



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Athletics Carnival

Unfortunately, due to COVID I was unable to attend my first Athletics Carnival at Mount Gambier High School. By all accounts it was a great couple of days. It was wonderful to hear that school and house spirit were on display, with high levels of participation and some lively competition. Congratulations to Tower for their win!

A huge amount of work is behind a successful event such as this. Thank you to Kerran Wingard and the team who planned, organised and managed the event, including set up and pack up. It's a huge effort and we are grateful for all of your hard work. Sincere thanks also to all the staff who contributed to the day, again, these days would not be a success without the enthusiasm and dedication of our staffing group.

Student Forums

Over the coming weeks, the student leaders and I will be conducting year level forums. The intent of these is to solicit student opinion in relation to what it is like to be a learner at Mount Gambier High School. Students will be asked their opinions and solutions in regard to behaviour, the school environment and the teaching and learning process.

Based on this input from all students we will begin planning our improvement journey with our 'Code of Conduct' and associated behaviour processes being the first under review. Already we have gained valuable insights from students in years 11 and 12 which has begun to shape our thinking. This work will be further progressed on our Student Free Day. Parents/carers will also be provided with the opportunity to have input into our improvement planning processes.

Twilight Tours

This year we will be opening the school for Twilight Tours on Wednesday 15 March from 5.15pm to 7.15pm, for prospective families of year 6 students enrolling in 2024. We welcome families to tour the school, speak with myself and key personnel, and to familiarise themselves with the wonderful opportunities that Mount Gambier High School can offer their child.

Governing Council

Our AGM and first Governing Council meeting for the year was held last night. Items covered in this meeting included presenting a summary of the 2022 Annual Report, electing our Governing Council members and office bearers for the 2023 school year as well as approvals for Pupil Free Days, School Closures and end of term dismissals.

A big thank you to the following parents and community members who have volunteered their time to be part of the Mount Gambier High School Governing Council:



Upcoming Events

Public Holiday

Monday 13 March

NAPLAN Testing

Wednesday 15 to Monday 20 March

Interschool Athletics Carnival

Friday 24 March

Year 8 Immunisations

Tuesday 28 March

Parent Teacher Interviews

Thursday 30 March

Governing Council Meeting

Monday 3 April

SSSA Adelaide Athletics

Wednesday 5 April

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

- Rebecca Devlin
- Denise Urquhart
- Janita Galloway
- Teresa Cain
- Natalie Holtham
- Mark Payne
- Krystal Owen
- Sarah Lucas

Governing Council meets on Monday evenings, twice each term and we welcome questions or concerns from the school community to be raised through this important and valuable forum. We currently still have a number of parent member positions available. If you would like to be involved on the Governing Council this year or have any questions about how you can be involved, please contact the school.

We thank all members of the Governing Council for their time and commitment to supporting the learning needs of everyone at the school.

MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGES

In establishing the fees for 2023 both the Finance Advisory Committee and Governing Council are sensitive to the fact that some families may require assistance in meeting this commitment and therefore we are once again offering an instalment plan together with a variety of payment options.

Payment Due Dates

2nd Instalment: Friday 17 March 2023 \$120.00

Final Instalment: Friday 14 April 2023 \$120.00

Payment Methods

Payment of the above fees can be made using one of the following options:

- Online (BPoint) - Information on how to pay online via the school's website
- Qkr! - Information on how to download and register on the Qkr! app is available from www.mghs.sa.edu.au.
- Direct Credit - Payments can be made to the Mount Gambier High School bank account: BSB 065-504, Account Number 10392015 (please ensure you include your family code in the payment reference).
- By Post - Cheque or credit card payment accepted by completing the details at the bottom of the invoice and posting to Brownes Road, Mount Gambier SA 5290.
- In Person - Cash, cheque or credit card payment accepted at the Student Office.

Should you require alternative payment arrangements, please contact the Finance Manager or Business Manager on 8721 0200 to discuss.

2023 School Card Scheme

School Card offers assistance with school fees (materials and services) to eligible families. For further information, to check your eligibility or apply online, please visit the SA Gov website (www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard). Alternatively please visit the Student Office for assistance (please bring your Health Care Card with you).

Please note: 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.

Belinda Roughana | Finance Manager

NAPLAN TESTING Year 7 & 9

The National literacy and numeracy testing for year 7 and 9 students will be held during week 7 and 8 this term.

- Day 1 - Wednesday 15 March: Writing
- Day 2 - Thursday 16 March: Reading
- Day 3 - Friday 17 March: Language
- Day 4 - Monday 20 March: Numeracy

Students are reminded that the testing is online and will therefore need to bring a charged laptop to school for these days.

MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL



**2023 Year 6
Twilight Tours**
5.15pm - 7.15pm
Wednesday 15 March

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The 2023 Mount Gambier High School Swimming Carnival marked the first whole school Swimming Carnival since 2020, due to the impact of COVID and the building of the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre. Warm weather greeted staff and students at the new venue, with students keen and eager to get involved.

Throughout the course of the day, students participated in four Championship Events (Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Backstroke) as well as a number of highly entertaining novelties, including Tug-o-War, and Pool Noodle and Boogie Board relays respectively. The land-based event of Cornhole was very popular, with many students enjoying the fast paced competition of this new event.

The four Ironperson events were eagerly anticipated again this year and competitors gave it their all to complete the slightly shortened course due to the new layout of the venue.

Haydn Lowe recorded two new records on the day with outstanding swims in both the Intermediate Boys 50m Freestyle (27.71s) and Breaststroke (36.76s) events.

After 22 long years, Mount (red) were successful, winning the 'P.M. Cutbush Shield' in a tight struggle with Gambier (yellow). A mere five points separated the top two teams. Lake (blue) finished third, with Tower (black) rounding out the day in fourth.

A massive congratulations must go to all House Captains and Vice-Captains who worked tirelessly throughout the day to ensure students made it to events on time and were achieving their best. The number of students who continually participated in events regardless of the weather was extremely pleasing.

Kerran Wingard | Special Sports Coordinator

House Championship		
Position	House	Points
1 st	Mount	532
2 nd	Gambier	527
3 rd	Lake	401
4 th	Tower	392

Mount win the P.M. Cutbush Shield



Iron Person Winners: Caitlin Hitchon, Harrison Hicks, Monique Doyle and Haydn Lowe



Junior Age Group Winners: Amity Lowe and Alex Hitchon



Intermediate Age Group Winners: Caitlin Hitchon and Haydn Lowe



Open Age Group Winners: Levi Loring and Lara Wilson





INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

After winning the 2021 and 2022 Ian Gould Interhouse Athletics competitions, Tower again proved too strong for their opponents. Following the successful return of the Swimming Carnival earlier this term, students were again given the opportunity to compete against their peers to claim bragging rights on the track.

Cool and overcast conditions for the majority of the Carnival meant students did not face the heat of previous years when competing. This year, the novelty events were a huge success with high participation numbers across all of the age groups. Some houses were even able to fill three teams in some events.

Year 9 student, Monique Doyle was awarded the 'Craig Elliott Perpetual Award' for her record breaking javelin effort in the 15 Year Girls event. This award recognises the Most Outstanding Individual Performance of the Carnival. Monique's performances set a new record of 34.56m, beating the previous record held by Rachel Hines of 31.29m, which was set in 2013. It was again a privilege for former Mount Gambier High School alumni, Craig to personally present the award that was named in his honour, due to his outstanding sporting achievements across athletics, cricket and cycling.

There were many new records made over the two days of competition. Congratulations to the following students:

- Layla Hawke—13 Year Girls 1500m and 800m
- Monique Doyle—15 Year Girls Javelin
- Sienna Van Dooren—13 Year Girls Discus
- Sara Richards—13 Year Girls High Jump

The willingness of the students present to get involved in events, do their best and in many instances achieve personal bests was brilliant. Of course the day could not go ahead without the willingness of staff to actively get involved over the two days of competition, officiate and help out wherever possible.

On Friday 24 March Mount Gambier High School will compete in the 78th Annual South East Zone Athletics Carnival hosted by Millicent High School, where the Athletics squad will again look to achieve individual and team success.

Kerran Wingard | Special Sports Coordinator

IAN GOULD ATHLETICS SHIELD		
POSITION	HOUSE	TOTAL POINTS
1 st	Tower	2112.8
2 nd	Lake	1580.1
3 rd	Gambier	1485.3
4 th	Mount	1306.4



**Under 13
Age Group
Winners**

Jordan
Douglas
and
Jenna
Baron



**Under 14
Age Group
Winners**

Sam Baron
and
Lara
Murdoch



**Under 15
Age Group
Winners**

Sae Nay Mya
and
Monique
Doyle



**Under 16
Age Group
Winners**

Reeghan
MacDermott
and
Aaron Dally



Open Age Group Winners
Levi Loring, Alice Tentye and Shar Say La



**Craig Elliott
Perpetual
Trophy Winner**

Monique
Doyle



LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

On 22 February two brave year 10 students, Callum McIntyre-Gregory and Alisha Cram undertook the process of competing in the Lions Youth of the Year.

The competition begins with a Local Heat, with students undertaking individual interviews, where they sat down with the judges to discuss their community involvement, personal passions and opinions. This makes up 70% of the overall judging. On the night of the competition each student is asked to answer two impromptu questions. Each student spoke for two minutes and were not given time to prepare a response to the topic provided. Lastly, students delivered a five minute, prepared speech on a topic of their choice. Callum spoke about "Equality," while Alisha discussed "Climate Change". The impromptu and prepared speeches made up 30% of the overall judging.

Both students spoke eloquently and demonstrated their commitment by challenging themselves to speak in front of a room full of spectators and judges. The impromptu speeches are especially nerve wracking and we congratulate both Callum and Alisha for taking part in the Lions Youth of the Year. Callum and Alisha took home 2nd and 3rd place in the local competition, and both progressed to the next round of judging, the Regional Finals that were held on 5 March.

Callum and Alisha engaged in the same process of interviews, impromptu speeches and prepared speeches, presenting to a larger audience and competing against other schools in the region such as Grant and Penola High Schools. At the Regional Final Callum won the "Best Public Speaker" award and was selected to represent the region at a district level. Alisha presented a new speech on "LGBTQ" and received positive feedback on her improvement in her presentation skills.

The District Finals will take place in Robe next week with the winner of this round of the competition then proceeding to the National Competition held on the Gold Coast. We wish Callum all the best as he prepares for the District Final.

Kate Jones | English Teacher



PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher Interviews are an opportunity to meet your children's teachers and a fantastic way to ensure communication between school and home. They enable us to work together towards positive learning outcomes for our students.

We would like to invite you to participate in parent/teacher interviews that will occur in week 9 this term, Thursday 30 March from 4.00pm to 7.00pm in the Collaborative Learning Centre, Miller and Fenwick Buildings.

Parent/Teacher Interviews can be booked online via the Parent Portal on Daymap. This allows parents to book interview times that better suit their personal needs. Please follow the instructions that have been emailed out to you.

If you are unable to make an online booking, please contact the Student Office on 8721 0200 between 10.00am and 3.00pm each day. When booking through the Student Office, please ensure that you know the names of the teachers that you wish to book an interview with.

- Bookings Open Tuesday 14 March from 9.00am
- Bookings Close Wednesday 29 March at 4.00pm

Interviews are 10 minutes each and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact the teacher directly to make alternative arrangements. Interviews will be spread out between three buildings; please enter via the Collaborative Learning Centre carpark entrance to check in on the night.

Kathryn Sutton | Middle School Assistant Principal

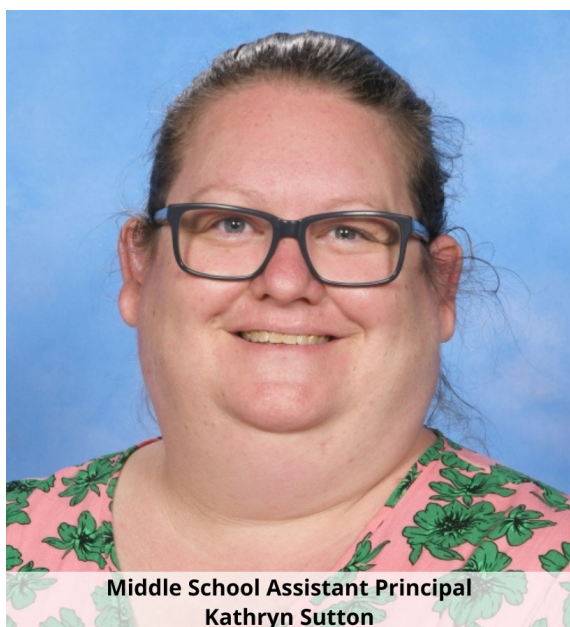
MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

The first six weeks of school have flown by, with students and staff building relationships and getting to know each other across a range of experiences. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new year 7 students to our Middle School. We are enjoying getting to know them as they embark on their high school journey.

Our Middle School programs including Solutions, Global Perspectives and Impact are providing the students the opportunity to participate in in-depth learning and creating positive relationships with teachers and peers. Our Impact program has focused on 'Setting up for Success', connecting students with our Mount Gambier High School Code of Conduct, 'CARE'. Students and teachers also discussed routines, organisation and being "ready to learn" as they navigate their responsibilities in their new high school environment. A big focus has been around respect and what that looks, feels and sounds like at Mount Gambier High School, in the classroom and around our school.

It has been fantastic to see so many of our Middle School students get involved in our school community. We have strong Middle School numbers in our SRC ensuring they represent the voice of the students. It has been fantastic to see our new year 7s participate in the swimming and athletics carnivals. We look forward to meeting and working with all families, supporting our school community and our future leaders! If you have any questions or concerns about your Middle School student, please do not hesitate to get in contact with one of our Middle School team below.

Kathryn Sutton | Middle School Assistant Principal



2023 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Over the last 27 years, Mount Gambier High School has offered a wide range of scholarships for a variety of cultural and sporting pursuits within the community. These scholarships allow students to access life enriching activities.

The following scholarships are once again available to all students due to the generosity of business houses and providers:

Years 7, 8, 9 or 10: National Tutoring Centre Scholarship

Years 10, 11 or 12: Banner Mitre 10 Scholarship (\$500); District Council of Grant Academic Scholarship (\$500); UFS Chemist Academic Scholarship (\$500); Squashbrook Fitness & Leisure Scholarship (gym membership)

Years 7 to 12: Max Megaw Rotary Club Memorial Sporting Scholarship (\$500); Shingokan Karate Scholarship (membership and uniform)

Music Students: Joe Hannagan Memorial Woodwind Scholarship (\$500)

Official application forms including general information and criteria are available from the front office.

Applications must be returned to the front office by the closing date—Friday 24 March 2023 at 3:30pm.

VET SUCCESS

It has been a busy start to 2023 for Vocational Pathways at Mount Gambier High School and we are fortunate to offer a range of Certificate II and III courses to all of our students. These range from industries such as Allied Health, Hospitality and Building Trades. We wish all of our Vocational Educational students the very best with their chosen career pathways for 2023.

We would like to congratulate the following students on their recent employment opportunities.

Eluisa Crispino | Vocational Pathways Coordinator

Year 11 Student, Jordan Harmer has been offered a school-based Traineeship completing a Certificate III in Retail through KFC Marketplace. Jordan has been working part-time at KFC outside school hours and was approached for the traineeship based on his excellent work ethics. We would like to thank Alexander Ghezzi, KFC and Kelly Agnew, MEGT.



Year 12 Student, Charlie Carson has been fortunate to secure a full-time apprenticeship with Ash Construction, employed by GTE, completing a Certificate III in Carpentry. Thank you to Abe Hill, Ash Construction and Lincoln Hannett, GTE for providing this valuable opportunity to Charlie.



Year 12 Student, Xander Minchell has secured a Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology with MTA and host employer Carlin & Gazzard following recent work experience. Thank you to Franco Alburnio, MTA, Ben Collins, Carlin & Gazzard and Tara Maygold, MAZ Australia.



Year 10 Student, Glen Ridge has begun work at Spencer Builders, completing a school-based traineeship in Certificate III in Carpentry. Glen received this opportunity following recent work experience. We would like to thank Damian Radley, GTE (Host Employer), Kelly Agnew, MEGT and Sam Spencer, Spencer Builders.



Year 12 Student, Declan Wright has recently been employed with Collins Court Butchers and will be completing a Certificate III in Meat Processing. Declan is another student who has been fortunate to receive employment following work experience. Thank you to Michael Lammond, Collins Court Butchers and Leanne Cameron, MEGT.



LOWES

2 DAY VIP EVENT

20% OFF
SCHOOLWEAR
& EVERYTHING ELSE*



MARCH 9TH & 10TH

**ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS
USE YOUR CARD AT CHECKOUT**



SHOP INSTORE & ONLINE

*T&C'S APPLY, SAVINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

YOUTH WEEK 2023

24 MARCH - 2 APRIL

AGES 12 - 24

VOICES OF THE FUTURE

A week of **FREE** events for the
young citizens of Mount Gambier



City of
Mount Gambier

The Riddoch Arts & Cultural Centre

1 Bay Road,
Mount Gambier
Phone 08 8721 2563
theriddoch.com.au

Mount Gambier Library

6 Watson Terrace,
Mount Gambier
Phone 08 8721 2540
mountgambier.sa.gov.au/library