes quite long indeed. Such as engaging in sports, academic challenges, science and engineering, maths-based programs, career and pathways, and camps and excursions. Students also worked in collaboration with external agencies, such as Youth Opportunities, and we involved ourselves in community projects, with all contributing to the school's positive image.

New learnings within the classroom, including innovative ways of presenting information, engaging with students, building relationships and dynamic teaching approaches, have all been amazing experiences that have occurred daily.

"I Want to Know"

Our schools teaching staff have embarked on a number of significant learning journeys to improve pedagogy and practice in their classrooms. Taking a deeper dive into understanding engagement, feedback cycles, learning intentions, success criteria, goal setting and most recently literacy improvement strategies via research influenced projects. As a group of serious professionals looking to make differences to how content is delivered to students, so as to have genuine and authentic impact, has been impressive. To have a team that have gone beyond being simply complicit, to actually driving engagement in professional practice, is something worthy of commandment and gratitude. The ideas generated for improvement strategies, greater student agency and engagement in learning through a variety of learning programs mean, that not only are they wanting the students to know more, they are wanting to know more themselves.

"Are you not entertained?"

The positive impact of a good-humoured 'laughing out loud' moment has been a frequent occurrence at the school. The positive relationship building in and out of the classroom, between staff and staff, staff and students, and students and students, adds to the overall energetic and enjoyable educational landscape we get to play in each day

at Penola High School. These moments also help lift those who have faced challenges or struggles - for the most part, I see everyone leave each day in high spirits. School has a serious commitment to learning and achieving results, but it can be done with a high entertainment value as well. Regularly seeing good-natured and light-hearted moments between members of our community builds strong and positive bonds, and helps align us toward common goals.

My long-term vision for Penola High School is one of legacy building, between staff and students, both present and into the future, and I can confidently say that the first year into this legacy has been highly successful.

For all members of the Penola High School community, please make the most of your break. Spend time resting and rejuvenating - you have all earned it. I look forward to working with you all again next year, and remember.....

....1 Year does very much equal, and present to each of us, 365 opportunities.

Kind regards



Podcasts

Lance Pedlow

Penola High School's talented Year 7/8 and 9/10 Art classes recently completed work on a podcast series featuring exclusive interviews with our fantastic leadership team, with students being involved in every aspect, showcasing their skills and creativity. In all, three podcasts were created. The Year 7 students interviewed Middle School & Wellbeing Coordinator, Rikki Helps, the Deputy Principal, Hillary Trotter was interviewed by Year 8 students, with Year 9/10 students meeting with the Principal, Steve Carli-Seebohm.

If parents/caregivers, or members of the community are curious about Penola High School, tune in to hear interviews with our Senior Leader of Middle School & Wellbeing, Rikki Helps, Deputy Principal, Hillary Trotter and Principal, Steve Carli-Seebohm.

This is an excellent opportunity to get a unique glimpse into the heart of Penola High School. To access the podcasts online, use the Spotify app and search for 'Penola High School'.



nurturing individual success

Market Fete
Rikki Helps

Throughout Term 4 Middle School students have been working on their \$20 Boss projects which is a program that support students in developing enterprise skills such as financial capability and problem solving.

Students started their journey conducting empathy interviews in the community to identify a need. Using the design thinking process students came up with a marketable idea to suit the needs of the community. Students were given a \$20 budget to create their business and had to document costings for all materials required for their idea, with it all coming to fruition at the recent market fete.

Held on Monday of last week, the fete was a great success, with a vibrant atmosphere.

Students took the responsibility of hosting a stall selling items they had designed and created through the \$20 Boss scheme. From jewellery, bath soaps, cookies, candles and much more, there were plenty of wares to help fill Christmas stockings, and stomachs!

Following the market, students worked on calculating the success of their business. The winning business, *Furry Tail Bandanas*, made a 85% profit, followed by *Savoury Collection* with a 69% profit. All students used this data to reflect on their product, meeting the identified need. Majority of students made a profit and all were able to recognise their business strengths and areas for improvement.

With students showcasing entrepreneurial skills and dedication through the project, they are to be commended on their efforts. We look forward to seeing the continued growth and success with these students, as they embark on future endeavours. All monies raised went towards a Big Day Out excursion to Mount Gambier.



Splash Carnival

Josh Peace

On Wednesday 13 December 2023, Penola High School held the annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival at the Penola swimming pool. With several year levels having completed the academic year, the competition emphasised participation, rather than individual accomplishment. At the end of the day, a team was crowned winner based on the overall participation, and the result of the novelties. The day was also an opportunity for the 2024 house captains to lead and support their house for the first time.

The novelty events were a massive hit once again this year, with the favourable Save the Teacher, returning. This prioritised creative thinking with the high school staff having to be the ones who had to enter the pool, with students required to work together to safely rescue their 'teacher' from the water. A new inflatable relay was added to the program, with students hopping on to an inflatable and passing it on to another student in a relay formation. This definitely added an element of fun and challenge to the program, with many students trying to position themselves, resulting in many amusing slips, spills and splashes.

Whilst participation was the focus, the fastest times in each division were also recorded on the day. Congratulations to Maggie Bell (junior girls), Tayte Virtanen (junior boys), Mia Gartner (senior girls), and Arlie Shadbolt (senior boys), who were timed to be the quickest swimmers throughout the day in their age division.

Students were also acknowledged for their genuine commitment to their house and selflessness on the day. Gwen Denton was recognised for her willingness to participate in nearly every swimming event during the day for the Moyanga house, this included both junior and senior events - not an easy feat. Maggie Bell was acknowledged for her willingness to enter majority of the events, while also improving her times, and Jaiden Maclean received an award for being willing to hop into the pool, cap and all, and try his best in every race.

A huge thank you is extended to the fantastic efforts by house captains, students and staff. Scores were very tight throughout the day, with only 8 points separating all teams in the end. A huge congratulations to the Yallumunga house who were named champions.



Presentation Night

The 62nd annual Presentation Night of our school was held in the school hall on Monday 11 December 2023. Prior to the guests, enjoyed the market fete and the schoolwork on display. A number of awards were presented on the night and we congratulate the following major award recipients:

Lions Leadership Award

Lochlan Neale

Wattle Range Mayoral Award

Rochelle Crawford

Peter Muller Citizenship Award

Ben Hutchesson

Coonawarra-Penola RSL Award

Kaleb Moulton

ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership & Teamwork Award

Noah Virtanen

ADF Future Innovators Award

Ben Hutchesson

Ampol Best All Rounder Award

Olivia Berkin

Tom Foran Memorial Sport Award

Archer Virtanen

MacKillop Award

Mia Gartner

Reuben Goldsworthy Award

Aaron Zerk

Excellence in Technology Studies Award

Hamish Cutchie

Sam Matthews Memorial Aspiring Science Student Award

Yasmin Sedman

Barker Shield Awards

Academic Achievement - Emily Koenig

Community Service and Spirit - Reese Balshaw

Vocational Education - Chloe Cutchie

Ngaire Benfell Award

Jaq Hogg

UniSA Academic Awards

Growth and Achieving Goals - Blake Perry

Strong Commitment to Success - Emily Koenig

Stand Like Stone Foundation Philanthropic Award

Reese Balshaw

Dux Awards

Year 7 Dux - Lea Baugh

Year 8 Dux - Madison Ellery

Year 9 Dux - Mia Gartner

Year 10 Dux - Noah Virtanen

Year 11 Dux - Yasmin Sedman

Year 12 Academic Excellence - Emily Koenig

Merit Certificates

Taylah Burr

Madison Ellery

Bodhi Lear

Alissa Sedman

Tayte Virtanen



Peter Muller and Ben Hutchesson
Peter Muller Citizenship Award



Steve Carli-Seebohm and Aaron Zerk
Reuben Goldsworthy Award



Yasmin Sedman and Michael Hentschke
Sam Matthews Memorial Aspiring Science Award



Peter Degaris and Kaleb Moulton
Coonawarra-Penola RSL Award



Hamish Cutchie and Andi Zerk
Excellence in Technology Award



Reese Balshaw and Hillary Trotter
Barker Shield - Community Service and Spirit



Peta Crewe, Reese Balshaw and Rhett McDonald
Stand Like Stone Foundation Philanthropic Award



Steve Carli-Seebohm and Blake Perry
UniSA Academic Award - Growth and Achieving Goals



Emily Koenig - 12, Yasmin Sedman - 11, Noah Virtanen - 10, Mia Gartner - 9, Madison Ellery - 8, Lea Baugh 7 (absent)
Year Level Dux Awards



Chloe Cutchie and Hillary Trotter
Barker Shield - Vocational Education



Olivia Berkin and Michael Hentschke
Ampol Best All Rounder Award



Noah Virtanen and Warrant Officer, Rodney Wallace
ADF Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award



Emily Koenig and Hillary Trotter
Barker Shield - Academic Achievement



Nick McBride MP and Mia Gartner
Mackillop Award



Emily Koenig and Steve Carli-Seebohm
UniSA Academic Award - Strong Commitment to Success



Jaq Hogg and Steve Carli-Seebohm
Ngaire Benfell Award

Robin Ey Tennis Tournament

Josh Pearce

McCorquindale Park tennis courts were a hive of activity last week, as students and staff participated in the annual Robin Ey Tennis Tournament.

The day began with a cool and subtle breeze, but it didn't take long for things to heat up. With a number of teams vying for the coveted trophy, games started nice and early to allow all the games to be completed.

What is a 'doubles' based tournament, teams were made up of students, as well as a mix of a student pairing themselves with a staff member. Throughout the morning teams combined well together with many making light work of their opponents, and some quality shots being played.

At the end of the minor rounds, the top 2 teams played off in a grand final match, which ended up being a 'family affair'. Bodhi Lear teamed up with his sister Nellie, whilst Haylee Moulton combined with her brother Kaleb.

The grand final game began with the Moultons dominating with some quality shots making Nellie and Bodhi sprint for every ball, however the 'Lears' had some great racquet play up their sleeves, scoring some quality points.

With a great contest between both teams, it was Kaleb and Haylee who came away with the trophy.

