



# MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8 | 2 SEPTEMBER 2022

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### SSO Recognition Week

Week 5 of this term marked School Support Staff Recognition Week. School support staff undertake vital roles in the school. The work that they do is very broad and involves administrative support roles as well as support for teaching and learning. We are privileged to have a highly dedicated and professional school support staff team at Mount Gambier High School. I want to acknowledge and thank all of our non-teaching staff for the tremendous work that they do.



### COVID-19

As the cold and flu season is still with us, as is COVID-19, it is important that we all continue to follow SA Health expectations if we are unwell. Please continue to be vigilant in monitoring for symptoms in your child. If your child develops symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, muscle/joint pains, diarrhea, 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. We continue to provide a single notification to families at the end of the day that lists the year levels affected by COVID-19 cases that day. This is a requirement of the Department for Education.

## Upcoming Events

### Year 8 Immunisations

Tuesday 13 September

### Year 10/11 Course Counselling

Monday 19 to Friday 22  
September

### Student Free Day

Friday 23 September

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Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

## Pupil Free Day

Our next Pupil Free Day is Friday 23 September. On this day, all staff will be undertaking professional learning in the Berry Street Model of trauma informed practice. This is day two of a four day program for staff, with days three and four scheduled for 2023. 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.

## School Closure –Day of Local Significance

Thank you to the parents, students and staff who took part in the community consultation process held recently on behalf of the Mount Gambier High School Governing Council in regards to a proposed school closure day 'for event of local significance' - to be aligned to the Mount Gambier Show. The Governing Council reviewed the results of this consultation at the last meeting and made a recommendation to the Education Director that a school closure day be recognised for this purpose on Friday 21 October. This closure day has now been approved.

## Principal Position Update

The panel to select the principal for the next five years has formed and is currently in process. The panel is chaired by Education Director, Adam Box and includes a parent representative, staff representative, and a peer principal. Once the panel process is complete, the school community will be advised of the final outcome.

## School Captains Morning Tea

I recently met with our School Captains and their parents for a small celebratory morning tea and recognition of their ongoing hard work as student body leaders for 2022. It was lovely to chat with our captains' parents and get to know a little more about our student leaders.



**Annette Ryan**  
Principal

White Ribbon  
Australia School

## PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

We would like to congratulate Jessica McDonald, Chloe Childs and Brady Lock who were recently presented with Principal's Awards.



## LOCKS FOR LOCKERS

Our students are allocated a locker to store their belongings during the school day. We would like to remind and encourage all students to use a lock to keep their items safe and secure.

Kathryn Sutton | Middle School Assistant Principal



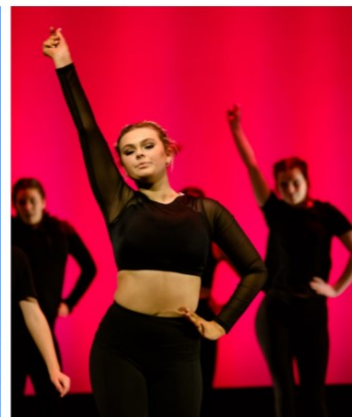
## DANCE SHOWCASE

On Friday 5 August the Year 9-12 Mount Gambier High School Dance students put on a spectacular showcase of their learning at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. The audience were welcomed in the foyer by an array of artwork, photography and music performances. They then entered the theatre and were treated to 21 dance numbers, choreographed by both students and dance teachers, ranging from troupe, small groups and solo items from the year 9/10 dance classes and senior dance students. Group performances included Grease, Hairspray and Mean Girls numbers, and a tribute to the emergency service personnel who fought the recent bush fire emergency in our Valley Lakes area.

The night was a major success and it was incredible to see the students' efforts and talents on display. I am incredibly proud of all the hard work that students have put in and are extremely grateful for all of the support from Kim Cella, our staff and the wider school community for our Dance Showcase. It has been a pleasure to work with such determined and talented students.

Trish Jenkins | Dance Teacher





## PURPLE DAY

The Student Representative Council, assisted by Mr Tubb organised a Purple Pizza Party last Friday for Wear it Purple Day. The annual celebration was an opportunity for students to wear a splash of purple to celebrate diversity and young people from the LGBTIQ+ community.

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



## RUN AGAINST VIOLENCE

Run Against Violence is an organisation established by volunteers to use physical activities and sporting activities such as running, to be engaging for a broad community, advocating against family violence. Some statistics of domestic violence in Australia are: "One in six Australian women and one in 16 men have been subjected, since the age of 15, to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or previous cohabiting partner" and "Intimate partner violence causes more illness, disability and deaths than any other risk factor for women aged 25-44".

Run Against Violence (RAV) began in 2014 with a group of runners following the success of the White Ribbon Ultra Marathon that same year. A documentary was created called Iceberg which propelled this cause. Their sole motive is to create a culture of healthy relationships within local communities and to encourage victims of violence to speak out and ask for help when required, not letting social barriers limit them from reaching out.

RAV has established that the best approach for their cause is inclusivity, stating that "We believe that anyone can be a target or perpetrator of family violence and that we all have a role to play in prevention. "Whether you run, walk or roll, everyone is welcome".

Our Stage 2 Health class has decided to participate in the RAV virtual challenge and stand against family violence. The challenge is to walk the virtual 860 km in teams, each accumulating their member's steps by either walking or running, to add to the main distance goal. With only 12 days to reach the goal, our class is looking to put forward a team of 20 members and are currently looking for more individuals to recruit to Run Against Violence.

Hassan Rizvi | Year 12 Student



## STEM ABORIGINAL LEARNER CONGRESS

On Wednesday 17 August four of our Aboriginal students were accompanied by Ms Alford and Ms Blott to Adelaide, where they took part in the 2022 STEM Aboriginal Learners Congress—Cultural Innovators, allowing them to explore their passion and learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The flight up to Adelaide turned out to be a lesson in aerodynamics as the first-time flyers got a taste of strong turbulence. Once safely on the ground, the group headed to the Central Markets and experienced the array of specialty produce.

The first session of the congress was an eye-opener with culture and language highly visible. Over 800 students from years 5 to 10 listened to presentations from STEM thinkers and keynote speakers who shared traditional knowledge, insights, experiences and skills. The audience reflected on different journeys 'learning from the past to drive the future.' A stand out crowd favorite was the powerful dance from Kuma Kaaru accompanied by the Yidaki (the Aboriginal word for didgeridoo). The talented Jack Buckskin then gave an inspirational talk about staying true to yourself and connecting with your mob.

The students then chose Jack's workshop and learnt about revitalising the Kaurana language and got some red-hot tips on how to fly a boomerang and use other hunting weapons. One of Jack's boomerangs is making the longest journey ever with the help of NASA - it's on the International Space Station.

Other highlights of the trip included a visit to the South Australian Museum which was highly engaging and the group spent an afternoon exploring maps, specimens, culture, customs, land management, geological and fossil records - evidence of the 80,000 years of continuous Indigenous occupation in Australia. Ecosystem Engineers was the focus of the whirlwind Zoo visit on the Friday morning. Ecosystems and habitat were considered and how to protect endangered species. The seals even gave a cheeky performance and showed off their water polo skills during a training session.

If you are an ATSI student, definitely consider attending the ATSI STEM Congress next year.

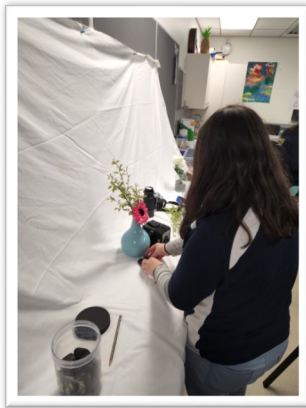
Miriam Alford | Aboriginal Education Teacher



## YEAR 9 VISUAL ARTS

For year 9 Visual Art, students began the term practicing their drawing skills through still life drawing, using objects like vases, jars and even an old lamp. Students learnt and explored with various drawing techniques like continuous line, blind continuous line and shading as well as using different media like pencils, felt tip pens, charcoal, oil pastels and soft pastels. For the final task students were in charge of setting up, creating and lighting their own still life display, which they then had to draw using their favourite media. Here are only a few of the amazing artworks the students created. Everyone did an incredible job.

Rebecca Johnson | Art Teacher



## FLO EFFECTS MAKEUP

In FLO Art (FLART) as part of the community activity, Max experimented with special effects make up to create fake injuries. They demonstrated the process to a few students using scar wax made from flour and petroleum jelly, plus a range of make up products such as foundation, eye shadow and blush to make the fake injuries look realistic.

Rebecca Johnson | Art Teacher



## VET SUCCESS

We would like to congratulate the following students for their recent achievements in securing school-based traineeships and apprenticeship through local businesses.

Stevi Collins, Year 11 will be completing a Certificate III in Hospitality under a school-based traineeship, employed by Café Melzar. Stevi secured the traineeship following her recent part-time work at the café and completion of the Certificate II in Hospitality through Mount Gambier High School. Thank you to Leanne Cameron, MEGT and Joe Case, Café Melzar.



Hannah Simmonds, Year 9 secured a school-based traineeship in Certificate III in Retail following part time employment at Zambreo. Thank you to Leanne Cameron, MEGT and Josh Cannon, Zambreo.



Year 11 Student, Cohen Janeway has recently been employed through Group Training Employment where he will work as an apprentice carpenter with PTK Building. Thank you to Damian Radley, GTE and Paul Kuchel, PTK Building for providing Cohen with this valuable opportunity.

Eluisa Crispino | Vocational Pathways Coordinator



## 2023 C.A.S. HAWKER SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2023 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarships open on Monday 5 December and close on Friday 6 January 2023.

C.A.S. Hawker Scholarships are one of the most generous privately funded scholarships available to undergraduate students in Australia. Each residential scholarship is valued at up to \$60,000 over three years. The scholarships are available to all Australian students. The majority have been awarded to students entering their first year of university studies.

Selection is largely based on personal qualities and demonstrated leadership as well as academic ability. Undergraduate Hawker Scholars are able to attend a range of Australian educational institutions.

Interested students can visit the website [www.hawkersscholarship.org](http://www.hawkersscholarship.org) for information about the scholarship. The Secretary to the Trustees can be contacted on 08 8127 1654.

## FLEXIBLE INDUSTRY PATHWAYS INFORMATION NIGHT

Flexible Industry Pathways (the new VET) Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 7 September from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the 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 2023 Flexible Industry Pathways in:

### Primary Industries & Agriculture

- Certificate II in Agriculture
- Certificate II in Animal Care

### Health & Community Services

- Certificate II in Community Services
- Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing)
- Certificate III in Individual Support (Disability)

### Tourism, Event Management & Hospitality

- Certificate II in Hospitality

### Automotive

- Certificate II in Automotive Servicing Technology

### Building & Construction

- Certificate II in Construction Pathways
- Certificate II in Electrotechnology
- Certificate II in Plumbing

### Engineering & Civil

- Certificate II in Engineering Pathways

### Education, Early Childhood and Child Care

- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care

\*\* Certificate III in Information Technology

\*\* Certificate II in Salon Assistant

\*\* Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics

\*\* These courses are new courses for 2023.



This will be a valuable information night for parents and students who are interested in a VET course in 2023 or who are not sure about the pathways available: TAFE, Apprenticeships, School Based and Tertiary Studies. If you and your child are interested in learning more about the Flexible Industry Pathways available next year, please register your interest through the following link <https://forms.office.com/r/Meu79XxJEN>.

Please make sure to bring along a charged laptop and medicare card so that you can complete an expression of interest on the night. Any further questions, please contact Eluisa Crispino, Vocational Pathways Coordinator on 8721 0200.

Eluisa Crispino | Vocational Pathways Coordinator

## PRESENTATION & PERFORMANCE NIGHT SPONSORS

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

Abacus Calculators (WA) Pty Ltd

Ampol

ASW Lawyers Pty Ltd

Mr Harold Allison

Banner Mitre 10

Baxter Hire Equipment

City of Mount Gambier

Computer Bits

Cutbush Family

Daimler Trucks Mount Gambier

Di-Monty Training Solutions

Elec-Air

Flinders University, New Venture Institute

Gambier Earth Movers

Green Triangle Electronics

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MEGT

Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Inc

Servicing SA Pty Ltd

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Stuckey Electrical Contractors

University of South Australia

Wilson Security & Locksmith Services



*K.W. Wholesale  
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