



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 12 | 9 DECEMBER 2022

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Hello from Kym Grant, 2023 MGHS Principal

I am extremely excited to be returning to Mount Gambier High School as the new Principal. It was great to meet some staff, students and parents in my recent visit to the school and I felt very welcomed by all. I was impressed by the positive attitude of the students and teachers and feel privileged to now be the principal of this school, a school that provided me with the confidence and skills to pursue my leadership career some 20 years ago.

I come to the school with 34 years as an educator, 21 years as principal in a variety of rural and remote schools both large and small. For the past five years I have been the Principal of Mark Oliphant College, a large B-12 school in the northern suburbs of Adelaide. My move to Mount Gambier High School will no doubt present a range of new challenges and experiences. However, in saying this, one does need to at times challenge themselves, experience new and different things in order to grow and as such the decision to come to Mount Gambier High School was an easy one.

Next year will be an important year as we look to consolidate and build on the excellent work of the school in supporting students, staff, and parents/caregivers. In any organisation that is actively seeking to further improve there are always things to build upon, opportunities to explore new ways of doing things based on current research as well as staff, student and community input and support. My initial few weeks at Mount Gambier High School will be spent talking to staff, parents and particularly students to ascertain what it is like to be a learner at the school. This information will be used to further enhance our site directions for the year and where we hope to be within five years. The task then will be to create the

conditions for optimising the level of challenge and support that will enable those goals to be realised. I hope to bring a renewed sense of optimism in moving the school forward in its improvement journey, working alongside staff, students, parents/caregivers and the wider community to effect positive change, and to promote the important role that public education plays in contributing to a vibrant and sustainable community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work undertaken by Annette Ryan in her role as principal this year. Much work has already been achieved which has made my transition a very smooth one.

Kym Grant | 2023 Principal



Upcoming Events

Presentation & Performance Night

Monday 12 December

Year 7 & 8 Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 14 December

End of Term Early Dismissal

2.15pm Friday 16 December

Start of 2023

Years 7 & 12 Staggered Start

Monday 30 January

Years 8 to 11 Start

Tuesday 31 January

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Staff Farewells

I would like to thank all members of the school community for their commitment and contribution to our school and students in what has been a very busy year. We thank our permanent staff who are leaving this year and wish Danny Ashcroft, Chris Couchman and Jake Matthews every success in their next endeavours. We also say goodbye to Josh Praolini who has led the Entrepreneurial Learning Strategy and Jamie Ryan who has led the Flexible Learning Options program. We are very pleased to welcome back Abbey Duncan in 2023.

We are sad to say farewell to a number of contract teachers who have been with us this year. These are: Troy Esdale, Azmir Hossain, Zoe Koulakis, Thomas Leach, Chris Fleetwood, Linda Hamilton, Pahul Modi, Karen Millington, Zoe Rout and Steph Wighton. We also thank our non-teaching staff for their work at our school this year. Again, we are sad to farewell: Tom Clayfield, Sarah Dally, Ann Dohnt, Kaleb Gentile, Jayden Green, Judy Jankowski and Trish Lynch.

Governing Council

The final meeting of the year was held on Monday 28 November. I would like to thank the Governing Council, including the sub committees for their contribution throughout the year. Particular thanks to Hanna Persello for her role as Chairperson of the Governing Council and to our Secretary, Kate Carraill for her work throughout the year. Governing Council play a very important role in the school. There is opportunity for more parents to be involved in 2023 and I encourage interested parents to nominate early in the new year. As part of Governing Council you will be warmly welcomed by a dedicated and supportive group of parents and community members. It is a great opportunity which I encourage parents to consider.

Year 12 Formal

On Saturday 19 November we celebrated the conclusion of secondary schooling for our year 12 students and their families with over 500 people joining us at the Barn Palais. This was a wonderful opportunity for staff, parents and the students to reflect on this achievement. Our year 12s looked amazing in their formal attire, as you will see from the photos in this newsletter. We are enormously proud of the learning journey of all our Class of 2022 and wish them the very best for the next chapter in their lives.

Welcome to our Year 7s for 2023

Our Middle School Management team led by Kathryn

Sutton have been busy planning and preparing for our Year 7 Transition Program which was held this week. We are welcoming 115 students into year 7 in 2023. The students participated in a range of activities throughout the day, designed so that they get to know the school, each other, staff and some of our routines and expectations. We hope that this, along with information evenings and ongoing contact with families throughout the year, ensures children coming into our school in 2023 feel that they are valued members of the school community, and are supported in their transition from primary to high school.

Farewell from me

On a personal note, I will be returning to my role as Curriculum Lead in the Montague and Orion Partnerships, and to my family in Adelaide in 2023. Mount Gambier High School has provided me with rich and valuable experiences as a leader and I am very proud to have been the principal of such an amazing school community. I thank staff for their support of me and likewise the Governing Council. I would also like to thank students and our families for their support throughout the year. I have learnt a lot and will take with me very fond memories of my time at Mount Gambier High School. I wish Kym Grant all the very best as incoming principal. Kym brings a wealth of experience as a principal and a commitment to the school and community for the longer term.

I wish all of you a very happy Christmas and a safe and enjoyable holiday break.



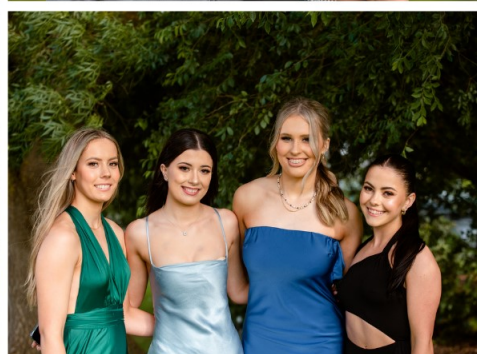
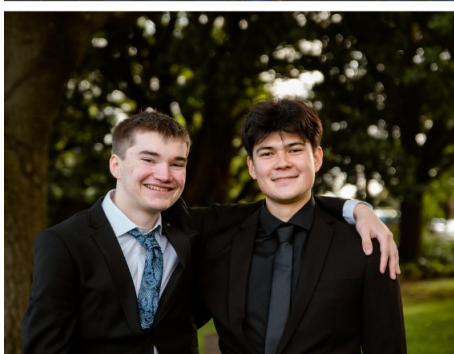
Annette Ryan
Principal

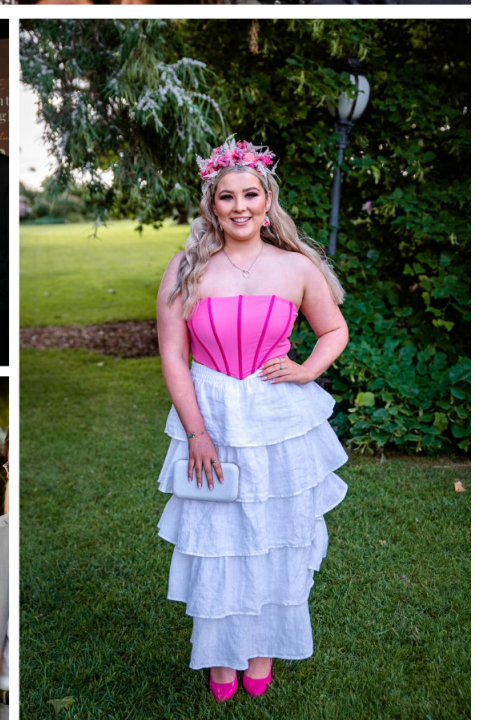
 **White Ribbon**
Australia School

MGHS FRONT AND STUDENT OFFICE *Holiday Opening Hours*

Our school will be closed from 4pm
Wednesday 21 December 2022 and will
re-open at 8am Monday 23 January 2023.

On behalf of our Mount Gambier High
School Administration team we would like
to wish our school community a happy and
safe Christmas break. See you in 2023!





PE WEEK

To celebrate National PE Week earlier this term, our school participated in a number of local South East Zone competitions.

On the Monday our year 7 students played Kabi Kabi Buroinjin (an indigenous game from Queensland), whilst the year 8 students battled the wind gusts during their Ultimate Frisbee matches. This day saw 42 students represent the school across these different sports. As this was the first year we had the year 7 students involved, the introduction of Buroinjin was a highlight with the students thoroughly enjoying this sport. This quick moving game was played on the Hockey turf and by the end of the day this end zone game was a student favourite. Playing across multiple fields at Blue Lake Sports Park, the Ultimate players deserve a big congratulations for playing through some tough conditions, which meant the playing implement was often changed to allow games to continue.

Two teams of four attended the Lawn Bowls competition on Wednesday at the Mount Gambier RSL Bowling Club. Whilst we weren't victorious overall in this competition, our students demonstrated improvement across the day. A big thank you to the volunteers from the Bowling Club who gave up their time to support our students.

The annual Festival of Sport was conducted on Thursday, hosted by Penola High School. Our year 9s participated in Touch Football, both boys and girls, and we also took a mixed Volleyball team for the year 10 competition. These 26 students enjoyed the day, playing a number of games, demonstrating good game development and understanding as the day progressed. A touch coaching session run by participating schools' staff at the beginning of the day upskilled the students and enabled games to be played from a good standard right from game 1.

Meanwhile at school Miss Kennedy organised a popular lunchtime 3 on 3 Basketball competition in the gym. Well done to Sae Nay Mya who won the longest throw on the Southern Oval with a 24.9m throw (of the rubber boots) It was fantastic to see so many students come out to participate in this. One of the highlights of the week was the Staff vs Student Volleyball match in the gym to round out the week. Miss Jenkins team valiantly tried to outplay the students with various tactics and skill but the student team outmaneuvered them to run out winners. Well done to the talented students.

Congratulations to the quiz winners – it was very close for the first three placings (1st Place, 11.5 White and 7.5, Fleetwood, tied with 29 points, 2nd Place, 11.3 Day/Clark with 28.5 points and 3rd Place, 8.2 Blott with 28 points). Many thanks to Sarah Dally our HPE trainee who designed the quiz, there were some challenging questions indeed.

A week like this only occurs when a number of people get involved. A big thank you to the students (76 across the week) who played and the staff members who made themselves available to manage, umpire, score or supervise our teams.

Kerran Wingard | Special Sports Coordinator

Jan Longbottom | HPE Coordinator



YEAR 9/10 BOYS T20 CRICKET

A couple of weeks ago our Year 9/10 Cricket team participated in the School Sport SA Country South T20 cricket competition. Playing St Martins in the first game, the team managed to chase down the total of 77 inside their allotted overs. Best performers with the ball were Charlie Lockwood (2/14 from 3 overs) and Anush Das (2/14 from 3 overs).

With the bat, Brodie Pfitzner top scored with 34, followed by Will Von Stanke with 14.

Our second game saw us face Millicent High School. Millicent started slowly, losing two early wickets. From that point, the stronger, more experienced Millicent players took control, taking their team score to 4/159 after 20 overs. Mount Gambier High School were quickly reduced to 4/10 after 5 overs. It was at this point that Brodie Pfitzner started to hit his stride. After nudging the ball around in the early overs, Brodie started to look for the boundaries, which saw him hit 4 sixes and 16 fours. Brodie brought up his 100 with a straight four from the last ball of the game.

Kerran Wingard | Special Sports Coordinator



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The 2022 Modified Swimming Carnival will take place at the Nangwarry Swimming Pool on Wednesday 14 December for our year 7 and 8 students. This event will be a combination of traditional championship events (Freestyle, Breaststroke and Backstroke) as well as a range of novelty events, including boogieboard relay, tug-o-war and cork scramble.

Students will be required to meet their Impact teacher in the quadrangle at 8.40am at school, before they will travel on buses to Nangwarry. Students are reminded to bring appropriate swimming attire, a towel and food/drinks for the day. When travelling back to Mount Gambier High School at the end of the Carnival, students will be required to wear dry clothes. A BBQ lunch will be provided to all participants. There will be no access to a canteen or purchased food. The cost of the event will be \$5.00 per person and students must pay this in cash upon entry to the pool. No EFTPOS facilities will be available. At the conclusion of the day, students will be returned to Mount Gambier High School via buses prior to normal dismissal time (3.15pm).

Whilst students have already nominated for events, they can still participate in additional events on the day. We look forward to this being a fun and exciting day and a chance to celebrate our year 7 and 8 students participating in their first Mount Gambier High School Swimming Carnival.

In 2023 we aim to return to a whole school Swimming Carnival on Wednesday, week 3 at the new Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre. Further information about this event will be provided to families at the start of 2023.

Kerran Wingard | Special Sports Coordinator



PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Alisha Cram and Caitlin Hitchon have both achieved Premier's Reading Challenge milestones with Alisha presented with a 10 year Hall of Fame, Reader for Life and Caitlin an 8 year Hall of Fame, Reader for Life. This is a fantastic achievement for both girls who have participated each year, reading a total of 12 books relevant to their age group within the 7 month timeframe.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE FAB FIVE EXHIBITION

Winners have been announced in a state-wide school art competition aimed at increasing young people's knowledge of South Australian marine life and Australian Marine Parks. The students were inspired to create their art following a University of Adelaide organised roadshow.

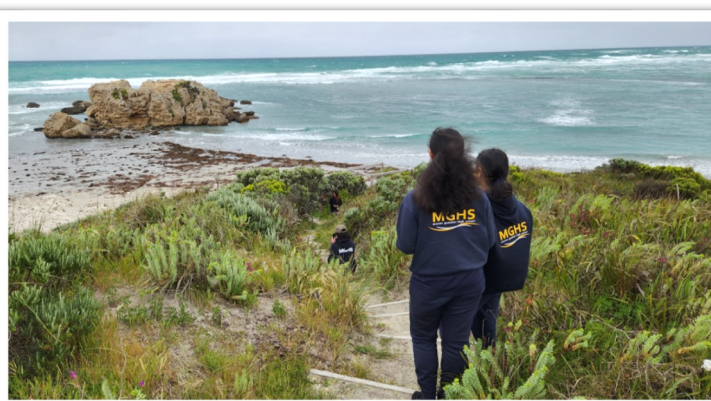
A selection of our year 7 students were shortlisted for prizes. Congratulations to Lah Ku Paw, Mikaela Vallerant, Georgia Stasiw, Alyssa Marcinkowsky, Ah Tee, Kadie Attiwill, Chloe Childs, Matilda Badenoch, Imogen Vandepeer, Amber Rowe, Zarah Thami and Gabi Pollifrone.



PHOTOGRAPHY & ART EXCURSION

On Wednesday 2 November Miss Johnson's Year 9 Visual Art and Year 9 Photography students ventured out into the local sights of Mount Gambier including Carpenter's Rocks, the Little Blue Lake and Umpherston Sink Hole. The Visual Arts students had the aim of taking photos to use as a reference photo for their landscape paintings. Meanwhile, the photography students aim was to experiment with various composition techniques like leading lines and rule of thirds, as well as taking photos that highlight these locations. We managed to miss the rain and get some amazing shots, and even had some time for some sketching at Umpherston Sink Hole!

Rebecca Johnson | Art Teacher



**MOUNT GAMBIER
HIGH SCHOOL**

Success in education depends on strong partnerships between educators, parents, families and communities.



The character and culture of Mount Gambier High School is built on the strength and diversity of the community behind it, and you, the parents/caregivers and families are the foundation of that community. We need you to share your ideas, skills and culture to help us build a vibrant school, where every student and their family belongs.



2022 SCHOOL MAGAZINE *Pre Orders Now Open*

Orders are now being taken for our 2022 School Magazine which will be delivered next year.

The School Magazine is a fantastic memento of the many exciting events and activities from the school year and is a great way to look back over your student's achievements and experiences in future years to come.

If you wish to purchase a 2022 School Magazine of \$18.00 (inc GST) please see below payment methods:

- Cash or card in person/card over the phone through the Student Office
- QKR App - under School Payments tab
- Online payment - <https://www.mghs.sa.edu.au/html/payment-bpoint.html>

The 2022 School Magazine will be available for collection between terms 2 and 3, 2023.

Have a say in your child's educational journey!

The Governing Council actively share in the governance of Mount Gambier High School and the development of the strategic directions for the school. Governing Council meetings are held twice per term and there are many additional opportunities to be involved if you choose, such as various committees - finance, canteen, facilities, etc. as well as contributing to family participation, fundraising opportunities and school community events.

If you would like further information about contributing to our Governing Council in 2023, please email dl.0784.info@schools.sa.edu.au.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING | BELONGING | RESPONSIBILITY

STATIONERY PACKS 2023

Foster's Newsagency on Commercial Street East have won the tender for our 2023 Stationery Packs. They have kindly offered a further 15% off all stationery items (excluding the 2023 stationery packs, sale items and calculators) for all students/families of Mount Gambier High School. We highly recommend supporting this local business for your stationery requirements.

Stationery packs will be available for purchase from Monday 12 December.

LOST PROPERTY *Please collect*

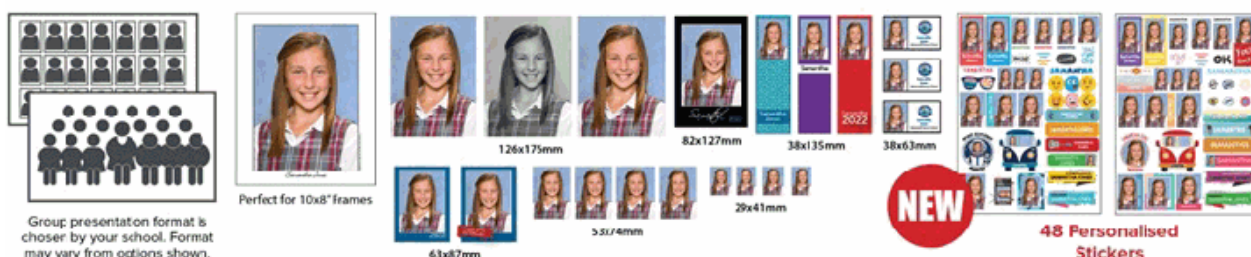
We have collected a large amount of lost property over the school year, currently being held down in our Student Office.

Please make sure to pop down to the Student Office prior to Wednesday 21 December to collect any lost items.

All items remaining at the end of the school year will be donated to charity or thrown away.

Thank you

Mount Gambier High School 2023 School Photographs will be held on Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 February (Week 2)



Please note: Traditional, Composite or High-Resolution Virtual Group format is chosen by your school. Sibling photos, if available, can also be ordered online and must be ordered prior to your photo day. A late fee will apply for photos purchased after ordering has closed.

How to Order

Order online

Online payment options include Visa, Mastercard and PayPal. Alternatively, you can choose to pay over 10 weeks using LatitudePay.

STEP 1

Go to www.advancedlife.com.au on your computer, phone or tablet.

STEP 2

Enter your school code:

ZDF R9R CD1

in the 'order and download' box. This will take you to your school's secure online ordering site.



STEP 3

Click on 'Order Photos' and complete your details and procedures. During this process you can place orders for additional children at your school and sibling photos, if available



Cash/envelope ordering

Your school prefers orders to be placed online. However, if you are unable to order online, please complete your order using the order envelope provided.

STEP 1

Complete a separate order envelope for each individual child's package/s ordered. If ordering for more than one child, payment should be enclosed in the envelope of the eldest child and this should be indicated on the envelope of the other child/children (the envelope that does not have cash enclosed).

STEP 2

Enclose exact cash payment in one envelope for the package/s you are ordering. Payment for more than one child should be in the eldest child's envelope and marked at the bottom of the envelope in the space provided.

STEP 3

Return your completed envelope/s, with correct cash payment, to our photographers on the day.

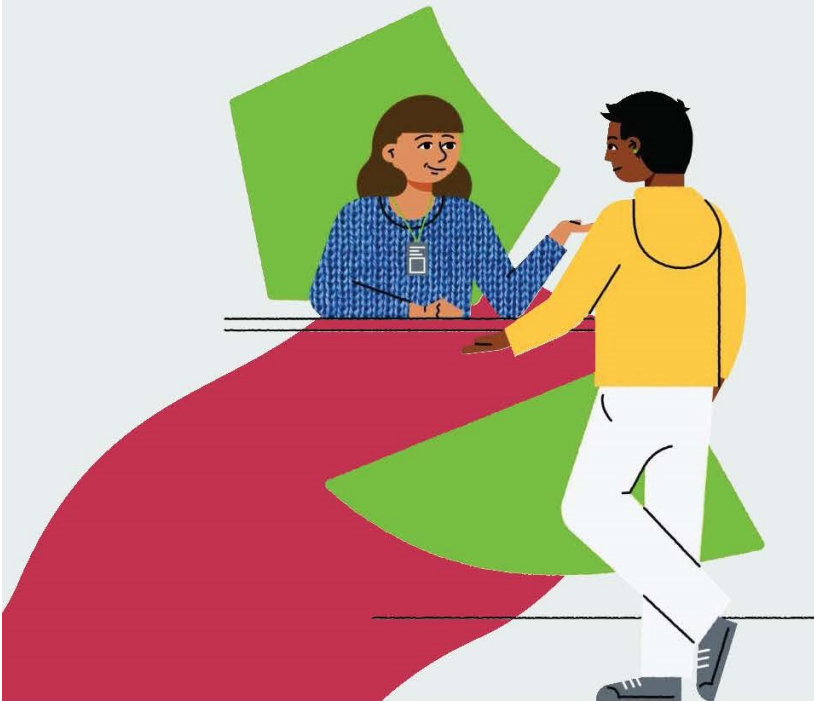
Please note: You must enclose exact correct payment, as change is not available. Credit card payments can only be made online and we no longer accept cheques. There is a separate envelope for sibling photo orders, should your school choose to offer sibling photos.

**School photographs will be returned approximately 6 weeks
after the day of photography.**

**Please note this delivery timeframe is dependent on proofing
and additional photography days at your school.**

Contact us: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists



Walk-In service

headspace will be open all day on December 28, 29 & 30 (between Christmas & new years), offering walk-in services for mental health support.

We understand that the Christmas holiday period can be a challenging time for some young people. This year, headspace staff will be available for in-person support to young people during this time.

Phone and online support options available for people who are not able to attend our service in-person.

*Closed on public holidays & weekends.

Scan the QR code for more information about the walk-in service!

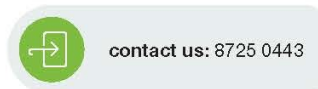
December 28, 29 & 30

171 Commercial Street East, Mount Gambier

Wednesday 28/12 9.30am - 5.00pm

Thursday 29/12 9.30am - 6.30pm

Friday 30/12 9.30am - 5.00pm



headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

PRESENTATION & PERFORMANCE NIGHT SPONSORS

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

Acknowledgements

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

Cultivar by Confession

Cutbush Family

Daimler Trucks Mount Gambier

Di-Monty Training Solutions

Elec-Air

The Fire Station Optometrists

Flinders University, New Venture Institute

Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants

Gambier Earth Movers

Green Triangle Electronics

Group Training Employment

Heemskerk Security

Hughes & Loveday Sports Store

Hyland & Fox Signs

Intersport

Jaypak Distributors Pty Ltd

KW Wholesale Stationers Pty Ltd

Little Blue Wren Gifts and Art

MEGT

Philtronics Pty Ltd

Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Inc

Servicing SA Pty Ltd

Shredall Security

Sinclair Wilson

Spectrum Business Management

Stuckey Electrical Contractors

University of South Australia

Wilson Security & Locksmith Services

