



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Senior School Excellence

We look forward to celebrating the end of school for our year 12s and some of our year 11 students and understand that the final weeks leading up to course completion and exams can be increasingly stressful and filled with uncertainty and excitement. We wish all of our students every success as they either strive for academic grades leading into higher education, or for recognition of skills and abilities leading into placement in the workforce.

Mount Gambier High School has a long history of academic excellence in relation to SACE achievement. These results do not happen by accident and as we wish students all the best for this important academic stepping stone, it is timely to remember that success and achievement at this level does not happen by accident. All of our senior school teachers ride the bumps and challenges throughout the year with students and have an enormous commitment to support every student to do the best they can. Many teachers have given up their time during the holidays to drop into school to work with students. We are very proud of our students as their improvement and effort is rewarded not only with academic growth, but a great sense of personal achievement, pride and satisfaction.

Governing Council

Our parent representative group will meet next week for the second last time of 2020. This group does an amazing job to support a number of the formal governance and approval processes at our school. The Governing Council also has a wonderful opportunity to learn about and contribute to the success, goals and direction of the school. For this, our staff and students are enormously grateful. We will have a number of Governing Council positions available for 2021 and strongly encourage new parents to apply. Please feel free to contact the school and make time to speak with me or our Chairperson, Thirza Walters if you would like to find out more.

Staffing News

Congratulations to the following staff for winning positions starting in 2021. We warmly welcome them to our Mount Gambier High School community:

- Alice Collison: Permanent teacher - HASS
- Greg Kanakaris: Permanent teacher - Maths/Digital Technologies
- Troy Esdale: Technology Coordinator

Sadly we say farewell to Samara Hough who will accept a dance teaching position in Adelaide after maternity leave in 2021. Samara has been a wonderful part of our dynamic Arts team and our dance program has flourished under her care. We thank her and wish her and the Hough family every success and happiness in the future.

Upcoming Events

School Closure Day

Friday 23 October

Governing Council Meeting

Monday 26 October

Year 7 Tours

Monday 26 to Friday 30
October

Last Day for Year 12s

Thursday 29 October

Year 12 Breakfast

Friday 30 October

Bandanna Day

Friday 30 October

Year 12 Exams

Monday 2 to Friday 13
November

PE Week

Monday 9 to Friday 13
November

Remembrance Day

Wednesday 11 November

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

Year 7-8 Transition

Darrell Payne, our Junior School Assistant Principal continues to work on the Year 7-8 Transition and we look forward to individual school visits that will be held throughout this term, along with two full transition days in week 8. The enrolment process will remain open until the end of the year - new families wishing to attend the school are

invited to attend additional tours and information sessions upon request.

Entrepreneurial Advisory Board Visit

In an exciting development in line with our status of being an Entrepreneurial Specialist School (ESS) and our working relationship with Flinders University, Mount Gambier High School will host the 'Entrepreneurial Advisory Board Meeting' on Friday 30 October. This meeting will bring together the Chief Entrepreneur and advisors, along with local business, council and education sectors to explore aspects of regional entrepreneurship and business start-ups. This is a great way for our school to showcase and celebrate the work we have been doing over the last 18 months as an ESS and also what has been happening locally in our region. We will have a number of staff and students presenting to the board throughout the day.

The Entrepreneurship Advisory Board, including the Chief Entrepreneur, provide high level, independent advice to the South Australian Cabinet on entrepreneurship matters. The Entrepreneurship Advisory Board's high-level aims are to:

- Provide strategic advice to enable entrepreneurialism across all forms of business, industry and public sector
- Strengthen community awareness and appreciation of entrepreneurship and business through showcasing and championing South Australian businesses, entrepreneurial talent and the impact they have
- Recommend measures to connect South Australia's entrepreneurial ecosystem with networks nationally and internationally given the opportunities offered by the scale of global markets
- Advocate for the uptake of entrepreneurship education through strengthening communication with the school education system and tertiary education institutions

Capital Works Program (CWP)

We can confirm that the building contractor for our new works will be Kennett Construction. Kennetts completed our STEM works in 2018 and we are pleased to be

working with this team again. Work will commence shortly on the upgrade of our science labs, canteen redevelopment and removal of existing transportable buildings. Next year will see the construction of two new stand-alone building in readiness for the year 7 student cohort in 2022. Building plans and designs will be on our website and Facebook pages in the near future.

Reports

Our school community is aware that written reports were not available last term. However, as a core part of teachers work, we continually assess and record student progress. It has been great to see students talk with teachers about their learning as it demonstrates an ownership and pride in their academic progress. We continue to invite parents to meet with teachers to share achievement, concerns and support for their children at any time throughout the term. We will be providing end of semester reports to students in years 8 - 11 at the end of this year via Daymap.

Attendance

Our attendance rates across all year levels are below our school and state targets and we recognise the direct correlation between attending classes, a successful education and ultimately a successful future. Parents play a very important role in meeting this expectation and we appreciate your understanding and rigorous support in making sure your child attends school, and classes, each day. We appreciate that sickness and other priorities interrupt school attendance from time to time and ask that the school is informed about absences as early as possible and that a meeting is requested should your child have ongoing attendance problems.

Dress Code

Mount Gambier High School has a very clear policy in regard to Dress Code and school expectations. All students are required to be in full dress code each day. A copy of the policy is available on our website or at the student office. All students can purchase school shirts, hoodies, jackets and senior tops from 'Hip Pocket' and as such there should be no excuses for students to be out of uniform. Torn jeans and/or black pants/leggings appear to be the current trend - this is not acceptable and it is appreciated if you could ensure that your child is in full school uniform every day.



Chris Edmonds
Chris Edmonds
Principal



YEAR 11 END OF YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

Year 11 key dates

- Last official day of lessons Wednesday November 18.
- Exam weeks - Thursday November 19 until Friday November 26.
- Stage 1 results must be entered into Schools Online by November 27 at 9.00am.

Year 11 key information

- Students will be offered a debrief lesson to collect and review their exams. Subject teachers will let students know when their review session is scheduled. These will be held on the SACE Floor in week 8, or a classroom negotiated with the students prior to the commencement of exams.
- For Stage 1 students it is expected all assessment work has been completed and submitted by the end of week 5/start of week 6 and textbooks from semester subjects must be returned to the CLC.

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal

BENTLEY THE COMPANION DOG

We are very excited to introduce our newest member of staff, Bentley the Companion Dog. Bentley is a Labradoodle and has already become an integral part of our school community.

Studies have shown numerous benefits for having a companion dog and these have already been experienced with many of our students and staff enjoying having Bentley around offices and in classrooms.

Amanda Fraser | Public Relations Officer



SACE DRAMA PRODUCTION

From 15 to 17 September our SACE Drama class performed 'When the Rain Stops Falling' by Andrew Bovell for their moderation piece. Under new circumstances with limited audiences and no live moderators this year, the class had been working on and off this production since term 1.

The actors, cast and crew worked extremely well as a disciplined ensemble, telling the story of love and loss experienced by a family over four generations. The students showed dedication to the detail in each character and the performance exceeded expectations. All cast and crew should be very happy with not just their own, but the efforts of the entire group for their performance.

Nicolle Orr | Teacher



YEAR 12 CHILD STUDIES, KITCHEN SAFETY

The Year 12 Child Studies class finished their year with a Kitchen Safety practical. This involved teaching children how to be safe in the kitchen, whilst baking a food item of their choice. The children and students enjoyed working together, gaining new skills along the way.

Joanna White | Teacher



HOME ECONOMICS COOKING FUN

To finish off the Year 9 Food and Nutrition course, the class were given a basic butter cake recipe to adapt as they chose. Some wonderful cupcake creations were baked and decorated.



The year 8 Food and Nutrition class were given free license to adapt a basic biscuit recipe to whatever flavour creation they chose.

Joanna White | Teacher

YEAR 8 HISTORY

As part of their history studies the year 8 students have been learning about and comparing medieval knights and samurai. To gain a better understanding in to a knights suit of armour the students had to design their own armour from tin foil, putting their creativity and historical knowledge in to practice. Well done to Talon, Marley, Brok, Angus and Riley, their group were able to create the most realistic representation of a medieval knight.

Kathryn Sutton | HASS Coordinator



SIGNING OUT EARLY *Reminder*

If you need to collect your young person early from school could you please either send them in with a signed note, advising the date and time or ring the Student Office and we will record the information.

Unfortunately we are unable to accept TEXT messages.

BOOK WEEK

This week in the CLC we celebrated Book Week with a theme of "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds". During the week we had our 'Book O'Clock' on display and had audio readings and movies playing of contemporary books. Classes and individuals also had the opportunity to submit entries into one of our six Book Week Competitions:

- Send a postcard from a book character - e.g. Harry Potter writing to Ron Weasley in the holidays.
- 250 to 500 word short story competition - Students were given three opening lines to start their work of fiction.
- Ask an Author Tweet
- Design a book cover
- Take your own photo to replace a current book cover
- Build or create a Curious Creature or Wild Mind, using any materials.

Entries to the competitions will be displayed around the CLC or on digital displays during week 3. Winners will be announced at the end of week 3.

Colleen Kelly | Collaborative Learning Centre Manager



2021 SCHOOL CAPTAIN ELECTIONS

At the end of term 3, our 2021 School Captains election was held. Staff and students voted for our candidates using the preferential voting system.



Congratulations to our elected 2021 Captains - Josh Kain and Zara Von Stanke.

Congratulations to our elected 2021 Vice Captains - Harry Williams and Sarah Dally.

Well done to Jiordan Muir who also ran a fantastic campaign.

Siobhan Koop | English Coordinator



FOOTY COLOURS DAY



FLO SELF DEFENCE CLASS

Last term the Independent Living class from FLO attended a self-defence workshop at Mount Gambier Martial arts. The students were complimented by the instructor on their tenacity and willingness to participate. They were taught basic skills to protect themselves including how to break free from an assailant. The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and are keen to further their learning in this area. Other topics covered in their SACE Independent Living unit include finances and tax, cooking and budgeting, obtaining their drivers licence and health care.

Karen Pickin | FLO Teacher



YEAR 10 SCIENCE

Last term a selection of year 10 science classes were visited by Probationary Constable Ashwood and Constable Hallday from the Mount Gambier Police Station. This was a part of their road safety unit, where the science of road safety was discussed along with the potential of policing as a career. The students got the opportunity to ask questions and learn a bit about the science behind crashes and dangerous driving.

Grace Edwards | Teacher



Graphic Calculator Scholarships

The Mount Gambier High School Canteen has agreed to provide four Graphic Calculator Scholarships (valued at \$235 each) for students at Mount Gambier High School. The scholarship provides a graphic calculator to each successful recipient studying Year 11 Maths in 2021 and continuing in Year 12 in 2022. Application forms can be collected from the Front Office and need to be returned prior to Friday 6 November 2020.



2020 Year 12 Formal

Saturday 21 November 2020

6.00pm till 11.00pm

The Barn Palais | Nelson Rd | OB Flat

Tickets \$50 (includes a two course meal)

Year 12 students are required to meet Mr Frank Monger in the barn garden at 6.20pm for a group photo. A photo booth will also be available on the night for some candid fun!



Mount Gambier
High School



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HOLY CARP SESSA FISHING COMPETITION

On Thursday and Friday last week, students from four local schools came together for the 'Holy Carp' Interschool Fishing competition. The participating schools were Mount Gambier High School, Grant High School, Allendale East Area School and Kangaroo Inn Area School.

The event was organised by three Mount Gambier High School students Shak, Jake and James, as part of the Entrepreneurial Specialist School Venture Week program. The event was highly successful with 12 Carp caught over the two days of fishing.

The organisers were excited to share their passion for fishing and help to solve the local environmental problem of European Carp living in the Valley Lake and the destruction they cause for the surrounding environment.

The competition results were as follows:

Biggest Fish: AEAS - Mark

Smallest Fish: MGHS - Cohen

Heaviest Fish: KIAS - Will

Most Fish Caught: MGHS

12 Fish caught over the two days:

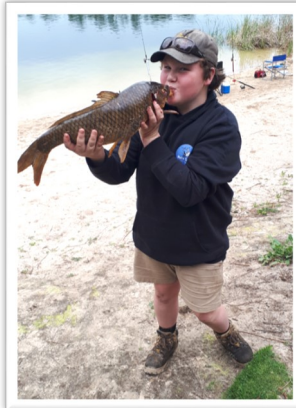
MGHS: 5

KIAS: 4

AEAS: 2

GHS: 1

Jess Magarey | Teacher



IN MEMORY OF

Charlie Miller

We are very saddened to hear about the recent passing, at the age of 96, of our much loved, school community member, Charlie Miller OAM (after whom the Miller Building is named). Charlie was an ex-student of Mount Gambier High School and had a long association with local primary and high schools, addressing students at Anzac Day and Remembrance Day assemblies, being a part of PLP round tables, speaking with history classes and assisting individual students. He was also one of a number of local businessmen who provided anonymous financial assistance for students at times of special need. He will be greatly missed.





THE NOEL FAIRWEATHER MEMORIAL TRUST

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP for RURAL STUDENTS

Awarded annually and valued at \$2000

**To assist Year 12 students living in rural areas
wishing to commence their tertiary education
in a new environment the following year**

**Application forms available from our website
freemasonsfoundation.com.au/scholarships/noelfairweather
to be submitted by 1 February of the coming year
including confirmation of acceptance into chosen course**



national bandanna day

FRIDAY 30 October

Raising money for CanTeen to help support young people with cancer

BBQ at Lunch in the Quadrangle

Sausages \$1.50

Hamburgers \$3.00

Soft Drink \$2.00



Bandannas can be purchased for \$5.00 each from the Student Office or at the BBQ on the day



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university year are now open.**

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Mount Gambier High School

Term Four Sports Calendar – 2020

Activity		Date
SSSA Year 8/9 & Year 10 Boys & Girls Statewide Basketball – Round 1		Week 2 – Thursday 22 October
SSSA Year 8/9 Boys & Girls Statewide Tennis – Round 1		Week 3 – Wednesday 28 October
SAPSASA Athletics Carnival (Hosted by MGHS)		Week 3 – Wednesday 28 October
South East Zone Disc Golf Competition		Week 4 – Friday 6 November
PE Week	Year 8/9 5-A-Side Soccer	Week 5 – Monday 9 November
	Years 8-10 Lawn Bowls	Week 5 – Wednesday 11 November
	SSSA Year 8/9 Boys & Girls Statewide Basketball – Finals	Week 5 – Wednesday 11 November
	SSSA Year 10 Boys & Girls Statewide Basketball – Finals	Week 5 – Thursday 12 November
	FESTIVAL OF SPORT (Penola) Year 8 Ultimate Frisbee Year 9 Touch Football Year 10 Volleyball	Week 5 – Friday 13 November
	South East Zone Year 8/9 Girls Strikers League Cricket	Week 7 – Wednesday 25 November

Please Note: Dates are subject to change.

Students wishing to nominate for teams must do so via the online nominate form.

SEZ: South East Zone | SSSA: School Sport South Australia



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals who have kindly offered to support our students by donating awards to be presented at our Presentation and Performance Celebration.

ASW Lawyers Pty Ltd

Mr Harold Allison

Banner Mitre 10

Caltex Australia

Computer Bits

The Cutbush Family

Dale Cleves Music

Di-Monty Training Solutions

eNVision Limestone Coast, New Venture
Institute, Flinders University

Green Triangle Electronics

Group Training Employment

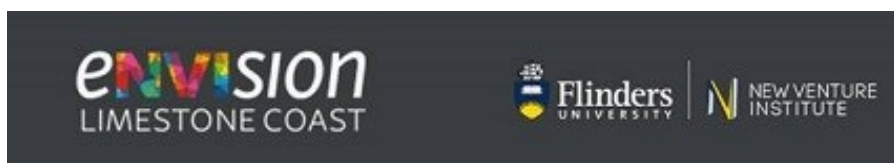
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