



# MOUNT GAMBIER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 | 12 MARCH 2024

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## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

### Twilight Tours

This year we will be opening the school for Twilight Tours on Monday 18 March from 5.15pm to 7.15pm for prospective families of year 6 students looking into enrolment at Mount Gambier High School in 2025. We welcome families to join our tours of the school, speak with myself, Principal, Kym Grant and key personnel, and familiarise themselves with the wonderful opportunities that Mount Gambier High School can offer their child.

### Student Free Day

During last Friday's Student Free Day our staff focussed on differentiation within the curriculum, supported by Taylor Biddle (Inclusive Educator) for the Department for Education Regional Office. This was an important day for our staff, where further improvements were made to support all learners access the curriculum.

### HR News

On behalf of the Mount Gambier High School community, I would like to welcome Glenda Sutardy (Arts) to our school. Glenda joins us with a wealth of knowledge having taught in many locations around Australia as well as internationally. I hope you find your time at Mount Gambier High School both rewarding and enjoyable.

### Governing Council

Our AGM and first Governing Council meeting for the year was held last Thursday. Items covered in this meeting included electing our Governing Council members and Office Bearers for the 2024 school year. We'd like to welcome our new parent and community members and congratulate the following council members who were elected in Office Bearer roles:

- Chairperson – Graham Dowie
- Deputy Chairperson – Hanna Persello
- Secretary – Kate Carrail
- Assistant Secretary – Samantha Brown
- Treasurer – Steve Bain

Governing Council meets on Monday evenings, twice each term and we welcome questions or concerns from the school community to be raised through this important and valuable forum. We currently still have two parent member positions available. If you would like to be involved on the Governing Council this year or have any questions about how you can be involved, please contact Executive Assistant, Amanda Lengyel. We thank all members of the Governing Council for their time and commitment to supporting the learning needs of everyone at the school.



Kerran Wingard  
Deputy Principal

## Upcoming Events

### Twilight Tours

Monday 18 March

### NAPLAN Testing

Monday 18 to Friday 22 March

### Year 10 Immunisations

Tuesday 19 March

### Interschool Athletics

Wednesday 20 March

### Easter Early Dismissal

2.15pm Thursday 28 March

### Easter Public Holidays

Friday 29 March to Monday 1 April

## Contents

1. Deputy Principal's Report
2. Principal's Awards
3. Swimming Carnival
4. Athletics Carnival
6. Interschool Swimming
7. Year 8 Science
8. Smoke & Vape Free School
9. Year 12 Outdoor Education
10. 2024 Twilight Tours
11. Wellbeing Lunch Club
12. Youth Week



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

LEARNING

BELONGING

RESPONSIBILITY

## From the Deputy Principal continued...

### NAPLAN

Over the course of weeks 7, 8 and 9, students in Years 7 and 9 will undertake NAPLAN (National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy) testing. NAPLAN results can assist teachers by providing additional information to support their professional judgements in relation to students' levels of literacy and numeracy attainment and progress. These results also allow parents/caregivers to see how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy over time - individually, as part of their school community, and against national standards. It is for these reasons that we strongly encourage our Year 7 and 9 students to attempt their best in these assessments.

### Athletics Carnival

Our annual Athletics Carnival in week 5 was a great success with Tower claiming the honours for the fourth straight year. Student participation in the variety of events was very strong, demonstrating the willingness of students who were in attendance to have a go. Hopefully the success of our carnival will translate into the Interschool Athletics competition in week 8, and then the Adelaide Athletics trip later in term 1. I wish those selected in these teams the very best of luck.

A huge congratulations and thank you must go to Abbey Duncan for hosting her first Interhouse Athletics Carnival, which continued on from the successful Swimming Carnival in week 3. Whilst there are many people who assist with whole school carnivals in various ways, it takes someone to drive these and Abbey has done a huge amount of work to make these happen.

I would also like to acknowledge our House Captains who came together to encourage participation and enjoyment within their teams. Further to our House Captains and the work they did, it was tremendous to see:

- large numbers of students supporting others, both from their own houses and others
- students coaching other students in an attempt to improve their performance
- staff and students engaging in an extremely positive manner
- students supporting staff with officiating and other tasks to ensure the carnival ran smoothly
- the introduction of the B.A.T. Dance-Off courtesy of three students, Brady, Atticus and Tye. This new event I am sure will be something to look forward to each and every year going forward.

The two whole school competitions again provided opportunities for students and staff to come together to further develop positive school culture, as well as providing opportunities outside of the classroom setting for students to achieve success.

### Interschool Swimming

I was pleased to be able to attend the Interschool Swimming Carnival held at Wulanda in week 3. This event saw students selected from our Interhouse Swimming Carnival earlier that week. The team did a terrific job, with students showing great character, enthusiasm and enjoyment, even when competing against seasoned swimmers. I was extremely proud to be there with these students as they represented the school in the best possible manner.

## PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who were recently presented with Principal's Awards: Archie Scerri, Nayte Wright, Lotti Rowe, Kelsie Anderson, Zahlia Humby, Mia Spehr and Dylan Simpson.

Amanda Lengyel | Public Relations Officer



# INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The 2024 Mount Gambier High School Swimming Carnival was held on Wednesday 14 February at Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre. Warm weather greeted staff and students, with students keen and eager to get involved.

Throughout the course of the day, students participated in four Championship Events (Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Backstroke) as well as a number of highly entertaining novelties, including Tug-o-War, and Pool Noodle and Cork Scramble relays respectively. The land-based event of Cornhole was very popular, with many students enjoying competition outside of the water.

The four Ironperson events were eagerly anticipated again this year and competitors gave it their all to complete the running and two swimming legs of the race.

Gambier took out the honors of winning the P.M. Cutbush Interhouse Swimming Carnival shield in a tight struggle with Mount. Lake finished third, with Tower rounding out the day in fourth.

A massive congratulations must go to all House Captains and Vice-Captains who worked tirelessly throughout the day to ensure students made it to events on time and were achieving their best. The number of students who continually participated in events regardless of swimming ability was extremely pleasing.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS		
Position	House	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	GAMBIER	613
2 <sup>nd</sup>	MOUNT	459
3 <sup>rd</sup>	LAKE	357
4 <sup>th</sup>	TOWER	266



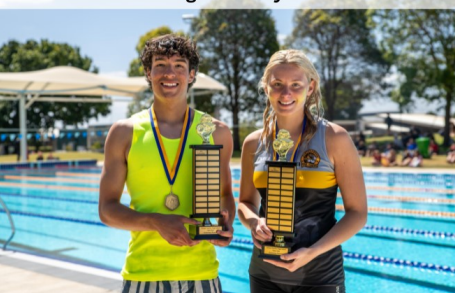
**Junior Age Group Winners**  
Lila Pearson and Alex Hitchon



**Intermediate Age Group Winners**  
Haydn Lowe and Caitlin Hitchon



**Open Age Group Winners**  
Levi Loring and Tully Lindner



**Iron Person Winners**  
Caitlin Hitchon, Jasper Sugden, Amity Lowe and Haydn Lowe



# ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

After winning the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Ian Gould Interhouse Athletics competitions, Tower again proved too strong for their opponents.

The weather primed a perfect two days of competition for the carnival. This year the novelty events were a success with high participation numbers across all of the age groups and the newly created B.A.T Dance Battle added an exciting energy to the day.

It was again pleasing to see our year 7 students getting involved in their first Athletics Carnival and they must be commended on their efforts over the two days of competition.

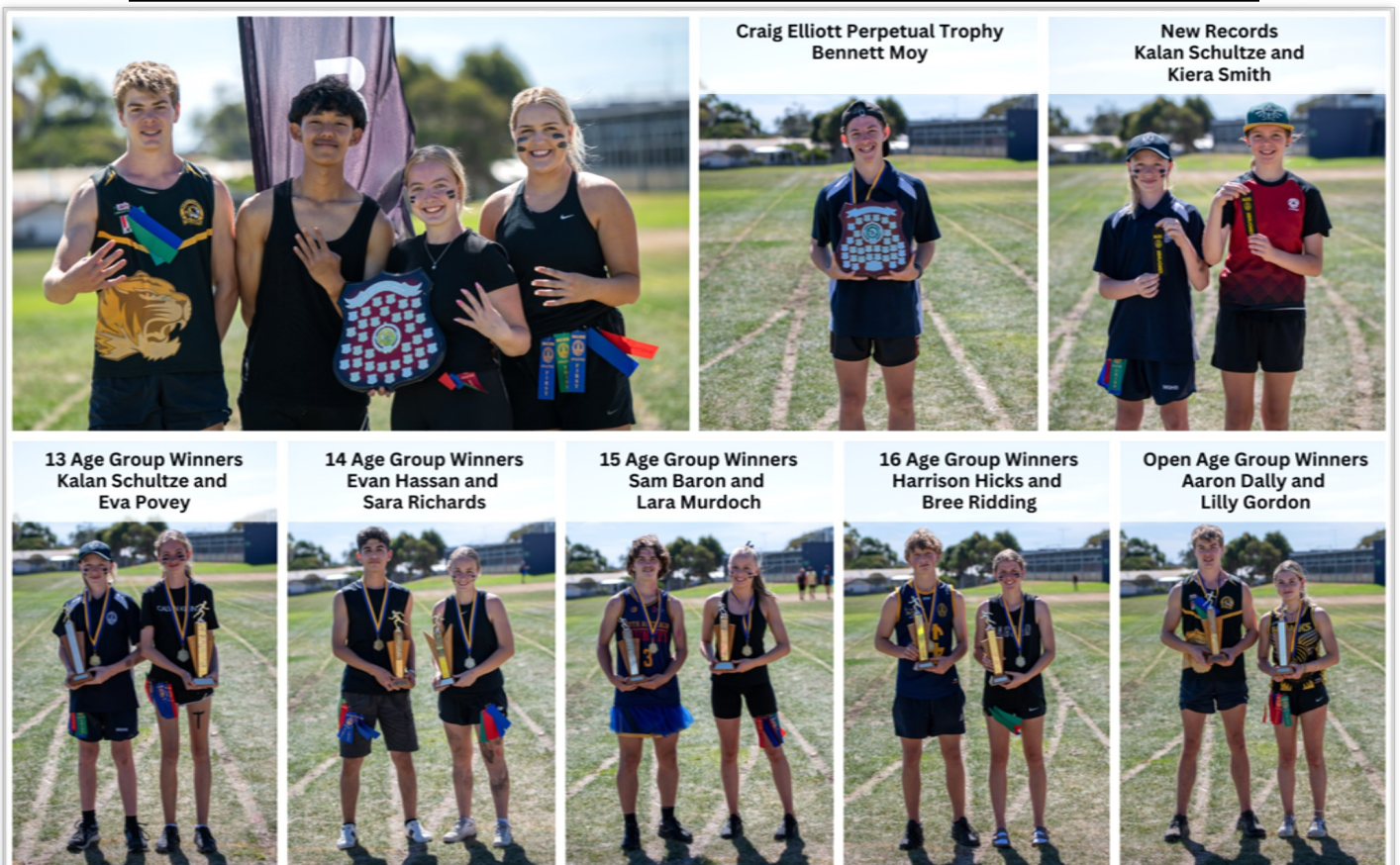
Bennett Moy won the Craig Elliott Perpetual Award for his effort in the Boys 16 years 100m Hurdles with a time of 16.20 seconds. This award recognises the Most Outstanding Individual Performance of the Carnival.

We had plenty of great competition and rivalry, but the support, sportsmanship, behaviour and the positive energy students displayed is exactly aligned with what MGHS stands for. These types of whole school events are a fantastic opportunity to see students in a setting outside the classroom, but it is just as valuable for students to see their teachers out of the classroom too.

On Friday 20 March, Mount Gambier High School will compete in the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual South East Zone Athletics Carnival hosted by Tenison Woods College. The athletics team will also compete in the SSSA Athletics Carnival in Adelaide in Week 10.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator

IAN GOULD ATHLETICS SHIELD					
POSITION	HOUSE	TRACK	FIELD	NOVELTIES	TOTAL POINTS
1 <sup>st</sup>	Tower	915	726	273	1914
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gambier	781	760	261	1802
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lake	805	607	192	1604
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mount	779	560	233	1572

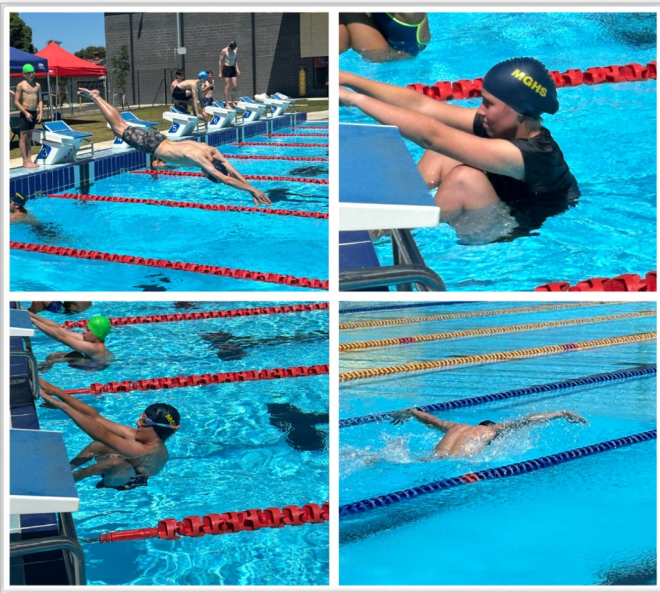




## INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING

On Friday 16 February, 36 students competed in the South East Zone Interschool Swimming Carnival at Wulanda Recreation Centre. We had many students who achieved a top three place, with a number winning their event. Overall Mount Gambier High School finished in 4th place. We are proud of all the students as they demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship, character and represented Mount Gambier High School with pride.

Abbey Duncan | Special Sports Coordinator



## LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Last Wednesday Year 11 Students, Callum McIntyre-Gregory, Alisha Cram and Anna Anbu competed valiantly in the Lions Youth of the Year zone finals, where they delivered speeches and responded to impromptu questions in front of a sizeable audience.

Anna achieved 'Best Public Speaking', whilst Callum won 'Best Overall' and will head to the regional finals. Well done!

Jack Peach | English Teacher



## M & S CHARGES

In establishing the fees for 2024 both the Finance Advisory Committee and Governing Council are sensitive to the fact that some families may require assistance in meeting this commitment and therefore we are offering an instalment plan together with a variety of payment options.

Malinauskas Labor Government has continued its commitment to eligible South Australian families with school-age children to receive a \$100 rebate on their public school Materials and Services Charges for each child for 2024.

The instalment amounts set out below are reflective of the reduced amount of \$370.00:

- Final Instalment – Friday 14 April 2024: \$120

Payment of the above fees can be made using one of the following options:

- Qkr! - Information on how to download and register on the Qkr! app is available from [www.mghs.sa.edu.au](http://www.mghs.sa.edu.au).
- Direct Credit - payments can be made to the Mount Gambier High School bank account: BSB 065-504, Account Number 10392015 (please ensure you include your family code in the payment reference).
- By Post - Cheque or credit card payment accepted by completing the details at the bottom of the invoice and posting to Brownes Road, Mount Gambier SA 5290.
- In Person - Cash, cheque or credit card payment accepted at the Student Office.

### School Card

Should you require alternative payment arrangements, School Card offers assistance with school fees (materials and services) to eligible families. For further information, to check your eligibility or apply online, please visit the SA Gov website ([www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard](http://www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard)). Alternatively please visit the Student Office for assistance (please bring your Health Care Card with you).

Please note: 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.

Belinda Roughana | Finance Manager

## YEAR 8 SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

Year 8 Science students are focusing on Physics for the first term, learning about the energy in our lives. They have been participating in engaging experiments to observe energy changes, burning magnesium with Bunsen Burners and steel wool using electrical energy to investigate energy conversion and transfer. They also built a paper roller coaster in a fun Science activity that demonstrated kinetic and potential energy.

Amila Jayasinghe | Solutions Teacher



MOUNT GAMBIER  
HIGH SCHOOL

## 2024 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The following scholarships are once again available to all students due to the generosity of business houses and providers:

- Years 7, 8, 9 or 10: National Tutoring Centre Scholarship
- Years 10, 11 or 12: Banner Mitre 10 Scholarship (\$500); District Council of Grant Academic Scholarship (\$750); UFS Chemist Academic Scholarship (\$500); Squashbrook Fitness & Leisure Scholarship (gym membership)
- Years 7 to 12: Max Megaw Rotary Club Memorial Sporting Scholarship (\$500); Shingokan Karate Scholarship (membership and uniform)
- Music Students: Joe Hannagan Memorial Woodwind Scholarship (\$500)

Official application forms including general information and criteria are available from the Front Office.

RETURNED TO THE  
FRONT OFFICE BY 3.30PM  
THURSDAY 28 MARCH

## SMOKE FREE AND VAPE FREE LAWS

From 1 March 2024, new laws called the Tobacco and E-Cigarette Products (Smoking Bans) Amendment Regulations 2023 (under section 52(2) of the Tobacco and E-Cigarette Products Act 1997) ban smoking and vaping in a variety of public outdoor areas in South Australia.

The Government of South Australia has introduced these new regulations to protect the community from passive exposure to tobacco smoke and e-cigarette aerosol, and to increase the comfort and enjoyment for users visiting these public spaces. The new laws reflect the high level of public support for smoke-free and vape-free areas in South Australia and align with the community's expectations to safeguard people from second-hand smoke and e-cigarette aerosol, with a particular focus on those areas frequented by children and vulnerable people.

The new laws will create smoke-free and vape-free outdoor areas in all public areas:

- within early childhood services premises, and education and children's services facilities (including schools), and within 10 metres of their boundaries
- at and within 10 metres of non-residential building entrances, such as entrances to shopping centres, government and commercial buildings
- within public hospitals, public health facilities, private hospitals and residential aged care facilities, and within 10 metres of their boundaries
- at outdoor swimming facilities
- within major event venues declared under the Major Events Act 2013
- at and within 10 metres of a sporting venue during an organised underage sporting event or training or practice session in preparation for an organised underage sporting event
- on beaches between, and within 50 metres of, red and yellow patrol flags, and at and within five metres of any part of jetties (including under jetties).



**THIS  
SCHOOL IS  
SMOKE-FREE  
AND  
VAPE-FREE**

Smoking and vaping are banned at this site  
including within 10m of the boundary

Tobacco and E-Cigarette  
Products Act 1997



[clearingtheair.sa.gov.au](http://clearingtheair.sa.gov.au)



## YEAR 12 OUTDOOR EDUCATION

In week 4 the Year 12 Outdoor Education class enjoyed a snorkelling tour around the Port MacDonnell region. The group snorkelled at three sites: Posties at Port MacDonnell, Ewens Ponds and the Little Blue Lake in order to compare management strategies, human impact, sample bush tucker and observe the beautiful aquatic flora. The students most memorable snorkel was at nighttime with torches in Ewens Ponds, where they were fortunate to spot a Glenelg Spiny Freshwater Crayfish, which is a nationally endangered species. They also conducted a beach clean up along Discovery Bay to support 'Clean Up Australia Day'.

Conor Wingard | Outdoor Education Teacher



## YEAR 9 FOOD & NUTRITION

The Year 9 Food and Nutrition classes are working on their food presentation skills. The first product made was French Toast and the student were encouraged to be creative with the variety of toppings provided.

Joanna White | Food and Nutrition Teacher



CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

## YOUTH WEEK 2024

Friday 15 March to Sunday 24 March

Ages 12 - 25 years

Celebrating the young people in our community with a week of fun events.

### Posca Football Painting

Saturday 16 March: 11:00am - 1:00pm

Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre

As part of Youth Week and the launch of 'Before the Bounce' join Riddoch staff for this creative workshop.

Decorate your own footy which will be taken 'straight to the pool room!' and placed proudly on display.

Cost: \$10.00. Bookings essential 8721 2563 / QR

Scan to book:



### Activate by Embrace

Tuesday 19 March: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre

2023 Australian of the Year and body image powerhouse Taryn Brumfitt is on a mission to help young people embrace their bodies with the film, Embrace Kids, together with various workshops and engagement sessions

FREE. Bookings essential via QR.

Scan to book:



### Make your own Mocktails with Metro!

Tuesday 19 March: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Metro Bakery and Café

Learn how to make indulgent and tasty mocktails with the team at Metro! With a homemade pizza dough demonstration, fresh Metro pizzas will be served alongside mocktails.

FREE. Bookings essential 8721 2540 / QR

Scan to book:



### D&D Night

Friday 22 March: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Wulanda Youth Room

Local dungeon masters from Gaming Nexus will offer both an introduction to D&D as well as options more suited to those experienced players. The event will also include figure painting, demonstrations, and a free pizza dinner.

FREE. Bookings essential 8721 2540 / QR

Scan to book:



### Studio Session - Fringe Tilt Brush

Saturday 23 March: 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre

Within the expanse of virtual reality and with the use of neon paint brushes, create a landscape in 360 degrees that fits the Fringe theme of 'glow and grow'.

FREE. Bookings essential 8721 2563 / QR

Scan to book:



### Photography Competition

Theme: Being Young in Mount Gambier

Open from 15 March, closes 24 March at 5pm

Practice your photography skills and enter a photo that you feel represents what it means to be a young person in Mount Gambier for your chance to win a \$100 Camera House voucher.

This competition will be judged by local photographer Tegan Hill from Luna Socials and Design.

Entries can be submitted via email: [publiclibrary@mountgambier.sa.gov.au](mailto:publiclibrary@mountgambier.sa.gov.au) or Facebook: Mount Gambier Youth Activation Group with your name, age, contact number and accompanied by a brief sentence caption explaining your image.



Presented by The Riddoch Arts & Cultural Centre and Mount Gambier Library.





**MOUNT GAMBIER  
HIGH SCHOOL**



**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Education



# 2024 Year 6 Twilight Tours

**5.15pm - 7.15pm  
Monday 18 March**

Dear parents/caregivers

Families of year 6 students wishing to explore enrolment opportunities at Mount Gambier High School for 2025 are invited to attend our 2024 Twilight Tour from 5.15pm to 7.15pm on Monday 18 March (week 8) in the Mount Gambier High School Collaborative Learning Centre.

The evening will include:

- A presentation about Middle School at MGHS
- Meet the Middle School Team
- Presentations about core curriculum areas - Solutions and Global Perspectives
- Mini tours of curriculum specialty areas in HPE, Arts and Technologies

Please contact the school to register your attendance for the Twilight Tour on 8721 0200 or via email [dl.0784.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0784.info@schools.sa.edu.au). We look forward to meeting you all!

Kathryn Sutton  
Head of Middle School

**LEARNING**

**BELONGING**

**RESPONSIBILITY**



# Yarnbala

## Wellbeing Centre

Join the Wellbeing Team for a range of different lunch time clubs and activities!  
Access Wellbeing through the Southern Oval door.

Mon



### Arts and Crafts

Different arts and crafts each week, yours to keep afterwards.

Tue

### Rainbow Club

LGBTQIA+ identifying students welcome to connect and build support.



Wed



### Movement and Games

Different games and movement activities each week - team and individual sports.

Thur

### Chill and Relax

A range of activities and options to wrap up the week in a relaxing way.



All year levels welcome!

YOUTH WEEK PRESENTS

# CHILL & CHAT

An event for 12 – 25 year olds

TAKE A  
BREATH  
DURING YOUTH  
WEEK, CHILL &  
CHECK IN WITH  
YOUR MATES

**FREE DRINKS  
AND SNACKS  
AVAILABLE FOR  
ATTENDEES  
AGED 12-25**

Wednesday 20 March  
3.30<sup>PM</sup> – 5.00<sup>PM</sup>

Metro Bakery & Café

No bookings required.

This is a free event for people aged 12 – 25.

**Food | Drinks | Music | Games**



Mount Gambier & Districts  
Suicide Prevention Network

For more information about Chill & Chat, call headspace Mount Gambier on 8725 0443

Mount Gambier High School | Page 12