



MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 11 | 27 NOVEMBER 2023

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Sad News

We are sad to announce one of our staff members, Suzanne Gray passed away unexpectedly last weekend. Suzanne taught in a variety of areas including Maths, English and more recently in our Flexible Learning Options space. As you can imagine this has had a significant impact on many people in our educational community and we have implemented a range of strategies to ensure everyone is supported. In addition to the support structures we have in place, if you as a parent are concerned there are external professional support agencies that can also assist. These are:

- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- Lifeline 131 114
- eHeadspace www.eheadspace.org.au

PE Week

Last week we involved ourselves in the annual celebration of all things active for PE Week 2023. Some great activities were held throughout the week with the importance of being fit, healthy and active a focus. A huge thank you to our HPE faculty for the organisation and running of the week's activities and staff who have supported the program for offering so many opportunities for participation throughout the week.

Uni SA STEM Innovation Challenge

A huge congratulations to our Stem Innovation Challenge team who travelled to Adelaide to compete in the National STEMIE competition, having won the regional finals earlier this term. Supported by Karen Henman, the group undertook a series of challenges connected to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. This involved applying their knowledge and skills and working together as a team to solve a number of challenges. The students were amazing ambassadors for our school and came home as back-to-back National Champions which was fantastic!

Year 12 Formal

Last Saturday evening the year 12 formal was held at The Barn. It was a fantastic evening with our year 12s supported by parents, grandparents and friends to celebrate the completion of their high school journey. I would like to thank all of the guests that attended on the night, which was a true reflection of the support our students have had over their final year of schooling. Thank you also to the staff who ensured the night went off without a hitch. A special mention to Senior School Assistant Principal, Samantha Brown who worked tirelessly on the organisation of the event, supported by our Senior School Management Team and the formal committee.



Kym Grant
Principal

White Ribbon
Australia School

Upcoming Events

Stage 1 Exams

Monday 27 to Wednesday
29 November

Year 7 Parent Info Night

Monday 4 December

Year 7 Orientation Days

Wednesday 6 to Thursday 7
December

Last Day for Year 10s

Friday 8 December

Presentation & Performance Night

Monday 4 December

Activities Week

Monday 11 to Friday 15
December

End of Term Early Dismissal

2.15pm Friday 15 December

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY



Class of 2023 Year 12 Formal



YEAR 12S LAST WEEK ACTIVITIES

What a last week of formal schooling it was for our Class of 2023! Not only did we have school organised events, but the students also organised some fun and frivolity for each day to entertain not only themselves but the whole school community. Monday was the Farewell Assembly; Tuesday saw our students dress as their future selves with Wednesday students swapping out their uniforms for PJs, and there was some gorgeous, tasteful outfits on display. By the time Thursday rolled around, it was dress as the first letter of your name and there were some super outfits that took a few guesses to work out the characters students dressed as. During the lunch break a Class of 2023 celebratory cake was cut and shared and Friday began with the annual breakfast at the Mount Gambier RSL followed by the traditional muck up day and scavenger hunt.

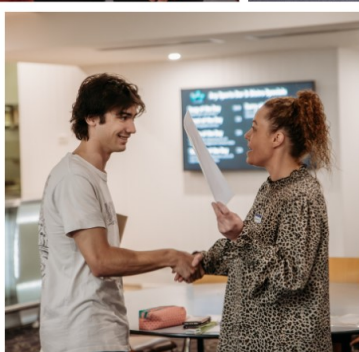
Whilst there was plenty of laughter throughout the week, tears were also shed as the realisation that their time at school was coming to an end, even though exams were still to come and some assignments requiring submission.

It has been a wonderful journey to go on with the Class of 2023. On behalf of the Mount Gambier High School community, we wish you all the very best for what lies ahead with your next adventures in life. We have watched you grow and develop over the last five years into wonderful young people and we look forward to seeing and hearing what life has in store for you.

Congratulations and good luck!

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal





REMEMBRANCE DAY

In keeping with tradition, Mount Gambier High School recognised the significance of Remembrance Day by the laying of a wreath at the Vansittart Park War Memorial on Saturday, followed by short ceremonies with Compton Primary School Captains at the Lake Terrace Cemetery war graves and Boer War Memorial on Bay Road later on in the afternoon.

Our school was well represented by Mr Roulstone and our four elected 2024 School Captains and Vice-Captains, Harry Martin, Jordan Harmer, Jenna Male and Nga Nguyen.

As Remembrance Day this year fell over the weekend our staff and students paused for a minute silence the following Monday to show respect for all our service men and women.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



MURIEL MATTERS AWARD

Congratulations to Year 10 Student, Alisha Cram who was presented with a Muriel Matters Award on Tuesday evening at The Old Chamber, Parliament House in Adelaide.

The Muriel Matters Awards provides the opportunity for young South Australians to be recognised for their contribution through the use of democratic processes to take some form of action in their school and/or broader community.

Alisha is a passionate and enthusiastic member of not only our school community, but the wider community. She has been engaged in various causes and consultative groups including the Limestone Coast Youth Environment Council participating in revegetation work and the Australian Youth Climate Coalition where she has been working to grow their members locally. She also attended the SA Junior Parliament in the term 3 holidays, attending two days training, learning how parliament works.

Alisha is a valued member of our SRC and has engaged in the Lion's Youth of the Year, participated in our winning STEMIE team and competed in the MASA Quiz Night.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



2022 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Copies available!



We have a limited number of extra copies of the 2022 Mount Gambier High School Magazine!

If you missed out on pre-ordering a copy you can still pick up a book down at the Student Office for \$18.

WORDS OF THANKS FROM REBECCA JOHNSON

Early this term I had the privilege of attending two education award ceremonies. On the 27 October I attended the Educators SA Awards where I was the recipient of the Minister for Education Art award followed by the Public Education Awards on 3 November where I was one of three finalists in the Excellence and Equity in Education category. I feel extremely privileged to be nominated for both these awards and to have got this far. Thank you to Amanda, Nic and Sean for nominating me for these awards.

I appreciate the support that the staff at Mount Gambier High School have given me to be able to create valuable learning experiences for our students.

A special shout out to former ESS Assistant Principal, Josh Praolini who supported me with the creation of the Art Crawl. A huge thank you the Arts faculty for encouraging my crazy ideas and to my students from 2022 and 2023 for coming to class with readiness and eager to learn. To the Art Crawl students, I would not have been able to create the Art Crawl programs without your enthusiasm to be part of it! You should all be so proud of what you accomplished, putting yourself out there through your artwork takes courage. I can't wait to see what the future will bring for you all. To the community members who have supported the Art Crawl program, everyone has been so supportive, easy to work with and encouraging. Especially to Little Blue Wren for providing advice and coming into the school to give the students invaluable information and feedback. Finally, a special thank you to family and friends (both local and from Adelaide), living away from home is not easy but the support I have is invaluable and makes Mount Gambier feel like a second home.

My parents always encouraged me to just do the best that I can, which I have applied throughout my life. Within my classroom I want to be the best teacher I can be and for my students to enjoy learning and being creative with Art.

Rebecca Johnson | Art Teacher



WORLD TEACHER'S DAY

Our teaching staff were spoilt with an afternoon tea spread on 27 October, organised by the ancillary team to celebrate World Teacher's Day.



STEMIE NATIONALS

On Wednesday 9 November the Uni SA STEM Innovation Experience National competition was held in Adelaide with our regional winning team heading up to defend their 2022 title.

The STEMIE competition is a thrilling experience where students apply their knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths to solve problems and compete for the top prize. This year's competition featured an escape room meets amazing race style format, challenging students to create engineered devices, use Arduino coding, apply classification tables, leverage chemistry skills and use mathematical knowledge while collaborating with their teams on the theme "STEMania Jones."

The competition included over 500 teams from Metro Adelaide, Whyalla Region, Limestone Coast, Queensland and Victoria, with only the top 10% of teams making it to the finals.

Our team completed the challenges first in just 1 hour and 28 minutes, taking home back-to-back National Championships!

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



PRESENTATION & PERFORMANCE NIGHT

2023 Presentation and Performance Night will be held at the Italo Australian Club (Casadio Park) on Monday 11 December where we will celebrate and acknowledge the achievements of our students for the year. The night will have an array of entertainment to showcase our talented dance, drama and music students. Our school has much to celebrate and the evening will be structured into two sessions: The Middle School session (years 7 to 9) will run from 6.00pm to 7.15pm and the Senior School session (years 10 to 12) will commence at 7.45pm and finish at approximately 9.30pm.

Notifications to award winner recipients and performers have been posted home. If you receive mail through a post office box, please check your boxes. We ask that families of award winners and performers consider the significance of this evening and join us in the celebrations at this event.

Tickets for family and friends are available to purchase from the Student Office from between the hours of 8am and 4pm. All details have been outlined in letters sent home. Consent forms must be returned to the Student Office no later than Monday 4 December (week 8).

Margie McKersie | Receptionist

YEAR 11 BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP

Students from the Stage 1 Biology B – Environmental Focus class had the opportunity to head out into the field. They travelled to a local native forest where they compared and contrast sites that have had a recent hazard reduction burn to a non-burnt fragment of forest. They were then able to compare these sites to an area of plantation forest. Students were active in sampling vegetation, identifying the types of fauna present and conducting a range of soil quality tests. They used their collected data to discuss ecosystem health across the three sites.

Jamie Taylor | Biology Teacher



YEAR 11 END OF YEAR REMINDERS

As exam week begins and final assessments are madly being completed, here are a few reminders for year 11 students and families.

Exam begun today on the SACE Floor and will run until Wednesday 29 November. Students need to make sure they arrive 10 minutes prior to their scheduled exam time and meet in room 29.

Teachers may request student attendance during week 7 to finalise any remaining work required for SACE assessment.

Lockers need to be cleaned out by Wednesday 29 November, if not before and all books/resources returned to the Collaborative Learning Centre.

For students undertaking Research Project in 2024, sessions will be held on Monday 4 December during lessons 1 to 2 and Tuesday during lessons 3 to 4 in room 29 to get you on track and prepared.

Best wishes for a successful finish to 2023 and on behalf of the SESMAT team I wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

Samantha Brown | Senior School Assistant Principal

YEAR 11 EXAM TIMETABLE

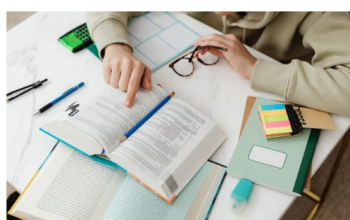
WEEK 7, TERM 4				
Date	Subject	Time	Prospective Room	Teacher
Monday 27 November	General Mathematics 90mins + 10mins	9:00 - 10:40	SACE Floor	Henman/Trnovsky/ Potts
	Essential Mathematics 60mins + 10mins	1:00 - 2:10	SACE Floor	Trnovsky/ Kennedy
	Mathematics C 120mins + 10mins	1:00 - 3:10	SACE Floor	Henman
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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SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW OPEN!

We have a large variety of scholarships available including arts, trades, music, nursing, viticulture, general studies plus a lot more for students with a connection to the Limestone Coast.

APPLY TODAY!

Link to the application form and guidelines available at www.standlikestone.com.au
Applications close 30 November 2023

Contact us today

P: 7701 9259 or E: info@standlikestone.com.au



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
- MEGT
- Mount Gambier Bus Lines Pty Ltd
- Mount Glass & Glazing
- Ray Scott Group
- Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Inc
- Servicing SA Pty Ltd
- Shredall Security
- Sinclair Wilson
- Spectrum Business Management
- Stand Like Stone Foundation
- Stuckey Electrical Contractors
- Tony Pasin MP
- University of South Australia
- Westlab

