



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 | 4 AUGUST 2023

e. dl.0784.info@schools.sa.edu.au
a. Brownes Road, Mount Gambier
p. (08) 8721 0200
w. mghs.sa.edu.au



Find us on Facebook & Instagram!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to term three. This term has seen the implementation of two key policies at Mount Gambier High School. Firstly, the Mobile Phone Policy which now requires no student access to phones and smart devices during the school day.

I would like to thank the students and staff for their proactive approach in regard to the banning of mobile phones at our site, under most circumstances, at our school. The Mobile Phone Policy was quickly embraced by our site and the change in culture at the school has already been noticeable. We have continued to see the benefit of the new requirements in the improved focus on learning, increased interactions in classes and social engagement in the schoolyard. Family support in meeting this Government requirement is much appreciated.

Secondly, following a successful trial with year 9 students in the last two weeks of term 2 our behaviour support processes are now in place for the whole school. Central to this is our revised Code of Conduct which outlines the expectations of all in our school community. Students who choose not to abide by these expectations will be given opportunities to modify their behaviour prior to them receiving consequences as outlined in our step process. As previously mentioned, all students were given the opportunity to provide feedback as to what was working and what was not at Mount Gambier High School in term 1 this year. It is from this feedback that the ensuing process has been developed. Students and teachers now have clarity as to our expectations which ensures a degree of consistency in our approach to supporting students with their behaviour that contravenes our code. I have personally been extremely happy with the students who have been on our step processes. All of them have accepted responsibility for their actions, have spoken in a decent and dignified manner about the incident and are clear on next steps if they again make poor choices.

This term we also begin course counselling and subject selection for next year. It is a time when students need to work closely with their parents/caregivers and teachers to gather accurate, relevant information on which to base decisions about subjects and future directions.

Subject counselling staff will provide information about SACE, TAFE and Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses to students currently in years 10 and 11. It is important that all students make informed subject choices to keep as many pathways open while completing their studies. As a parent you can assist by carefully reading the soon to be released Curriculum Guide which will be available through our website and encouraging your child to do the same.

Talk with your child about:

- Their interests, particularly regarding subjects
- Their future career and study aspirations
- Their progress in subjects they are doing this year.
- The subjects on offer for next year
- Your ideas about their subject choices



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

Upcoming Events

Governing Council Meeting

Monday 7 August

Year 10 SACE Information Night

7pm Wednesday 9 August

Science Week

Monday 14 to Friday 18 August

Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 21 to Friday 25 August

Student Free Day

Monday 28 August

Contents

1. From the Principal
3. Berri Exchange
5. World's Greatest Shave
6. FIP Information Night
7. Sports Calendar
8. University Open Days

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

- Assisting your child to see subject selection as an important process that requires careful consideration
- Encouraging your child to ask questions and seek advice
- Contacting school staff to discuss any issues where you need further information.

Whilst it may seem like we are a long way from a new school year, there is considerable planning that needs to be done in readiness for it. This includes the process of securing our staffing once students have made their subject choices.

New Staff

This term we welcome back Lachlan Graham who was on leave for the past 12 months. Lachlan will be taking up his role in IT. Laura Small is returning from leave to take up the Arts Coordinator role. I would like to acknowledge Trish Jenkins who did a wonderful job as the interim coordinator in Laura's absence. Her efforts in raising the profile of the Arts through events such as the Arts Showcase has been fantastic.

Welcome also to Janet Lambert (English/HASS), Rosie Copelin (Maths) and Jacinta Fong (Science).

Last term we welcomed Riley Buckingham, Renee Handreck and Keyarnah Smith in their capacity as classroom support staff. This term we also welcome Luke Thomas and Lauren Stafford (returning from leave) both of whom will be supporting our students in the classroom and Trish Lynch who will be providing support in the Student Office.

We are very grateful that these staff members are joining or rejoining us and trust that their time at Mount Gambier High School is productive and rewarding.

Our Administrative Support staff are currently experiencing a reshuffle of positions owing to planned and unplanned leave. I will advise of the final outcome and the roles of individuals once all selection processes for the created positions have been finalised.



MATERIALS & SERVICES DEBT

Thank you to those families who have paid their school fees or entered into a payment arrangement. Governing Council wish to advise that debt recovery action will commence at the end of this term.

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 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 Officer

NAIDOC AWARD

Congratulations to Year 9 Student, Analeigh Humphries-Anderson who was recently awarded the Pangula Mannamurna NAIDOC Sportsperson of the year. Analeigh was selected for this award due to her committed involvement in local Netball, Basketball and Baseball.

Miriam Alford | Aboriginal Education Teacher



BERRI SECONDARY SCHOOL ANNUAL EXCHANGE

The Annual Berri Exchange (previously known as Glossop) commenced in 1947 and is the longest running public schools exchange in Australia, with 2023 being the 78th year the schools have gathered to compete for the honours of the Symonds Debating Shield and Carthew Sporting Cup.

The exchange began with the much anticipated virtual debate on Tuesday 4 July. The topic of this year's debate was "We should invest more money into space exploration," with Mount Gambier High School arguing as the negative team. The debate provoked a lot of interesting arguments and rebuttals with the Mount Gambier High School trio comprising of Callum McIntyre-Gregory, Caitlin Hitchon and Annapurna Anbu ending the debate victorious, but only by a tight, three point margin. Callum McIntyre-Gregory was awarded the medallion as Most Valuable Speaker.

The following day, both schools' sporting teams met on mutual grounds in Bordertown to compete for the coveted Carthew Sporting Cup. The schools played off in a variety of sports over seven matches including Boys and Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Basketball, Division A and B Netball, and Boys Football. All matches were played in great spirit and the competition was extremely tight. The Division A Netball and Girls Basketball competitions finished in nail biters with the Mount Gambier High School girls coming from behind in both games during the last quarters to steal the wins. Unfortunately overall, Mount Gambier High School fell short, being defeated by Berri 3-4 in the day's matches.

We are extremely grateful for the Bordertown community, in particular the Basketball and Hockey Associations, and the Football and Netball clubs for allowing us to use their facilities, as well as contribute towards the organisation of the day. This event would not be able to take place if we did not have their help and support.

We would love to be able to see this exchange return to the original four day format, however, one main barrier for this is the low level of billeting numbers. It would be amazing for our school community to put their hands up and open their homes to our friends from the Riverland, and vice versa so that our students can experience more of the social and cultural connections that this valued exchange has been known for in the past.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator





WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

Late last term our 'Mount Gambier High School Egg Bois' World's Greatest Shave team held their first Fundraiser, with assistance from the SRC.

The BBQ was a huge success raising \$430 for the Leukaemia Foundation!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Collins Court Butcher, Aldi Mount Gambier and Bakers Delight for their kind donations to the fundraiser. There will be an additional fundraiser early this term, a Sports Colours Day to keep an eye out for, before the big shave in Week 8.

If you would like to donate to support Alistair, Samuel, Seth, Josh or Mr Fraser as they lose their locks or Ms Westland as she chooses a new bright, hair colour, please donate [here](#)

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



OK Pie Shop BEEF PIES

Ok Pie Shop Beef Pies are now available for purchase at the Mount Gambier High School Canteen during break times!

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.



OPEN MUSIC ACADEMY

In week 10 last term students and educators from the Jazz Program at the University of Adelaide supported by the Open Music Academy led two workshops with eighteen of our dedicated music students. After an initial mini concert by the presenters, showcasing a variety of musical techniques, they took the students through the process of improvisation and creating new music of their own.

Both workshop groups managed to create some new songs and our students were also able to take the lead in directing how the musicians were to perform. This opportunity enabled our students to develop skills in creativity and performance to prepare them for further interactions as music artists.

Sean Tanner | Music Teacher



PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Congratulations to Year 7 Student, Caleb McDonald who was recently presented with a Principal's Award!



Mount Gambier High School | Page 5

FLEXIBLE INDUSTRY PATHWAYS INFORMATION NIGHT

We are fast approaching subject selections for 2024 and as part of the subject offerings for Year 11 and 12, students are able to select an external Vocational Education and Training (VET) course as part of their SACE completion. VET stands for Vocational Education and Training. The VET sector in Australia provides nationally recognised training in industry-specific skills. It is designed to give students an exposure to practical skills and an understanding of what it is like to 'learn through doing'. There are many industries and qualification levels to choose from in the VET sector in accordance with the Australian Qualifications Framework.

Students can opt to do a VET subject while completing their SACE and, in many cases, the VET qualification contributes towards the certificate and their university ATAR.

Parents/caregivers are invited to a Flexible Industry Pathways (VET) Information Evening which will be held on Wednesday 6 September from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Mount Gambier High School Collaborative Learning Centre with supper provided.

Flexible Industry Pathways (FIP) are the way of approaching the delivery of Vocational Pathways in schools. Find out more about our 2024 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

The below courses are also available for 2024

- Certificate III in Information Technology
- Certificate II in Salon Assistant
- Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics
- Certificate III in Screen and Media

This will be a valuable information night for parents and students who are interested in a VET course in 2024 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/b9RXrx3u8E>

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

SACE INFORMATION NIGHT

Parents/caregivers of year 10 students are invited to a Senior School Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 9 August 2023 from 7.00pm to 8.00pm in the Garry Costello Centre for Creative Arts Theatre or online via Microsoft Teams.

The evening will focus on the requirements of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) and ways to support students in the upcoming selection process.

Please register your interest in attending via the link below, by Friday 4 August 2023.

<https://forms.office.com/r/jjdkFNsdvV>

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal





TERM 3 SPORTS CALENDAR



SSSA Year 7/8 Boys Football Div. 2 - MacDonald Park	Week 1 - Thursday 27 July
SSSA Open Boys & Girls Basketball - Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre	Week 2 - Thursday 3 August
SSSA Open Boys & Girls Basketball Finals - Adelaide	Week 4 - Thursday 17 August
SSSA Year 7/8, 9/10 & 11/12 Girls Netball Finals - Adelaide	Week 6 - Tuesday 29 August
SEZ Open Boys/ Girls Volleyball - Mount Gambier	Week 7 - Monday 4 September
SEZ Div. B Netball - Mount Gambier	Week 7 - Wednesday 6 September
SEZ 9/10 Boys and Girls Basketball - Millicent	Week 8 - Tuesday 12 September
SEZ Open Boys Futsal - Mount Gambier	Week 9 - Thursday 21 September
SEZ Year 7-9 Girls 9-a-side Football Carnival - Mount Gambier	Week 10 - Wednesday 27 September
<p>Please Note: Dates are subject to change.</p> <p>Students wishing to nominate for teams must do so by accessing the online form via the Daymap bulletin.</p> <p>SEZ: South East Zone SSSA: School Sport South Australia</p>	



ST ANN'S COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to 2021 Alumni, Emily Nieuwerkerk who was the recipient of the PKF Kennedy Scholarship through St Ann's College. A first-year resident at the College, Emily is studying a Bachelor of Business at the University of South Australia. Emily has involved herself in college life and is also member of the tennis team.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



If you are considering a university pathway from 2024 then attending a University Open Day may be the best way to gather relevant and up to date information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

University of Adelaide: www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/#/

North Terrace, Adelaide | Sunday 13 August 9.00am to 4.00pm.

Flinders University: www.flinders.edu.au/study/events-key-dates/open-days/open-days Bedford Park | Friday 11 to Sunday 13 August 10.00am – 3.00pm (campus and online tours available).

University of South Australia: www.unisa.edu.au/opendays

- UniSA Mount Gambier campus | Sunday 6 August 10.00am – 2.00pm
- UniSA City West and City East campuses | Sunday 13 August 9.30am onwards
- UniSA Mawson Lakes campus | Sunday 27 August 11.00am – 3.00pm

Torrens University: www.torrens.edu.au/whats-on/open-day

Wakefield Street, Adelaide | Sunday 12 August

VICTORIAN UNIVERSITIES

Deakin University: www.deakin.edu.au/student-life-and-services/events/open-day

- Warrnambool | Sunday 6 August (check website for times)
- Geelong | Sunday 20 August (check website for times)
- Melbourne, Burwood campus | Sunday 27 August (check website times)

University of Melbourne: www.unimelb.edu.au/openday#/

Parkville and Southbank campuses | Sunday 20 August (check website for times)

Federation University Australia: www.federation.edu.au/about-us/our-campus/ballarat/mt-helen-campus

Ballarat and St Helens campuses | (check website for days and times)

La Trobe University: www.latrobe.edu.au/openday

Melbourne campus - Sunday 6 August 10.00am – 4.00pm

Monash University: www.monash.edu/openday

Four separate campuses - check website for dates and times

Swinburne University of Technology: www.swinburne.edu.au/openday/#/

Hawthorn campus | Sunday 30 July 10:00am – 4:00pm

For other University Open Days visit www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au or visit individual universities online for their current open day information and registration.



LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY