



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to Rebecca Johnson

Congratulations to Rebecca who is one of three finalists for the 2023 Public Education Awards, being recognised in the 'Excellence and Equity in Education' category for her outstanding work in the Art Crawl and FLO art classes. The winner of each category will receive \$10,000, with finalists for each category receiving \$2,000 to undertake professional learning or purchase resources for their school. On behalf of the whole school community we wish Rebecca all the best, an outstanding accolade regardless of the outcome in early November.



Kym Grant
Principal

White Ribbon
Australia School

2024 Elected School Captains.

I would also like to congratulate our newly elected school captains for 2024:

- School Captains—Harry Martin and Jordan Harmer
- Vice-Captains—Jenna Male and Nga Nguyen

I look forward to working with you as we begin to make plans for a fantastic 2024.

Preparations for 2024

The end of the year is approaching at a rapid rate with only one week left of this term. Year 12 exams and final assessments are looming, excursions are being organised and assessment of student learning is being finalised. Despite all of this we as a school need to take a moment to enable us to look towards 2024 with the view to further improving the learning experiences of our students.

Whilst it may seem like we are a long way from next year, important preparations are underway. This includes subject selection, staffing and tours for incoming year 7 students.

Staffing 2024

Panels will be running in earnest early next term with a number of new leadership positions being advertised as a result of a leadership restructure. The outcomes of these positions will be made public as each panel concludes.

Year 7 Transition Tours

Starting high school can be daunting for many students. Over the past few weeks students from our Middle School having enjoyed leading school tours with groups of year 6 primary students due to start at Mount Gambier High School in 2024. I thank all staff and students who have played important roles in making these tours extremely successful and warmly welcoming all of our new students.

Students Arriving Late to School

Lately we have noticed a number of students arriving late to school. It is extremely important that students come to school regularly and on time. Being half an hour

Upcoming Events

Governing Council Meeting

6pm Monday 25 September

End of Term Early Dismissal

2.15pm Friday 29 September

Term 4 Begins

Monday 16 October

School Closure—Mount

Gambier Show

Friday 20 October

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

late to school each day from year 7 on equals five days absent per term. This means missing over half a year of schooling by the end of year 12. Students who are late miss the getting organised part of the day and tend to spend the rest of the day trying to catch up. Furthermore, often there is unnecessary pressure placed on the teacher in order to try and catch the student up. This can take time away from the remainder of the class. Students arriving late to school must have a note from their parents/caregivers outlining the reason for the lateness. I ask that parents support the school by ensuring their child arrives at school on time and prepared for lessons. We will be monitoring and following up patterns of regular lateness to determine the reasons and to establish processes to support the students in order to maximise their learning.

School Holidays

Enjoy the break and I look forward to working with all in our community next term, building upon the significant work that has already been achieved so far this year.

COLLECTING STUDENTS EARLY

Due to the Government of South Australia's new mobile phone policy, the Student Office is being inundated with requests to collect or pass on messages to students.

Please be aware that it is not always possible to relay this information promptly and it would be appreciated if parents/caregivers can give as much notice as possible, by either providing students with a note, signed and dated, ringing the school the day prior or sending an SMS via Daymap.

Please note that due to the time it takes to deliver messages to classes, it will not be possible to deliver message from 3pm onwards.

Student Office Staff

END OF YEAR EQUIPMENT *Returns*



Year 12 students with school issued equipment including laptops, bags, chargers and textbooks must return all items prior to Friday 17 November 2023. Year 12 students returning in 2024 must have subject selections in place and negotiate keeping school issued equipment with the ICT or CLC teams (dependent on equipment type).

Year 7 to 11 students returning to school in 2024 may hold onto their ICT equipment until next year, however all text books and other school borrowed items need to be returned by the last day of Year 11 Exams - 29 November 2023 (year 11s) and Friday 8 December 2023 (years 7 to 10).

Accounts will be sent home for any equipment not returned to the school.

NETBALL STATE FINALS

After successfully winning the local Mount Gambier round, the Year 7/8 and 11/12 Netball team ventured to Adelaide to represent Mount Gambier High School in the State Finals. The teams each came up against schools such as Kadina Memorial, Heathfield High, Unity College, and Unley.



The Open team had a great tussle against Kadina Memorial, only losing the game in the last couple of minutes. They then came up against a well-rehearsed Heathfield and Unley who were too strong in the end, however the girls consistently grew as a team throughout these matches and

displayed some high-quality netball. Our older players demonstrated great leadership and poise, while our younger members of the team held their own against an older age group.

The Year 7/8s had a successful day, finishing on top of their pool at the end of the minor rounds, showcasing the young talent that we have here at Mount Gambier High School. The girls fought hard against a strong Kadina team and it was fantastic to see two country schools in the grand final. The 7/8's came away with a silver runner up medal in which was overall a very successful trip.

Thank you to Eva, Mrs Clark and all the girls in both teams for giving up your time to participate in this trip and represent Mount Gambier High School in such a respectful manner.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator

**PUBLIC
EDUCATION
AWARDS**
2023

Credit Union SA Excellence and Equity in Education Award

REBECCA JOHNSON

Connecting learners with real-world opportunities and impactful community engagement

By fostering agency in learning through real-world opportunities, Rebecca is shaping the future of education and making a lasting impact for learners. She has created a transformative learning experience that empowers learners to be active and informed citizens.

Through her innovative program 'Art Crawl', Rebecca has created a stimulating and challenging program for her visual art students. She has also inspired engagement and growth among students through Flexible Learning Options (FLO) and Independent Learning Centres.

This hands-on experience empowers learners to understand the value of their work and fosters meaningful relationships with local businesses.

Rebecca's engagement with stakeholders has resulted in exciting prospects for future Art Crawls and has paved the way for additional learning experiences for her other classes.



SPORTS COLOURS DAY

Earlier this term staff and students proudly wore their favourite local, state and national sporting team colours as part of a fundraiser for our World's Greatest Shave team.



2024 SCHOOL CAPTAIN ELECTIONS

Last Friday our staff and students took part in the preferential voting process for our 2024 School Captain Elections. This year our seven candidates shared their election speeches during our whole school assembly earlier that week. After a very quick but effective campaign period, the election turned out to be a very close race between all our candidates.

Congratulations to Jordan Harmer and Harry Martin who will represent the student body next year as School Captains along with Nga Nguyen and Jenna Male as Vice-Captains!

Natalie Piscioneri | HASS Coordinator



R U OK? DAY

Last Friday Mount Gambier High School recognised R U OK? Day by holding a number of activities across the day. Highlights included the lunchtime BBQ and sweets stall, yellow scrunchies for sale and the much anticipated Staff vs Students Netball match.

The netball game proved to be a tight one this year, with both sides determined to not give an inch on the court. This year the staff side was victorious by three goals, although losing wasn't an option with a Pioneer Basketballer and Mid South East A Grade Best and Fairest Netball player a stand out pair in the goal ring!

Our wellbeing team would like to thank the following people and businesses for their assistance and kind donations on the day: Mount Gambier Frozen Foods, Donut King Mount Gambier, Coles Mount Gambier, Woolworths Mount Gambier, Spotlight Mount Gambier, Trish Lynch, Natalie Piscioneri and the Mount Gambier High School SRC. An amazing \$410 was raised on the day!

Jodi Greenwood | Youth Worker



HIGH ACHIEVERS' MORNING TEA

On Thursday 7 September a High Achievers' Morning Tea was held to celebrate the academic success from semester 1 for students in years 10 to 12. The students received a small gift and certificate to acknowledge their efforts. It was a wonderful opportunity for senior school staff, Principal, Kym Grant and the students to chat about how the year is going, what lies ahead for our year 12s and learn more about plans and pathways for our year 10/11 students. We congratulate the following students on their achievements:

Year 10: Annapurna Anbu, Caitlin Hitchon, Annabel Judd, Nikki Wagener, Summer Mackereth, Bayle Newman, Sebastian Ricketts and Callum McIntyre-Gregory.

Year 11: Jessica McDonald, Zoe Phelan, Maddie Smulders, Indi Dwyer, Montana Biggins, Harry Martin, Nga Nguyen and Milla Vinko.

Year 12: Zarly Jones, Coco Mackereth, Alice Tentye, Amber Thompson, Amber McCleave, Meg White, Cooper Sneddon and Hannah McDonald.

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal



WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

Inspired by cancer experiences of friends and loved ones, three students and two staff members from Mount Gambier High School faced the entire school on Monday to have their heads shaved or coloured as the finale to their World's Greatest Shave Campaign.

Year 7 students, Alistair Sturm and Samuel Telford, Year 9 student, Seth Cain and Technologies Teacher, Josh Fraser all found their locks at the mercy of the clippers with Solutions Teacher, Kamari Westland dying her hair bright blue as voted by the student body. Mr Fraser had initially requested a mullet as part of his participation but when push came to shove a last minute change of mind saw him shave it all off when loudly encouraged by the large student audience.

The team raised an amazing \$1350 during their fundraising campaign, with a combination of cash donations and multiple school fundraising events held including Sports Colours Day and a lunchtime BBQ, contributing to the total amount raised. Mount Gambier High School thanks the generosity of Baker's Delight Compton Street, Collins Court Butchers and Aldi Mount Gambier for kindly donating items to assist with the BBQ fundraiser.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



FOODBANK FUNDRAISER

Year 12 Society and Culture students, Bec, Charlotte, Nikki, Stevi and Jordy have done a fantastic job raising funds and collecting donations for Foodbank as part of their recent assessment on social action. The girls held a cupcake stall recently that raised \$120 along with the pantry staples drive which collected approximately \$600 worth of food and personal items for Foodbank.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



AUSTRALIAN MATHS COMPETITION

Mount Gambier High School has maintained its commendable record in the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC). The AMC is a fun competition with many of the problems set in situations familiar to students and showing the relevance of mathematics in their everyday lives. This year we had 27 students enter the competition.

Congratulations goes to Year 10 student, Bayle Newman for the best performance in the school being awarded a Certificate of Distinction.

Amongst other noteworthy achievements were the six students who earned Credit Awards:

- Year 7: Marcus Jaensch
- Year 8: Sam Baron
- Year 9: Seth Cain and Agam Bamrah
- Year 10: Annapurna Anbu
- Year 12: Dylan Sawyer

There were also another eight students who achieved a Proficiency Certificate which recognises students for reaching a satisfactory level of mathematical and problem-solving skills by Australian standards. All students will receive a detailed report showing how they went on each problem and a certificate commensurate with their performance.

Karen Henman | Mathematics Coordinator



ADELAIDE 36ERS BASKETBALL CLINIC

Last Thursday Mount Gambier High School welcomed the Adelaide 36ers Basketball team as part of their Shooting Hoops Foundation, who ran an afternoon clinic with our Basketball Program students.

The clinic was part of the Xventure program which aims to equip young people with improved emotional intelligence, giving students important life skills for greater success and reduce growing levels of anxiety.

Our Basketball students are gaining a rare insight into what is involved in an elite sports organisation with subjects also including sports marketing and media, types of career opportunities as well as world-class health, wellbeing and nutrition understanding.

Jess Kennedy | Basketball Teacher



FLO WELLBEING & RECREATION

Throughout term 3 selected students from FLO have been participating in a wellbeing and recreation program. The program has enabled them to participate in a range of activities across Mount Gambier and surrounding areas. Students have participated in excursions to Flip Out, Kaboom, Echo Farm, Lawn Bowls, Limestone Coast Jobs and Skills Showcase, Wulanda Recreation Centre, Engelbrecht Cave, and Donovans. The students have enjoyed spending time out in the community and having the chance to explore new opportunities, which have pushed them outside of their comfort zones. Students will be concluding the program by spending a day down at Beachport, fishing and enjoying the beach.

We would like to thank Wulanda Recreation Centre for providing us with a tour of their facility on short notice. We would also like to thank the volunteers from Mount Gambier Bowls Club who took time out of their day to teach the students and staff how to play lawn bowls and also provided the facilities free of charge.

Zoe Rout | FLO Teacher



FOOD & NUTRITION

The Year 9 Food and Nutrition class worked with Mrs McCourt who is doing a four-week practicum at Mount Gambier High School to produce grazing platters. Plating up was practised with elements including Mini Blini Pancakes and dips. Everyone enjoyed creating a variety of chocolate-dipped options.

Joanna White | Teacher



Students had the task to design and produce their own picnic hand held lunch over the last week. They had to incorporate food from all sections of the Healthy Eating Target and produce the food in 80 minutes. I was very proud of what they prepared and presented from Beef Sliders, Vietnamese Cold Rolls, Veggie Packed Sausage Rolls and Burrito Bowls to name a few. Students were willing to try lots of new techniques and a variety of flavours, well done!

Jan Longbottom | HPE Coordinator



YEAR 12 FINAL EXAMS TIMETABLE

Week	Date	Morning Session (9 AM)	Afternoon Session (1:30 PM)
4	Monday 6 November	Mathematical Methods (130 minutes)	General Mathematics (130 minutes)
	Tuesday 7 November		Chemistry (130 minutes)
	Wednesday 8 November		Essential Mathematics (130 minutes)
	Thursday 9 November		
	Friday 10 November	Biology (130 minutes)	
5	Monday 13 November	English Literary Studies (100 minutes)	
	Tuesday 14 November	Psychology (130 minutes)	

YEAR 11 EXAMS TIMETABLE

WEEK 7, TERM 4				
Date	Subject	Time	Prospective Room	Teacher
Monday 27 November	General Mathematics 90mins + 10mins	9:00 - 10:40	SACE Floor	Henman/Trnovsky/ Potts
	Essential Mathematics 60mins + 10mins	1:00 - 2:10	SACE Floor	Trnovsky/ Kennedy
	Mathematics C 120mins + 10mins	1:00 - 3:10	SACE Floor	Henman
Tuesday 28 November	Biology 120mins + 10mins	9:00 - 11:10	SACE Floor	Taylor
Wednesday 29 November	Psychology 120mins + 10mins	9:00 - 11:10	SACE Floor	Dhwani
	Chemistry 120mins + 10mins	9:00 - 11:10	SACE Floor	Potts
	Catch-up session 120mins + 10mins	9:00 - 11:10	SACE Floor	Any



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PRESENTATION & PERFORMANCE NIGHT SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous support towards our 2023 Presentation and Performance night.

- Ampol
- ASW Lawyers
- Australian Defence Forces
- Mr Harold Allison
- Barry Maney Group
- Baxter Hire Equipment
- Bunnings Mount Gambier
- Computer Bits
- Cutbush Family
- The Fire Station Optometrists
- Foster's Newsagency
- Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants
- Green Triangle Electronics
- Group Training Employment
- GT Industrial Sales
- Heemskerk Security
- Hughes & Loveday Sports Store
- Intersport
- K & B Mitre 10
- KW Wholesale Stationers Pty Ltd
- Limestone Coast Solutions
- Little Blue Wren Gifts & Art
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