



# MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In any school we do at times tend to lose sight of the excellent things that are occurring with both staff and students, allowing ourselves to be distracted by perhaps some of the less favourable things. Many wonderful things have occurred since our last newsletter, much of which will be highlighted throughout the following pages and so I will mention these just briefly. We had a number of students receive scholarships for a variety of pursuits, which were presented by supportive members of our community. It is heartening to see Mount Gambier High School has such wide and varied community connections, something that is so crucial in supporting our students.



Rebecca Johnson and her Year 10 Visual Arts, Flexible Learning Options and the Independent Learning Centre students have worked exceptionally hard to present our community with the Art Crawl, which had its official opening on Friday 26 May at Metro Café & Bakery. Prior to the opening the students visited local eateries and entertainment businesses to gather information about each venue, the 'vibe' of the location and then reflected, planned, created and priced their artworks to suit the venue where they were displayed.

There have also been numerous sporting, camping and other curriculum related excursions all of which serve to enrich the learning experiences of our students. Often these things are taken for granted yet the behind the scenes work that goes into the preparation of these is significant and I would like to thank the staff for their efforts in ensuring that the experiences our students gain from such trips are valued.

### HR News

It is with regret that I announce that our Business Manager, Steph McIntosh, will be leaving us to return to local government. Steph has been with us for three years and has made significant contributions in the management of facilities, human resources and budgeting, and she will be missed. Processes for replacing Steph are well underway and we hope to have an outcome in the very near future.

We also welcome Renee Handreck, Riley Buckingham and Keyarnah Smith who will be assisting in Classroom Support.

### Student Behaviour Support Processes

We have now finished all student forums where students were able to anonymously provide information as to what is working well and what is not, around a variety of aspects of the school. One of these was student behaviour and as a result of the feedback provided, we have reshaped our behaviour support processes. Central to this will be an emphasis on our 'Code of Conduct' which has been reviewed and refined, again based on the student feedback. It was clear from the students that there was a lack of consistency in behavioural expectations and subsequent consequences applied by teachers, which in some instances created confusion for

## Upcoming Events

### Public Holiday

Monday 12 June

### Student Free Day

Tuesday 13 June

### Arts Showcase

Monday 19 June

### Governing Council Meeting

Monday 26 June

### Stage 1 and 2 Exams

Monday 26 to Friday 30 June

## Contents

1. From the Principal
2. SA Water Incursion
3. Art Crawl
4. Uni SA STEM Girls
5. 2023 Scholarships
6. Outdoor Education
7. VET Around the School
8. 2024 Uniform
9. Stage 1 & 2 End of Semester Arrangements
10. Exam Timetable
11. QKR! Canteen Orders
12. Arts Showcase



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

both staff and students. We will be trialling our new processes in the last two weeks of this term with a specific year level to enable us to further refine our procedures if needed. Full implementation will begin in term 3.

### Lockdown

As many parents would know the school went into a lockdown recently. Lockdowns are implemented when there is reason to suspect that the safety of both students and staff may be at risk. I appreciate that this does cause significant anxiety for some students and staff, and the school has provided those who have requested it with the necessary support as required. For parents too, this can be traumatic. Following the most recent incident a number of parents contacted the school requesting more specific details around the event. According to departmental policy we are unable to provide such information. This is to protect the rights and confidentiality of the individuals and families who are directly or indirectly involved.

At all times students were safe with staff going to great lengths ensuring this. Both staff and students were to be commended for their calm approach throughout this most recent lockdown.

## SA WATER INCURSION

Our Year 7 Global Perspectives students have been studying Water in the World this term. As part of this they were visited by SA Water to talk about how our water is collected, cleaned and conserved.

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



## RURAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR

Early in term 2, Year 11 Student, Jordan Harmer was selected to participate in the Rural Youth Ambassadors Program. This program provides young people within rural and remote communities the opportunity to develop their ambassadorial amplitude while strengthening their leadership skills and capacity.

The program involves three face to face forums in Adelaide over the course of the year, where ambassadors undertake a range of conversations focused on rural and remote life and learning, utilising a solutions focused approach to address any key challenges they identify. They will present to senior education staff, meet with the Minister for Education, philanthropic organisations as well as present at education workshops, forums and conferences.

Jordan participated in his first forum at the end of May and said that, "Over the 4 days I was in Adelaide, I participated in a series of different activities focused on our rural communities. Our main role was to figure out where the key issues are now and collaboratively figuring out ways to be able to fix them. There were also self-development programs and plenty of super interesting motivational speeches. It was a truly amazing experience and I look forward to working with the team throughout the year."

The next forum is scheduled for mid-August and we wish Jordan all the best with his continued involvement in this wonderful opportunity.

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal



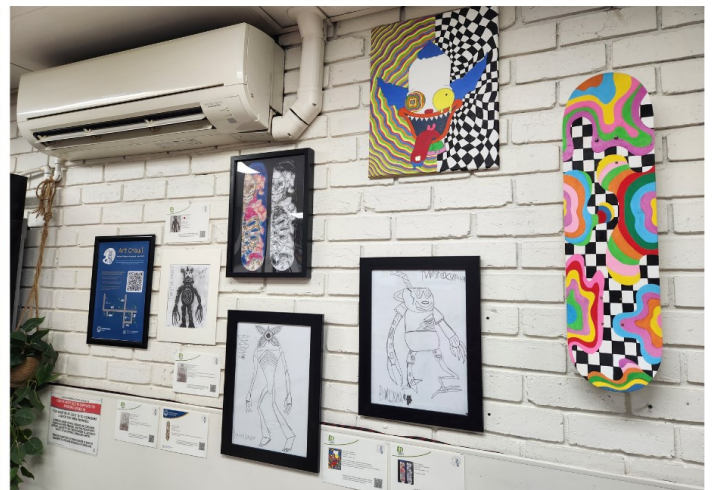


## ART CRAWL A HUGE SUCCESS!

Education Director, Adam Box officially opened the 2023 Mount Gambier High School Art Crawl on Friday 26 May at Metro Bakery and Café. Students, staff and parents/caregivers attended the opening, celebrating the hard work of the Mount Gambier High School and Independent Learning Centre students, surrounded by amazing artwork. Jess and Anna did a wonderful job at compering the event.

With the Art Crawl now wrapped up, we are pleased to announce that a large number of artworks were snapped up by the public; over \$700 worth! We would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful local businesses that proudly displayed our students' artwork and helped to make this event such a success: Bricks & Mortar Coffee Co, Metro Bakery and Café, Treehouse Adventure Centre, Mount Gambier Library, Kaboom Family Entertainment, Little Blue Wren Gifts and Art, Confession, Royal Copenhagen Ice Creamery Dessert Bar and Café, Natural Born Grillers and Mount Gambier Community RSL.

Rebecca Johnson | Art Teacher





## UNI SA STEM GIRLS

STEM Girls Academy students Zari, Nikki and Anna recently participated in the Creative Challenge at the Mount Gambier Uni SA campus. The three days involved hands-on STEM workshops based on real-world problems, identified by industry partners. The Creative Challenge helps develop creative confidence to develop the mindset required for high-quality STEM careers in the future.

One of the industry partners was 'BAE' who are designing and building nine Hunter Class frigates. The girls were challenged to consider how we can improve crew wellbeing on board these ships, using the design thinking process to design a suitable wellbeing room, with fit outs having to meet weight, size and safety parameters.

Jamie Taylor | Science Teacher

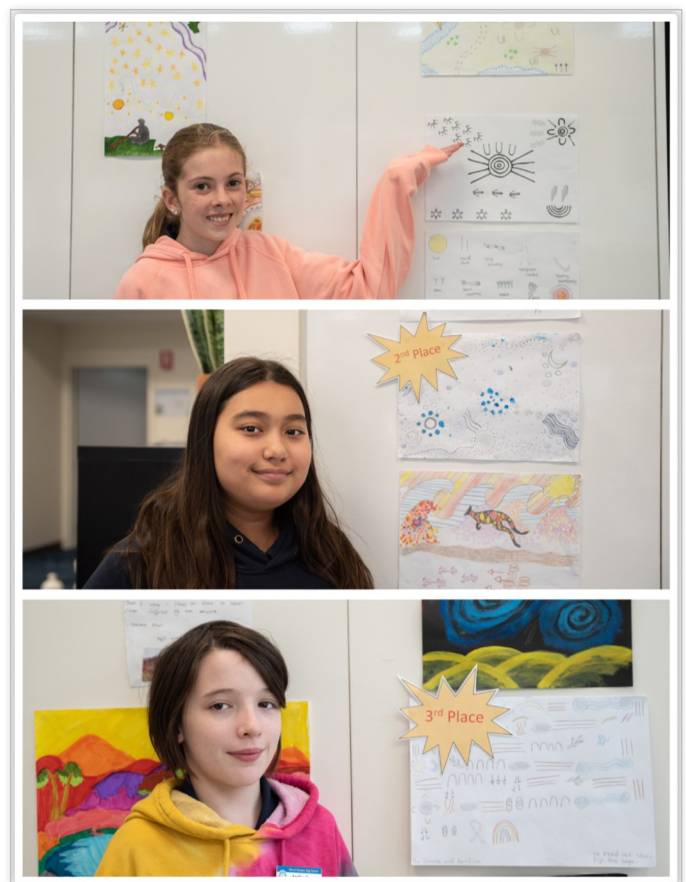


## RECONCILIATION WEEK

This year to recognise National Reconciliation Week (NRW) the SRC and our Aboriginal Education Team put together a storytelling competition for our students to enter.

The theme for NRW this year is 'Be a Voice for Generations' and to celebrate this, students learnt about symbols used in Indigenous storytelling and artwork - a form of communication to share one's voice. Our winning entries as judged by the SRC were, Eva Povey, Tulip Lel, Emma Bates and Amilliea Payne. A big thank you to all the students who participated, we had many worthy entries and positive conversations about Reconciliation in our Impact classes.

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



Mount Gambier High School are now on Instagram. Scan the QR Code to follow our page!

**STUDENT FREE DAY**  
*Tuesday 13 June*

A reminder that next Monday 12 June is a Public Holiday, followed by a Student Free Day on Tuesday 13 June.



## 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to our recently awarded 2023 Scholarship Program Winners!

Squashbrook Fitness & Leisure Scholarship - Indi Dwyer

Joe Hannagan Memorial Woodwind Scholarship - Amity Lowe

UFS Academic Scholarship - Chelsea Owen

Max Megaw Mount Gambier Rotary Club Memorial Sporting Scholarship - Callum McIntyre-Gregory

District Council of Grant Academic Scholarship - Fionn Graney

Mount Gambier High School Banner Mitre 10 Building Trades Scholarship - Cody Williams

National Tutoring Centre Mount Gambier - Indira Smith

Shingokan Karate Scholarship - Rafiki Dieumerici

MGHS Canteen Graphic Calculator Scholarship: Blessy Blessy, Harmony Kennett, Jessica McDonald and Charlotte Peberdy

Mount Gambier High School would like to thank the generous sponsors from our local community for their continued support of our Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program is deeply valued by Mount Gambier High School as it allows students to access a range of financial, community or school based resources to enhance learning and life outcomes.

Alice Collison | Middle School Wellbeing Leader



## OUTDOOR ED AQUATICS

The Year 11 Outdoor Education students had a fun time in and on the water during our excursions days last term. With an aquatic focus for the term we undertook surfing in Robe and canoeing at the Valley Lakes in preparation for a day paddle on the Glenelg River. In fantastic conditions the students enjoyed the waves at 3<sup>rd</sup> ramp and were all able to stand up and ride a wave due to their perseverance, positioning and willingness to accept and respond to expert advice.

The class also loved their canoeing experience and enjoyed being in the relaxing environments and bonding with their peers. Koala spotting and a close encounter with a swimming snake were memorable moments.

Conor Wingard | Outdoor Education Teacher



## INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Last week 11 eager students from years 7 to 10 headed down to Millicent to represent Mount Gambier High School in the Interschool Cross Country event. They braved the conditions and tough terrain to complete the 3km course through the Kay Native Forest.

Everyone pushed themselves out of their comfort zone and we saw some great results on the day. Well done to Millicent for hosting and we hope to see many more students coming along next year.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator



## AUTOMOTIVE PROJECT

Selected FLO and year 9 students have been engaging with local mechanic, Brett Johns, in a new automotive project at Mount Gambier High School. Students have been exploring the tools of the trade, the mechanical and employability skills needed and have been enjoying the hands-on learning. Students have expressed how grateful they are to be able to get their hands dirty and learn important skills that they hope to take out to the workforce someday soon. A massive thank you to Brett Johns and Chelsea Whitfield for their support of the program.

Skye Biddle | Community Connections Coordinator



## CYCLING TESTING

On Monday 22 May the Limestone Coast Sporting Academy visited Mount Gambier High School to conduct cycling testing on 22 students from years 7 to 10. The testing was undertaken as part of the South Australian Sports Institute (SASI), who are looking to identify and determine if any students have the attributes of an elite level cyclist. Limestone Coast sporting Academy Head Cycling Coach, Rob Mann and Scholarship Coach, Mike Bakker attended and put the students through their paces. During this testing, students were required to complete a number of power and endurance tests. Both Rob and Mike were highly impressed with the performances of our students and they should be very proud of their achievements.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator





## VET AROUND THE SCHOOL

### Wellbeing Session

Year 10 students attended a series of Pilates and relaxation technique workshops with Tennielle Grubb. These sessions focused on upskilling students as they start their journey in career planning later this term.

### White Card

A number of year 10 and 11 students were fortunate to complete their Workplace Health and Safety Constructions Induction through TAFE SA. This will allow students to participate in work experience in a range of construction based industries.



### Timberlink Australia Industry Tour

Last week students travelled to the Timberlink Tarpeena site to tour the facilities and look at how this industry operates. This was the first student group allowed access to the new Timberlink site. Timberlink Australia offer annual apprenticeships and this visit gave the students an insight into the skills and personal qualities required for these career pathways. Timberlink kindly arranged a lovely morning tea for the group and we would like to thank Sarah McWaters, Talent Acquisition Lead - Tarpeena and Patrick, Tour Guide for taking the time to show our students around the new site.



### FIP Exploring Careers in Health Expo

Local Allied Health Industry stakeholders organised a Health Expo held at the Mount Gambier Main Corner Complex earlier this term. Students were fortunate to hear from experts in all sectors of Allied Health about career pathways and training opportunities that exist in the Limestone Coast. A group of SACE students attended the expo and are now expressing interest in work placement at a variety of local centres.

### School-based Traineeships

We would like to congratulate the following students in securing school-based traineeships:

- Sophia Pollifrone has secured employment by Group Training Employment with host employer Belgiornos, completing a Certificate III in Hospitality. Sophia has secured this opportunity following successful part time employment with Belgiornos. We would like to thank Rosie French, GTE and Anna Gentile, Belgiornos.



- Harry Martin has extended his existing part-time employment with Confession by completing a Certificate III in Business. Thank you to Kelly Agnew, MEGT and Don Pratt, Confession.

- Tilly McEachern has been employed by Fuse Hair Salon, completing a Certificate III in Hairdressing following a recent successful work trial. Thank you to Kelly Agnew, MEGT and Sheree Hammond, Fuse Hair Salon.

Eluisa Crispino | Vocational Pathways Coordinator



## MGHS UNIFORM IMPLEMENTATION 2024

Over the past 18 months Mount Gambier High School has been working through a change-over period between the old 'Dress Code' and a new 'Uniform Policy'. From 2024 it will be an expectation that all students attending Mount Gambier High School will be dressed in the Lowes Australia uniform, found in store or on their website. This is an exclusive range of uniform items that reflect the 'needs and wants' of students, parents/caregivers and the Governing Council.

As we transition into this new expectation for 2024, we highly recommend that families begin to source uniform items from Lowes. There are a number of 20% off days remaining this year (keep an eye on your emails and our social media pages), take home layby options and the Mount Gambier High School Lowes Uniform Buy, Swap and Sell page to help sell and source Lowes Uniform items.

For families finding it difficult to purchase the new uniform range, please contact the school and we will work with you to provide assistance with this.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



**SCHOOLWEAR**

**MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL**

**NAVY WOOL PULLOVER**

**NOW ONLY**

**\$45<sup>ea</sup>**

**SAVE \$54<sup>95</sup>** Was \$99<sup>95</sup>



**SCHOOLWEAR**

**MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL**

**NAVY CHINO PANTS**

**NOW ONLY**

**\$34<sup>95</sup><sup>ea</sup>**

**SAVE \$3** Was \$37<sup>95</sup>

## 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, QKR! App, 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



# YEAR 11/12 END OF SEMESTER ARRANGEMENTS

As the end of the semester draws closer, it is important to be aware of exam and class arrangements.

## Week 9 : Exam week for all Stage 1 and 2 students

- Exams will be held on the SACE Floor as well as Rooms 23 and 32.
- It is an expectation that students are in full school dress code and arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the exam start time. Room 29 will be open as the exam meeting point and also as a study space for students as required. Mobile phones and Smart Watches are not permitted.

There will be no official classes scheduled during this time, however Stage 1 teachers may request your son/daughter to meet with them to finish off final assignments.

## Week 10 : Normal classes resume for all Stage 1 and 2 students

Stage 1 classes will conclude at the end of the week at which time all text books are expected to have been returned to the Collaborative Learning Centre (CLC). Any Stage 2 students who have not completed Research Project will continue to attend their class and ensure they complete any remaining assessment work. Students who have completed Research Project will use this time as an additional study line. Copies of semester 2 timetables will be available to all Stage 1 students in home group prior to the end of term 2. For any Stage 1 students requiring Semester 2 subject changes, a process will occur prior to exam week. This will be advertised as soon as it is ready for students to access.

Distribution of Yondr mobile phone pouches for students in preparation for the term 3 Mobile Phone Implementation will occur on Monday July 3 during home group. Students will move to the CLC with their home group teacher to collect their pouch. It is important students are in attendance for the home group distribution.

## Reports

Reports will be available to view on Daymap on Friday 7 July. Please read them carefully and contact the school should you have any concerns.

## Reminders

Attendance is vital to a student's success. Students are expected to be on site from 8.40am until 3.15pm each day and if required to sign out, a note or phone call from a parent/caregiver is required. Please support us by ensuring your student attends all lessons including home group. The Daymap Connect Parent Portal is available to view attendance and class information. If you have not accessed this before or need help to re-login, please go to the Mount Gambier High School Landing Page [AskIT, Daymap Connect - Mount Gambier High School \(mghs.sa.edu.au\)](https://mghs.sa.edu.au) and follow the information listed.

If students are absent, please phone the school or message through Daymap prior to 11.00am each day.

Stage 1: During Monday and Friday home group, students currently have the opportunity to access subject support with specific teachers, including Maths in Room 15 with Mr Kutny or Room 32 with Mrs Attiwill and English in Room 17 with Mr Peach. Students must first attend home group to check in with their home group teacher and can then access these teachers for additional subject help.

Stage 2: During Monday and Friday home group, students currently have the opportunity to access subject support with specific teachers, including Maths in Room 16 with Mr Trnovsky, Research Project in Room 32 with Mrs Taylor and English in Room 17 with Mr Peach. General Work including proof reading of assignments, Outdoor Education/ PE/Child Studies - Monday Mrs Clark in Room 27 / Friday Mr Day, Mrs Shepherd Room 28 and Mrs White Room 29. Students must first attend home group to check in with their home group teacher and can then access these teachers for additional subject help.

We wish our senior students all the best with competing assessment work prior to mid year exams. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the SESMAT team.

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal

## YEAR 11/12 SEMESTER 1 EXAM TIMETABLE

Date	Subject	Duration	Time	Prospective Room	Teacher
Monday June 26	General Math - Year 12	1.5 hrs + 10 mins	9:00 - 10:40	SACE Floor	Henman/Trnovsky
	Essential Mathematics - Year 11	1 hr + 10 mins	9:00 - 10:10	Room 32	Kennedy
	Chemistry- Year 11	2 hrs + 10 mins	9:00 - 11:10	Room 23	Potts
Tuesday June 27	English Lit - Year 12/11	1.5 hrs	9:00 - 10:30	Room 23	Koop
	Biology- Year 11	2 hrs+ 10 mins	1:00 - 3:10	SACE Floor	Taylor
Wednesday June 28	Psychology - Year 12	2 hrs + 10 mins	9:00 - 11:10	Room 23	Dhwani
	Mathematics B	2 hrs + 10 mins	9:00 - 11:10	Room 32	Rahbari
	General Mathematics - Year 11	1.5 hrs + 10 mins	9:00 - 10:40	SACE Floor	Kutny / Attiwill
	General Mathematics - Year 11	1.5 hrs + 10 mins	1:00 - 2:40	SACE Floor	Trnovsky
Thursday June 29	Biology - Year 12	2 hrs + 10 mins	9:00 - 11:10	Room 23	Taylor
	Mathematics A	2 hrs + 10 mins	1:00 - 3:10	Room 32	Trnovsky
Friday June 30	Psychology - Year 11	1.5 hrs	9:00 - 10:30	SACE Floor	Taylor
	Chemistry - Year 12	2 hrs + 10 mins	1:00 - 3:10	SACE Floor	Potts
	Alternate Exam Time	2 hrs + 10 mins	1:00 - 3:10	SACE Floor	

### ECOSYSTEMS EXTRAVAGANZA



Late last term the Year 9 Science classes explored the lower southeast on an Ecosystems Extravaganza excursion to a variety of significant ecosystems that form our unique region as part of their Ecology Studies. Students gained a deeper understanding of the importance of

biodiversity, conservation and management of our land and water resources.

Vanessa and Damian from the Limestone Coast Landscape Board coordinated the day which involved the following locations and activities:

- Little Blue Lake with special guest Hydrogeologist, Ian Lewis to talk about the unique and amazing hydrogeology of the Lower Southeast.
- Hells Hole environmental rehabilitation and our significant aquifer system.
- Penambol Conservation Park native vegetation identification and impact of invasive species, and
- Piccaninnie Ponds Bush tucker and water monitoring Macro-invertebrates.

This experience gave students the opportunity to understand our local environment and the importance of future sustainability.

Kerrin Blott | Solutions Teacher

### OPEN BOYS KO FOOTBALL



Back in May the Open Boys Football team descended on Vansittart Park to compete in a short and modified competition.

With Coach, Michael Brooks and Captain, Brad Cowling leading the way, our boys made a promising start against Millicent High School. Talon Johnson was providing plenty of dash, whilst the composure and footy smarts of Angus Urquhart in the middle was a standout for MGHS. Unfortunately, the athletic talls up forward for Millicent took control in the second half, resulting in a convincing victory for the visitors.

We ended up playing for pride against St Martins. Despite poor weather, the boys stood up and took control of the contest and we ran out comfortable winners. Brodie Pfitzner moved around the ground with ease, whilst Kade Allen, Emmerson Forbes, Jobe Janeway and Calais Bormann shone best.

It was a pleasure coaching these boys and most importantly, they were superb representatives of our school, not only with their behaviour, but in the spirit in which they played and the way in which they shared, and moved the ball as a team.

Michael Brooks | HPE Teacher



A reminder that all QKR! canteen orders must be submitted through the app prior to 9am. Lunch orders will only be available for collection from the canteen during the lunch break - 11.45am to 12.15pm. Orders cannot be collected during the morning or afternoon recess breaks.

*Canteen sold out of your favourite*

# Hot Food?



PRE-ORDER AND PAY FOR  
YOUR FOOD VIA THE QKR APP  
AND YOUR FOOD WILL BE  
READY AND WAITING FOR YOU  
AT LUNCH TIME.

\*ORDERS MUST BE IN BY  
9.00AM EACH MORNING\*

DOWNLOAD THE QKR APP ON  
YOUR ANDROID PHONE OR  
IPHONE AND GET STARTED  
TODAY!

A 'CANTEEN QKR HOW TO'  
GUIDE IS AVAILABLE IN THE  
'DOCUMENTS' SECTION ON  
THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE.





# Mount Gambier High School *Arts Showcase*



6:00pm to 8:30pm | Monday 19 June 2023

Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre

Tickets are available through the Sir Robert Helpmann  
Theatre Ticket Box or Website

Adults: \$15

Students/Concession: \$10



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education