



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we reach the midway point of term 3, significant developments are in action and planning is in place that will change the way we operate at our site in the future.

New 6-Line Timetable structure

In 2022 our school community will experience a new, streamlined timetable structure that is better suited to the young learner, supportive of improved teaching loads and greater capacity to share resources with other sites.

The basic structure is represented in the diagram below.

Commences	Lesson	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
8.45 (Bell 8:40)	1					
10.05	MORNING RECESS					
10.25	2	Impact				Impact
11.45	LUNCH					
12.15	3					
1.35	AFTERNOON RECESS					
1.55	4					
3.15	DISMISSAL					

Fundamental improvements to this new structure include:

- Lesson 1 will start at 8.45am every day. Punctuality and readiness to this first lesson will be expected.
- No longer will we have 15-minute homegroup periods every morning. Lesson 1 will be the first contact for all students. Attendance will be recorded during this period.
- All lessons will be 80-minute blocks of learning. Each lesson will come off a break and go into a break.
- Morning break starting at 10.05am for 20 minute, consistent with research indicating young adolescence become hungry earlier.
- Lunchtime breaks do not need to be long, 30 minutes allows time for lunch, toilet break and free time.
- Afternoon break starting at 1.35pm for 20 minutes gives students "refresh time" in the afternoon with completion at the end of the day at 3.15pm.

Upcoming Events

Literacy & Numeracy Week

Monday 30 August to Friday 3 September

Primary School Visits

Monday 30 August to Friday 17 September

R U OK Day

Thursday 9 September

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

Online Subject Selection Process

This year in line with improving processes and practices at our school, we have introduced online subject selections for 2022 for all Mount Gambier High School students. All students have already completed the step 1 Subject Selection process that indicates what subjects our students are interested in for next year. This data informs us of the most popular subjects that will run in 2022 and those subjects that won't have enough interest to run. Step 2 Subject Selection (starting soon) will invite all students to select online their final subject choices for 2022. This streamlined process has and will:

- Fully automate and fast track semi-paperless practices
- Provide valuable data for future reference and planning
- Provide final timetables from subject selections for staff, students and parents/caregivers well before the end of the year
- Highlight staffing needs for 2022 at a much earlier stage.

Middle Schooling Development

As we prepare for year 7 enrolments in 2022, Mount Gambier High School is heavily investing in the development of Middle Schooling. With the shift to a 6-line timetable structure teachers are seeing the opportunity of using the 80 minute lesson blocks as that perfect time to integrate subjects through careful lesson planning that provide more rewarding, stimulating learning opportunities for our students. Significant work has already been done in this highly exciting learning space.

Buildings and Facilities Developments

Our new middle school building located between the Miller building and our southern oval is in the final stages of completion and gives our staff ample time to set up the new Middle School precinct at Mount Gambier High School, ready for start in 2022.

The new Flexible Learning Centre located on the eastern side of our site is steadily developing shape and building expectations are to complete mid term 4.

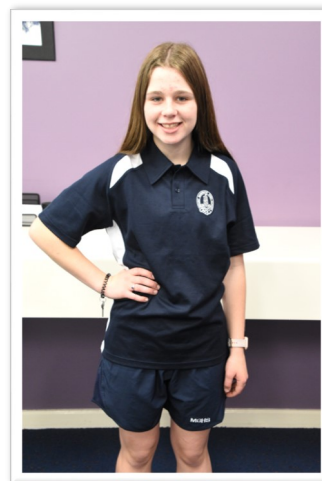
You would have noticed a developing change in the front of our school. Thanks to our Grounds Persons, Mick Ashby and Glenn Leggett and Business Manager, Steph McIntosh, improvements have been made throughout our site. Their strategic planning and actions throughout this year have seen significant improvements, especially in the "face" of our school.

New School Uniform - New School Image

As we approach 2022 our new Lowes school uniform and its implementation continues to build. Please be aware of the following information as we transition to this significant image upgrade.

From the start of 2022 Mount Gambier High School will have a new uniform. Governing Council have approved a Uniform Policy that will replace the current Dress Code policy. All new students to Mount Gambier High School will be required to wear the exclusively supplied Lowes uniform from the start of 2022. Existing students will have a two year period up until the beginning of 2024 to phase out their existing uniform items. Jeans will no longer be a part of the uniform policy from the start of 2022.

We anticipate the Lowes uniform to be available for purchase through the Mount Gambier store prior to the end of the year. Further communication about this will be shared in the future.



Staffing Updates

The panel to select our new principal has just formed and will follow its process over the next few weeks to make that important selection for our school community's future. As soon as there is an announcement, I will send communications out to advise of the final outcome.

These are just a few of the strategic changes being actioned to improve processes and practices. I continue to look forward to working with everyone surrounding the ongoing zoned focus to the continuous improvement of Mount Gambier High School.



Peter McLaren

Peter McLaren
Principal



2021 RURAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR

Early in term 1 I was chosen to become a 2021 Rural Youth Ambassador. This program focuses on improving the education for students from rural communities.

From 27 to 29 April I travelled to Adelaide to attend the orientation forum and during this time, along with my fellow ambassadors, we got the chance to discuss the major issues we have found growing up in rural communities. We spent a day at Flinders University discussing what our focus points for the year would be followed by a tour of the UniSA campus.

From 20 to 22 June I travelled back to Adelaide for our second forum of the year. This was where we began to see everything take shape. Much like the orientation forum, this trip pushed me outside of my comfort zone and provided me with a range of opportunities that were once in a lifetime experiences. We had dinner with the South Australian Principals Association and the following day presented our outlook of rural education. Our main focus for this forum happened on the last day when we had a meeting with senior personnel from the Department for Education and the Senior Advisor to the Minister for Education, former Mount Gambier High School Principal, Garry Costello. During this meeting we presented our solutions to the key rural education challenges we identified.

So far this program has been an amazing opportunity and I'm so excited to go back at the end of the term and see where the rest of the year takes us.

Marni Black | Year 11 Student



FINAL NOTICES

Thank you to those families who have paid their school fees or entered into a payment arrangement. Final Notice letters for outstanding fees have been posted. Governing Council wish to advise that if payment is not received before the end of this term further action will be taken to recover the debt.

If you believe you are entitled to School Card assistance, please complete an application form.

School Card: A School Card Form is required to be completed for each family, each year, regardless of the previous year's status. If a form has been completed at a primary school for younger students, a form is also required to be completed at Mount Gambier High School for secondary students. These forms can be collected from the Student Office or completed online by clicking [here](#), accessing the applications tab and selecting the form relevant to your circumstances.

Payment of accounts can now be processed via the school website www.mghs.sa.edu.au using the payment link, through the QKR! App, in person at the Student Office or alternatively by contacting the Student Office to arrange direct debit instalments. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please contact the Finance Officer to arrange a payment schedule.

Belinda Roughana | Finance Officer

FOUR REASONS WHY DONATION

In response to the recent South Australian lockdown in July, local charity organisation, Four Reasons Why donated 15 x \$50 Coles vouchers to our Flexible Learning Options (FLO) program to help support young people in need.



Vouchers were passed out to a number of our vulnerable students and their families by our FLO Youth Workers, to purchase essential grocery items. Our families

were very appreciative of the support provided by Four Reasons Why, citing lockdown as a stressful and isolating time, that placed many under additional financial pressure.

For more information about the Four Reasons Why charity and how donations can be made to this worthy cause, please see their Facebook page.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

As part of their Personal Learning Plan our year 10 students recently undertook a full week of Work Experience. Students spent time working in a range of industries and professions, learning about the skills and expertise it takes to succeed in the world of work. Staff who visited our students were pleased to see so many of our year 10s eager to learn, using their initiative and challenging themselves.

We would like to thank the wide range of local businesses and industry that mentored one or more of our students. The experience and industry knowledge they have gained in these workplaces is extremely valuable.

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



VET SUCCESS

We would like to congratulate the following students who have recently secured school-based traineeships and full time employment.

Year 11 student, Joel Watson is undertaking a School-Based Traineeship, Certificate III in Diesel Mechanic with Group Training Employment and host employer South West Freight. Joel participated in work experience with South West Freight, who were very impressed with his work ethic and performance. Thank you to Brad Wilson-Smith, Group Training Employment, Kelly Agnew, MEGT Australia and Tony Hardman, South West Freight.

Year 10 student, Troy Crouch is undertaking a School-Based Traineeship, Certificate III Engineering/Fabrication with Group Training Employment and host employer Dalkar Engineering. Troy was also offered this opportunity following his successful work experience at Dalkar Engineering. Thank you to Brad Wilson-Smith, Group Training Employment, Kelly Agnew, MEGT and Jordon Cox, Dalkar Engineering.

Year 10 student, Steele Jaensch is undertaking a School-Based Traineeship, Certificate III Wall and Ceiling Lining with MG Plasterers. Once again successful work experience time with his employer has led to this fantastic opportunity.

Well done also to year 11 student, Bronson Boulton who has secured full time employment with Hudson Plumbing and Roofing following completion of work placement.

Eluisa Crispino | Vocational Pathways Coordinator



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who have been recently presented with Principal's Awards: Kayleigh Field, Thomas Graney, Keenan Dwyer, Anna Anbu and Lachlan Grant-Carter.



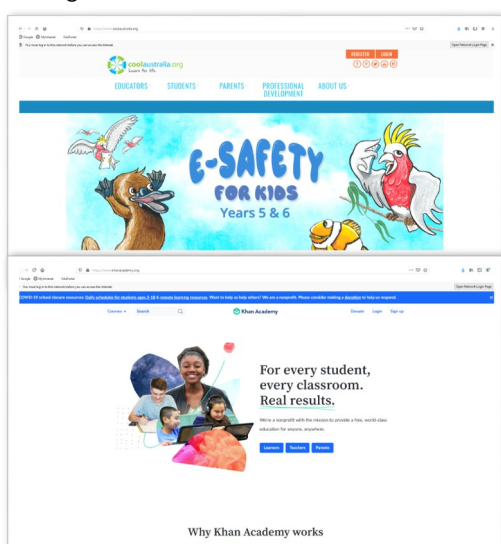
FREE ONLINE LEARNING TOOLS

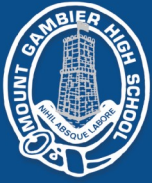
During the recent lockdown period I often pondered on what valuable online tools are available to parents to assist with their children's learning from home. Sorting through many websites I discovered some gems that were truly free and fantastic aids to school students.

1. [ABC Education](#) is a site with a plethora of free educational resources for both primary and secondary students. It contains many educational games, videos and engaging resources which align to the Australian curriculum. The site houses material for a variety of subjects such as English, Maths, Science, Geography and many more.
2. [Cool Australia](#) has free units of work and lesson plans. This valuable resource includes worksheets, step by step instruction and much more. Students would greatly benefit from this site and thus keep mum and dad happy!
3. [Eddie Woo's Wootube Channel](#) Who can forget Eddie Woo with his amazing teaching style and charisma. Eddie's channel is full of different tutorials about Maths and is suited to years 7 to 12.
4. [Khan Academy](#) produces many short lessons as YouTube videos. Subjects covered are Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Economics. These videos are well thought-out and easy to follow.
5. [PBS](#) is a rich resource website developed by the American public broadcaster for years K-12. It has many subjects with thousands of learning materials and videos for many topics. Students will find this site of great help.
6. [Reading Australia](#) is a website full of information on Australian books. The website contains resources to support teachers, parents and students of English. The website boasts over 230 resources, so there will be something useful for everyone.

As a teacher, finding good resources is a time-consuming task, therefore I hope some of the above websites help reduce the hours spent in looking for suitable online learning materials.

Greg Kanakaris | Teacher





**MOUNT GAMBIER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Flexible Industry Pathways THE NEW VET!

Flexible Industry Pathways Information Night

Preparing young people for the best possible start in the workforce

5.30pm-6.30pm | Wednesday 1 September 2021

Mount Gambier High School Collaborative Learning Centre

Flexible Industry Pathways (FIP) are the new way of approaching the delivery of Vocational Pathways in schools. Find out more about our 2022 Flexible Industry Pathways in:

- **Primary Industries and Agriculture**
- **Forestry**
- **Health and Community Studies**
- **Tourism, Event Management and Hospitality**
- **Automotive**
- **Building and Construction**
- **Engineering and Civil**
- **Education and Early Childhood Care**

Please bring along a charged laptop and medicare card so that you can complete an expression of interest on the night.

This will be a valuable information night for parents and students who are interested in a VET course in 2022 or who are not sure about the pathways available: TAFE, Apprenticeships, School Based and Tertiary Studies.



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All adults and students must wear a mask at this school.

Masks are not required while eating or drinking or while outside.
Masks are not required for adults when teaching or engaging with students.



Wash and dry (or sanitise) your hands before you put on your mask.



Make sure your mask completely covers your nose, mouth and chin.



Try not to touch, or adjust, the front of your mask while wearing it.



Do not allow the mask to hang around your neck, or sit under your nose.



Responsibly dispose of single-use masks in the bin. Do not put into recycling.



Wash and dry (or sanitise) your hands after removing the mask.



Masks are not required for students or staff who have a medical condition, such as problems with their breathing, a serious skin condition on the face, a disability, or a mental health condition.



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World's Largest OVERDOSE PREVENTION TRAINING AUGUST 30TH



For the 5th year community health organisations from St. Kilda and surrounds have come together to present this **online event for International Overdose Awareness Day**

Learn the signs and symptoms of opioid overdose and how to administer the opioid reversal drug Naloxone. Also included:

- What is an overdose and how to respond;
- Where to go for services or obtain Naloxone;
- Introduction by the founder of International Overdose Awareness Day, Sally Finn; and
- An opportunity for questions and answers.

**Monday 30th August
2021, 5:30pm**

Register online;
trybooking.com/BTLUS

Cost; **free**

Contact 9537 3177 or
info@firststep.org.au
with any questions.

FIRSTSTEP
Everybody. Every chance.

Penington | PENINGTON
INSTITUTE

Launch HOUSING IT'S TIME TO END
HOMELESSNESS

THE SALVATION ARMY Access
Health

St Kilda Gatehouse
belong connect respect
25 YEARS SINCE 1992

StarHealth
First for your Health & Wellbeing

WINDANA
Life. Changing.

FAMILY DRUGHELP
We've been there
A PROGRAM OF SHARC

theAlfred

WHITELION

HARM REDUCTION



Limestone Coast Drug Action Team &

Rotary Mount Gambier West

with the support of City of Mount Gambier
would like to host

International Overdose Awareness Day at The Blue Lake

(western lookout alongside The Cactus Memorial Garden)

5.30pm On Tuesday 31st August, 2021

Please wear purple and bring either a candle or a candle app on your device to remember those who have lost their life to overdose, to support the families and friends who have lost a loved one to overdose and to reduce stigma at this special vigil.

Overdose is preventable and as a community we can work together to ensure people feel valued and educated.

Guest Speakers include:

Tim Brennan—Life Without Barriers

Ray Herbert—Rotary Mt Gambier West

Sophie Bouchier—Substance Misuse Limestone Coast

Jade Hill—SA Police



A.S.K.

Adults Supporting Kids

A.S.K. is a support group focusing on Teens who have lost a parental relationship through relationship breakdown, death, incarceration or through being in care.

We invite you to bring a prepared question about anything on a piece of paper and place it in the 'ASK BOX'

We will then have an open forum conversation and answer your question while your question remains anonymous. If we don't know the answer, we will get the answer for you.

It might be something you don't feel comfortable asking a carer, teacher, family member or friend.

Your question can be about anything. It doesn't matter if it's big or small, to solve a problem or to gain some general knowledge.

Where: Mt Gambier Library

When: 4.30pm Monday 6th September, 2021

PRESENTATION & PERFORMANCE NIGHT SPONSORS

We would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous support towards our Presentation and Performance night.

- Adelaide Tuition Centre
- Ampol
- ASW Lawyers
- Mr Harold Allison
- Banner Mitre 10
- Baxter Hire Equipment
- BP Gambier West
- Computer Bits
- The Cutbush Family
- Dale Cleves Music
- Di-Monty Training Solutions
- eNVision Limestone Coast,
- New Venture Institute
- Flinders University
- Green Triangle Electronics
- Heemskerk Security
- Group Training Employment
- Intersport
- Jaypak Distributors Pty Ltd
- J O Berkefeld Pty Ltd
- KW Wholesale Stationers Pty Ltd
- Margaret Street Meat
- MEGT (Australia) Ltd
- Mount Glass & Glazing
- Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Inc
- She's Apples Market
- Shredall Security
- Sinclair Wilson
- Stucky Electrical Contractors
- University of South Australia



K.W. Wholesale Stationers Pty. Ltd.

