



# MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 | 13 MAY 2022

e. dl.0784.info@schools.sa.edu.au  
a. Brownes Road, Mount Gambier  
p. (08) 8721 0200  
f. (08) 8723 0441  
w. mghs.sa.edu.au



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back for term 2! It promises, as always, to be a busy term. Like you, I'm hoping that it is a less challenging and disruptive time than the first term was.

### Staffing News

This term we welcome Donna Wild, Aaron Haines, Laurent Bope and Zoe Rout to our school community. Donna is joining us as a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Donna's role is diverse and involves leadership in a number of aspects related to student engagement in learning. She brings with her extensive experience in leadership at this level and we warmly welcome her to the school and leadership team.

Aaron is joining us as a classroom teacher of Solutions, Mathematics and Science and we are pleased that he has been able to join our teaching team. Laurent will continue to teach Global Perspectives, English and Humanities throughout the remainder of this year after joining us during last term. Zoe Rout has also joined our teaching team and will be working over in our FLO department. A very warm welcome back also to Melissa Attiwill who has returned from maternity leave.

### Pupil Free Days

This term we have two Pupil Free Days scheduled with the first of these held on Monday 23 May. Teaching staff will be engaged in work relating to effective and innovative learning design. This is aligned to our External School Review directions and Entrepreneurial Specialist School program.

The second day is Tuesday 14 June with all staff undertaking professional learning in the Berry Street Model of trauma informed practice. This learning is designed to better equip staff with knowledge and skills relating to best practice for students who have experienced, or are experiencing significant life challenges.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

It was wonderful to see so many parents attending the interviews held on Wednesday 4 and Thursday 5 May. Parent Teacher Interviews are an important opportunity for you to discuss your child's achievement and progress with their teachers. If you were unable to attend interviews but would like further information about your child's progress, please contact their subject teachers.

### Governing Council

The Governing Council plays a critical role in ensuring the success of the school, working closely with the principal and senior leadership team to determine the school's strategic priorities and directions, and have input into policy development and review. It is a rewarding role that certainly deepens knowledge and understanding of the school for parents.

We have a number of casual positions available for parents this year and warmly invite parents to be part of the Governing Council in this capacity for the remainder of the year.

If you would like to know more about the Governing Council and how to become

## Upcoming Events

### Pupil Free Day

Monday 23 May

### Governing Council Meeting

6pm Monday 23 May

## Contents

1. From the Principal
2. Materials & Services
3. Pancake & Casual Day
4. Anzac Day
5. Year 12 Final Exams
6. End of Term Activities
7. Term 2 Sports Calendar



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

involved, please contact Jaime Newell, Principal's Secretary on 8721 0200. Our first Governing Council meeting for this term will be held at 6pm on Monday 23 May (week 4).

### COVID-19

COVID-19 continues to be a challenge for us all. The changes to close contact regulations will hopefully ease pressure on the school as staff and students no longer have to isolate if they are a close contact. They do however need to follow SA Health directions which includes undertaking five RATs over seven days after exposure and staying at home if they have symptoms. If your child is a close contact you can collect RATs free of charge from the testing station at the Mount Gambier Showgrounds.

The Government has mandated that wearing of masks is compulsory for all secondary students, staff and visitors to high school until at least the end of week 4. Whilst this can be inconvenient, it is a direction that we all need to comply with. Your continued support with re-enforcing this expectation with your child is much appreciated.

I also want to thank families for following SA Health advice, particularly in keeping their children at home when they are symptomatic. We know this can be disruptive and inconvenient for families, but it is important that we follow SA Health advice to minimise the risk of further transmission within our community. If your child develops symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, muscle/joint pains, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting or extreme tiredness please:

- Do not send your child to school. Keep your child at home until you receive confirmation of a negative test and their symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer.
- Undertake testing as soon as possible.
- Inform us if your child tests positive. If your child tests positive they must remain isolated for 7 days and follow SA Health instructions.

It is still an expectation that you notify the school if your child tests positive. The Department for Education has changed requirements for schools regarding notifying families of positive COVID-19 cases in the school. In line with this, we are now providing a single notification to families at the end of the day that lists the year levels affected by COVID-19 cases that day.



**Annette Ryan**  
Principal



## MATERIALS & SERVICES

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

If you believe you may be entitled to School Card assistance, please complete an application form. 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 using the following link <http://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme> under the Applications tab, selecting the form relevant to your circumstances.

Payment of accounts can now be processed via the school website [www.mghs.sa.edu.au](http://www.mghs.sa.edu.au) using the payment link, in person at the student office or alternatively contact the Student Office to arrange direct debit instalments. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please contact the Finance Manager to arrange a payment schedule.

Belinda Roughana | Finance Manager

## MUSIC EXAM SUCCESS

Year 9 Student, Megan Thompson was recently presented with the Rockscool Vocals Grade 5 Prize at the AMEB SA and NT Awards Ceremony for 2021 Candidates at Elder Hall, University of Adelaide. The Grade 5 Exam covers advanced singing techniques such as melismas, slides, trills and scoops. Microphone technique is also featured, teaching the student to bring all these skills together across a series of performance pieces.



Mount Gambier High School | Page 2



## PANCAKE AND CASUAL DAY FUNDRAISER

To celebrate the end of term 1 and to assist with raising funds for our Mount Gambier High School Breakfast Club, a Pancake and Casual Day fundraiser was held. Students gathered in the quadrangle during our morning recess break to enjoy freshly cooked pancakes with maple syrup and some tunes, assisted by headspace Mount Gambier.

Dance Teacher, Trish Jenkins and Dance Assistant, Kim Cella organised a surprise flash mob that included a selection of enthusiastic staff and students, finishing off with the famous Macarena! This was a fantastic way to end what has been for a lot of members of our school community, a challenging start to the year.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer





## ANZAC DAY

Our school Captains, Keenan Dwyer and Sarah Ritter represented Mount Gambier High School at the Anzac Day Dawn Service during the holidays, laying a wreath on behalf of the school.



## EMPLOYER TALK

Local business owner and entrepreneur, Stewart Owen, visited students in the Stage 1 Work Ready class this week to talk all things employment. Stewart spoke about motivation and persistence being key to gaining employment, with students encouraged to think about finding a job as a job in itself, to get up early each morning and work at it all day. Students gained insight into what employers are looking for in a potential employee, that friendliness and flexibility were essential, as well as a desire to give anything a go. Stewart explained to the group that as students they aren't expected to have a long list of achievements on their resume, that employers focus more on personal skills and attributes.

Stewart's top job tips include:

- Be friendly and confident
- Speak clearly
- Dress appropriately
- Do your research on the business/company
- Don't bring your parents along
- Don't approach a business during their busy times
- Don't take your phone with you



## ST ANN'S SCHOLARSHIP

Sophie Charlton, 2019 Graduate has been awarded a prestigious scholarship valued at \$10,000, to support her residency at St Ann's University Residential College in North Adelaide.

The inaugural recipient of the Dr Rosemary Brooks OAM Scholarship, Sophie received news of this 2022 award just a few days before being offered a place to study a Bachelor of Medical Studies and Doctor of Medicine at the University of Adelaide. It was a big week in her life!

Sophie moved into St Ann's in 2021 and commenced a Bachelor of Health and Medical Sciences at the University of Adelaide. Her outstanding results in this course, including six High Distinctions and two Distinctions, paved the way for her to receive an offer to transfer to Medicine in 2022. In addition to her academic achievements, Sophie has embraced life at St Ann's. In 2021 she was a representative on the College Club Committee, which is responsible for organising all social, sporting and cultural activities. She also represented St Ann's in inter-collegiate competitions in soccer and was awarded a College Medal for Female Best Player. This year she has become the 2022 South Australian Association of University College Clubs (SAAUCC) representative and is also serving as the 2022 SAAUCC secretary.

"Moving to Adelaide and into St Ann's College is one of the best decisions of my life. Not only have I been able to grow and develop as a person, meet like-minded people, and explore life in the city, I have been able to fully realise and embrace my academic ability. Being part of this community has given me so many opportunities to branch out and become more confident with myself and those around me. I would not be the person I am today without the support given by the other students and the staff members at St Ann's College throughout 2021," said Sophie, on receiving news of her Scholarship and offer for Medicine.

Leia Reis | EA to Principal, St Ann's Residential College



## YEAR 12 FINAL EXAMS TIMETABLE (TERM 4)

Week	Date	Morning Session (9 AM)	Afternoon Session (1:30 PM)
4	Monday 7 November	Mathematical Methods (130 minutes)	General Mathematics (130 minutes)
	Tuesday 8 November		Essential Mathematics (130 minutes)
	Wednesday 9 November		English Literary Studies (100 minutes)
	Thursday 10 November	Physics (130 minutes)	
	Friday 11 November	Biology (130 minutes)	Modern History (130 minutes)
5	Monday 14 November	Chemistry (130 minutes)	
	Tuesday 15 November	Psychology (130 minutes)	Japanese (130 minutes)
	Wednesday 16 November	Specialist Mathematics (130 minutes)	
	Thursday 17 November		
	Friday 18 November		

## YEAR 8 ITALIAN COOKING

Mr Praolini's year 8 Italian class finished off the term with two forays into the kitchen. Students were able to try their hand at preparing Esse Biscotti and Schiacciata. The class spent the first term learning about the Italian language and culture.

Josh Praolini | Entrepreneurial Assistant Principal

## MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU!





## MIDDLE SCHOOL END OF TERM ACTIVITIES

During the last Impact sessions for term 1 our year 7, 8 and 9 students participated in a range of year level activities to celebrate the completion of the first term of Impact. Year 9 Impact classes went head to head in a Tug-O-War round robin. The competition was strong and a tie breaker was required to determine the winners. This was followed by a timed five minute run around the oval with students receiving points for every lap completed. Miss Johnson's class, 9.2 were the final winners. The year 7 and 8 students got creative designing Easter bonnets and then took part in a parade which showcased the variety of designs. Students enjoyed strutting their stuff down the runway with final winners selected for each year level.

Kathryn Sutton | Middle School Assistant Principal





**Swinging  
with the  
Stars  
2022**  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June at The Barn



Stu Harvey



Matthew Grubb



Cole Hedwards



Karen Millington



Kyra Sykes



Erin Launer



Alisha Byrne



Felicia Jones

### People's Choice Award

Have your say and vote for your favourite "Star" in the People's Choice competition. Simply place a donation in your favourite "Star's" donation box or complete this donation form. Donations can be given in the lead up to Swinging with the Stars or on the night. Donations are tallied and the "Star" who raises the most is crowned the People's Choice winner.

All donations given for the People's Choice award are added to Stand Like Stone's Trust Funds and used to give grants to charitable projects and educational scholarships that benefit the Limestone Coast.





### Webinar Series

Supporting your child's journey to university

5:30pm – 6:30pm, Tue 17 May 2022

Register now at [unisa.edu.au/webinars](https://unisa.edu.au/webinars)



University of South Australia



**Stand Like Stone**  
Inspiring kindness and courage

Online tickets available from 9th May from [www.trybooking.com/BZEXA](https://www.trybooking.com/BZEXA) or scan the QR code



## TERM 2 SPORTS CALENDAR

SSSA Year 11/12 Boys/Girls Touch Football – Round 1	Week 2 – Thursday 12 May
SSSA Year 11/12 Boys Football – Round 1	Week 3 – Tuesday 17 May
SSSA Year 9/10 Boys Football – Round 1	Week 4 – Tuesday 24 May
SSSA Year 7/8 Boys Football – Round 1	Week 4 – Wednesday 25 May
SSSA Year 7/8 Boys and Girls Basketball – Round 1	Week 5 – Monday 30 May
SEZ Interschool Cross Country	Week 5 – Wednesday 1 June
SSSA Year 11/12 Boys and Girls Touch – Finals	Week 5 – Thursday 2 June
SSSA Year 10/11/12 Girls Football – Round 1	Week 6 – Wednesday 8 June
SSSA Year 11/12 Boys Soccer – Round 1	Week 8 – Tuesday 21 June
SSSA Year 11/12 Boys and Girls Basketball – Round 1	Week 8 – Wednesday 22 June
SSSA Year 7/8 Boys and Girls Basketball – Finals	Week 9 – Wednesday 29 June
Berri Regional Secondary College Exchange (Bordertown)	Week 10 – Wednesday 6 July

Please Note: Dates are subject to change.

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

*SEZ: South East Zone*

*SSSA: School Sport South Australia*