



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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WE ARE ON
FACEBOOK



&
INSTAGRAM
TOO!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Arts Showcase

Recently I had the privilege of attending the Mount Gambier High School Arts Showcase at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. This was an outstanding evening where the exceptional individual and group talents of our students were highlighted. Whilst the production was outstanding, I began to reflect on just what this event has highlighted to me as principal of this school. Firstly, the courage shown by many of our students to simply get on stage and perform. Some of these students have experienced learning difficulties or even difficulties in their lives yet they demonstrated the resilience to get up and have a go and were rewarded for this in no uncertain terms by the audience. The learning of music lyrics, coordination of dance moves, experiencing the rigors of practice and constant rehearsals, working collaboratively with other students, all of which requires self-discipline and again resiliency, critical and creative thinking, and risk taking. These skills and dispositions that they have exhibited encompass true learning and we must remember that real and authentic learning comes from a variety of experiences many of which are not in the classroom but can be drawn upon in our daily teaching, and this was just one of them.

I congratulate you all. Thank you to the teachers behind the scenes as well, with a special mention to Trish Jenkins who was instrumental in ensuring the night was the success that it was. Thank you also to the staff, students, parents/caregivers and other community members who supported the students on the night.

Examples of student successes will be highlighted throughout this newsletter as well as in previous ones, yet we must acknowledge that these experiences simply do not happen without the support of the teachers, support staff and the parents/caregivers and I would like to thank those individuals who have supported our students to date participating in various extra-curricular activities and providing unique learning opportunities that our students have engaged in. I certainly look forward to the many challenges and successes that we will no doubt experience for the remainder of the year.

Student Behaviour Support Policy

We have begun the trial of our newly revised Behaviour Support processes with our year 9 students this week. Full implementation of the policy and associated processes will begin for the remainder of the school from the beginning of term 3. We would welcome any feedback from parents as to how we may be able to further improve our processes. The aim of our processes are to encourage students to take responsibility for their actions in a safe, supportive school environment through a step process which makes it clear what the next consequence will be for behaviour that contravenes our new Code of Conduct.

Mobile Phones

At the time of receiving this newsletter, pouches for student mobile phones would have been distributed to all students in years 7 to 12. I would like to remind parents



Kym Grant
Principal

White Ribbon
Australia School

Upcoming Events

Year 10 Immunisations

Tuesday 4 July

Berri Exchange

Wednesday 5 July

End of Term Early Dismissal

2.15pm Friday 7 July

Beginning of Term 3

Monday 24 July

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

that the mobile phone policy is a government mandate and as such we are required to implement it. Normal student behaviour support processes will apply for students who choose not to abide by the expectations set out in the policy.

I would ask parents/caregivers to support the school by encouraging their students to work within the expectations set down by the policy. Initially students may feel uncomfortable, but it would be disappointing from a school perspective if we became distracted from our core business of teaching and learning.

HR News

Mitchell Van Riet will be leaving us at the end of the term. Mitchell has been a valuable member of our IT Team and has been with us for the past 12 months, replacing Lachlan Graham who will be returning from the start of term 3. Kerrin Blott will also be leaving us. Kerrin has been a teacher at Mount Gambier High School since 2020, teaching predominately Maths and Science.

We wish them both well in their future endeavours.

School Captains Afternoon Tea

A couple of weeks ago I met with our School Captains and their parents for an afternoon tea to celebrate the unveiling of our captains' photos in our Reception area.

Our school is very proud of the leadership that our captains provide our student body and how they represent Mount Gambier High School within the local community.



END OF TERM

Early Dismissal

Please be reminded that this Friday 7 July is the last day of term 2. Students will be dismissed from school at 2.15pm with buses running at the earlier time.

Students without an Early Dismissal permission form completed will be supervised in the CLC until 3.15pm.

BERRY EXCHANGE

This Wednesday 5 July Mount Gambier High School will head to Bordertown for the 78th Annual Berri Regional Secondary College Sporting and Cultural Exchange (formally known as the Glossop Exchange).

The two schools will compete for the 'Carthew Sporting Cup' across seven matches, including Girls and Boys Soccer, Girls and Boys Basketball, Div A and B Netball and Boys Football. Both schools are still committed to the connection we have built over more than seven decades and as such will again offer the exchange program in 2023 as a single day carnival.

The 'Symonds Debating Shield' will be competed for online tomorrow, Tuesday 4 July at 10.30am. The chosen topic for this year is "We should invest more money into space exploration" and Mount Gambier High School will be debating the negative.

Mount Gambier High School will be competing hard to defend both the debating and sporting cups after taking home both shields during last year's competition.

Information has already gone out to students who were successful in making the sporting teams. There will be live streaming and score updates on the day as each game is played.

If you require any further information about the exchange, please contact Ms Duncan.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator



PUBLIC ENTRANCE

Enter via Reception

Please be reminded that all visitors to our school including parents/caregivers are to enter the site via our front Reception area. The Student Office entrance at the back of the administration building is for student entry only. Thank you

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ARTS SHOWCASE

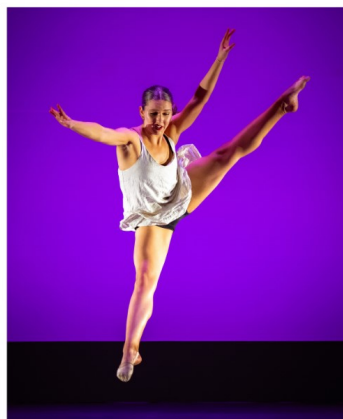
Our Arts Showcase was held on Monday 19 June at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre, with all areas of the arts coming together to put on a fantastic show!

The night began with Art and Design work on display in the Civic Centre foyer. Music students opened up the formal showcase on stage with the Random Recess Band performing three songs, pumping up the crowd and Peta Polgreen accompanying herself on the ukulele, singing two lovely songs. It was then great to see the amusement of the audience as they watched a number of Drama skits on the big screen, prepared by Mr Tubb's Drama/Media students.

The second half of the showcase was a highlight of dance numbers by the Year 9/10 class (Movie Madness theme) and 11/12 class (Life theme), performing 16 original dances that were made up of solos, duos, trios, small groups and whole class numbers.

Seeing our students dreams, ideas and creations come to life on a professional stage is why we do what we do as teachers. Mr Tanner, Mr Tubb and I are incredibly proud of our students and their efforts. Feedback from members of the audience has been heart warming for both students and staff to receive. Such a big display of their learning could not be achieved without the support of many. Thank you to Miss Johnson for organising our Visual Arts display, to Mr Tanner and Mr Tubb for organising the Music and Drama performances, to the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre for hosting us, and all the students for their performances.

Trish Jenkins | Arts Coordinator



JAPANESE KENDO

Last week Miss Johnson and Ms Lawry's Japanese classes had the opportunity to learn the traditional Japanese martial art of Kendo. Members of the Uni SA and Adelaide University Kendo club made the trip from Adelaide to demonstrate their Kendo and teach the students some basic moves.

Kendo is a sport that was derived from Samurai but now traditionally uses bamboo and wooden swords. The students warmed up as a group, learning how to manoeuvre footwork called 'Ashi-subaki' and 'Fumikomi' (stomping), bowing and how to start a match. The students then practiced using sword striking 'Men' (head) and 'Kote' (wrist) before progressing to striking 'Men' consecutively five times. It was great to see the students grow in confidence over the sessions.

Rebecca Johnson | Japanese Teacher



Rocks Pies

CHUNKY STEAK PIES

Carpenter Rocks Chunky Steak Pies are now available for purchase at the Mount Gambier High School Canteen during break times!





\$5.00

Limited pies available for purchase so make sure you jump onto the OKR! App to ensure you don't miss out on this mouth watering lunch option.

SCHOOL SPORT SA NETBALL

Last week our Open Netball team competed in the South East Zone Open Netball Competition at the new Wulanda Recreation Centre. The team came up against Grant High School, Penola High School and Bordertown High School in the minor rounds and were able to go through undefeated, finishing top of their pool. This gave them the opportunity to play in the Grand Final against a strong Millicent side. The team continued their consistent and dominant form throughout this game and came away with the win. Well done to all of the girls who represented Mount Gambier High School with pride and displayed great sportsmanship throughout the day.

The team has now made it through to the SSSA Finals in Adelaide which will be played in term 3.

Congratulations also goes to our Year 7/8 team who were also successful in progressing through to the SSSA Finals in their age group during the following day's competition.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator



YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY HIGH TEA

During week 8 the Year 11 Food and Hospitality class invited guests to share a High Tea with them. This task was a culmination of their semester course and a reflection of their excellent practical food and organisational skills developed in class. Students produced a variety of well made hot savouries, delicious slices, cakes and biscuits.

Jan Longbottom | HPE Coordinator



WELLBEING SOUP CLUB

The Mount Gambier High School's Wellbeing Centre run a soup club during the lunch break every Tuesday

and Thursday. We would like to thank She's Apples for donating the vegetables, Tom Weedon from Evolve North for the donation of soup cups and the Mount Gambier High School staff for their kind donation of additional soup ingredients.

The Soup Club provides students with a warm, nutritious lunch and brings them into a safe space for connection. We are currently going through 30 litres of soup per week. Any donations of stock would be very much appreciated!

Jodi Greenwood | Youth Worker



VET SUCCESS

Year 11 Student, Jorja Owen has been fortunate to be offered employment under a School-Based Traineeship at Ferrers Medical Clinic. Jorja completed work experience at the clinic and has been amongst the first cohort to study a Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance through TAFE SA as part of the Mount Gambier High School Standard VET Agreement. Under the School-Based Traineeship she will also be completing a Certificate III in Business. Jorja has a real passion to work in the health sector and creating a future pathway for herself.

We would like to thank Tiffany Kenny, Office Manager Ferrers Medical Clinic and Kelly Agnew, MEGT.

Eluisa Crispino | Vocational Pathways Coordinator



YEAR 8 CAVING EXCURSION

During week 6 some of our Year 8 Global Perspectives classes were fortunate to undertake a field report of the Naracoorte Caves as part of this term's Landscapes and Landforms unit. The students participated in a walking tour of the Alexandra Cave to observe some of the formations including straws, stalactites and stalagmites, pillars and columns. They also learnt about how caves are dated and formed, what fossils have been found in the caves and how this area gained its World Heritage listing. Students also challenged themselves through an introduction to Adventure Caving in the Stick-Tomato Cave, crawling and squeezing through challenges such as the keyhole and horseshoe.

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



YEAR 11/12 GRAMPIANS CAMPS

In week 4 the Stage 2 Outdoor Education classes combined to conduct their Bushwalking and Rock Climbing Camp. This involved a 25 metre abseil, which tested a lot of nerves and a 12.5km hike that unfortunately had to be cut short due to very wet weather. During the walk the students reached the top of Mt Stapylton and then were hit with torrential rain. Thankfully we could eat lunch in the shelter of a cave, however the rain made for a very slow and dangerous descent, with some hilarious and memorable slides down the slippery sandstone. We also visited some Indigenous Rock Art and learnt a lot about Gariwerd (The Grampians) and the historical importance of the area. It was great to see the students support each other during the hike and climbing.

The following week the Stage 1 Outdoor Education class travelled to the Grampians for a three day bushwalking and rock climbing camp. They trekked up Mt Abrupt near Dunkeld and completed the Wonderland Loop near Halls Gap. It was fantastic to see the group develop their camp craft skills and cook impressive meals on the Trangia such as nachos, fried rice, bacon and eggs, and croissants. They worked well as a group by encouraging each other to complete the walk despite the drizzly weather and limited view at the Pinnacle. Rock Climbing and Abseiling at Hollow Mountain were also a highlight, with students extending their comfort zones and assisting each other to complete the 25 metre abseil and climbs.

Conor Wingard | Outdoor Education Teacher

