



From the Principal

Staffing

I am very pleased to be announce that Ms. Tamika Williams will be teaching the Year 5/6 Class in Terms 3 and 4 this year. Tamika grew up in Meningie, completing all of her schooling at Meningie Area School. She worked at the school as an SSO while she was studying to become a teacher and completed one of her placements at Coomandook. She has also been a dance teacher in the area for several years. She has been teaching at Port Elliot Primary School for the past 2 ½ years but has recently bought a house in Meningie.

We have had a number of teachers taking the class for the last part of this term and I would like to thank them all for the work that they put in to adapting to the class. I also congratulate the students in this class for the way that they have maintained their work ethic despite the changes that have happened.

Assets

You may have heard that Coomandook Area School received \$1.6million in funding for building works in the recent State Budget. Most of this funding will provide an upgrade of our science lab, which will be re-located in what has been the Textiles Room in the Home Economics, building. Some of the money will go toward some work in the Art Room to allow for textiles activities. Work is anticipated to start during the summer holidays this year. There is also some money for work in the main admin block to repair ceilings and to provide appropriate lighting in the classrooms.

The Minister for Education recently visited the school with our local State member, Mr. Nick McBride to have a look around the school and announced this money would be in the budget. While here we discussed a number of issues affecting small area schools such as the provision of bus services and attracting new staff.

CALENDAR DATES—TERM 2

June

28th Primary – Monarto zoo Excursion
29th /30th Year 11/12 Retreat
30th Preschool Additional Day

July

3rd /7th Year 10 Work Experience
3rd RAP Presentation
4th RMD Mixed Netball Murray Bridge
5th SRC Primary School Team Development
7th CAS Café Opening Day
7th END OF TERM 2
24th START OF TERM 3
25th /28th Ag Cert 3 Practical Assessment

August

1st RMD Year 7/8 Girls Football
2nd Police Talk to Year 4-10
3rd RMD Year 11/12 Boys Basketball
4th STEM Day Out – Year 7/8
8th Science & Engineering Challenge Year 9/10
8th Parents & Friends Meeting at 9am
11th Preschool Additional Day
16th /18th SAPSASA Soccer Championships
18th Instrumental Workshop
21st Pupil Free Day
23rd / 25th Year 10 Careers Camp
24th /25th Cert 3 Ag Practical Assessment
24th Sport SA 12 under Golf Qualifying Day



Daymap

Our license with Daymap expires this week and we are working toward implementing the new Education Management System (EMS) by the end of the year. As a result, we have decided not to renew our subscription.

Mr. Hillard, Mr. Wallis and Ms. Poole have been working extremely hard to develop facilities on Teams that will allow us to do most of the functions that Daymap did for us. Students will be able to access their work and hand up assignments on this platform. They will be able to do this wherever they have an internet connection. Unfortunately, parents are not able to access our Teams page so primary teachers will use Story Park to communicate with you. This app is used in the Preschool. Secondary teachers will communicate by phone or email.

Once we have the EMS fully installed parents will be able to access all of the information that they could with Daymap and even more.

We understand that there will be some adjustment to be made during this interim phase, but we are confident that the final outcome will make this inconvenience worthwhile.

Wellbeing Funding

The Federal Government has provided every school with funding which has been targeted to support wellbeing for our students. Our share of this Wellbeing Boost funding is \$20,000, which can be used to employ extra wellbeing staff, to take students on camps and or excursions with a wellbeing focus or to purchase resources from recognised wellbeing programs. We will work together to develop a plan for making the best use of this funding for our site. The funding needs to be used by the end of May next year.

Zones of Regulation.

Staff spent the student free day on the 9th of June looking at the introduction of the Zones of Regulation at Coomandook Area School. We had a strong focus on our senses and the impacts of sensory overload or under-stimulation and what effect this has on the behaviour of our students. This is the first area that we are focussing on with our students during pastoral care sessions, with most classes having already had a lesson introducing the 8 sensory systems and what it means when we either have too little or too much sensory information. In the meantime, staff will be continuing to work on what the Zones will look like in our school so that by early next term we will be rolling that out across all classes.

CAS Café

Spill the Beans Café

An invitation to farmers and partners

to attend the

Opening Day

on

Friday 7th June

Between 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

at Coomandook Area School

Year 11/12 Hospitality students will be
serving bacon/egg sandwiches with
barista coffee

RSVP to Front Office

Thursday 6th - 85733007



Term 2, Week 9

27th June 2023

The Coop

Crystal Berling

Exploring Measurement

This term we have been exploring different types of measurement.

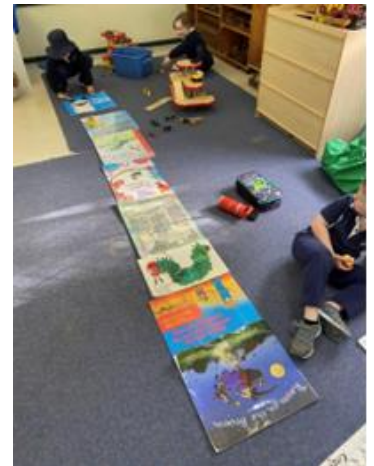
At first the children noticed that some of the big books were different sizes. Tom pointed out the human body book was the 'biggest'. 'Can we find the tallest and the smallest book?' asked Mrs. Berling

The children then started placing the books on the ground, comparing sizes and working out if they were tall, small or medium. They created a long line of books, placing them in order. We discovered we have a lot of medium sized books.

The children have also been exploring distance with the use of a 30m long measuring tape and trundle wheels. They have also been exploring distance through rolling trucks down the slides and seeing which can go the furthest.

They have been busy building 'long' roads and train tracks with blocks and the wooden train set.

So much mathematical thinking and language is being explored!



Respect

Honesty

Persistence



Lego Club

James Hillard

Over the last several weeks we have had a Lego free build competition running during Lego club on Thursdays at lunch time, with the top 2 builds rewarded with a prize. We saw some great creativity, teamwork and creations with 3 teams of students finalising their builds and presenting in the week 8 Lego club.

The contenders were:

Creator: Levi

Build: World War 2 Jungle

"I made this as a model of the Fall Guys level called Lost Temple. I like that I made a McDonalds logo on the top of the temple."



Creators: Rory, Ollie, Leo and Ken

Build: House castle

"We made a castle with a sandpit, garden, windmills and a big flag pole. We like the house the most, it took most of the time to make."



Creators: Ella, Everly and August

Build: Base world

"We made a world with a time travel secret door, it has a castle for a princess. There's a witch and a wild area with a little volcano. We like the whole thing because it's all awesome"



The builds were assessed by our judging panel consisting of Tracey, Mr. Hillard and Mr. Wallis, who came to a total disagreement on which was the best build! As such all three teams will earn the modified prize; a Lego minifigure each!

Our focus for Lego club in the remaining weeks (week 9 and 10) is to finish the Harry Potter crests. We have only half of Hufflepuff to go before we have completed the sets! Don't forget to come along, every Thursday in the library – all of lunch.



Two of the completed crests.



English

Steph Lee

The Year 7 English class have been learning about the 'hero's journey' genre. To show their learning, students have been working on creating their own hero's journey short stories. We are going to publish them as a class book so we can read them whenever we want!

9 & 10 English

The Year 9 and 10 classes have had a very busy few weeks dipping their toes into the wide world of journalism! Student used their research understandings from their Geography lessons to create a news article. In English, we focused on using language and stylistic features to make sure our articles looked and sounded like magazine articles. We hope to publish these in the future so everyone can look at our work!

11/12 English

There is never a dull moment in SACE! It feels like we just finish one assessment and then we get another! Students in Year 12 put themselves in the shoes of an interviewer to create questions the interview the director of the film, Gattaca! Unfortunately, for them, they had to then answer their own questions! The Year 11s created their own texts based on ideas from the movie. We had film trailers, alternate endings, choose your own adventure stories...there was lots of creativity. Students then had to explain their artistic choices in their writer's statement. We are currently working on creating an integrated advertising campaign where students advocate about a contemporary issue. They are creating a series of texts and

really need to consider their purpose, audience and their message. I can't wait to see the final results.

Masterclass

Masterclass has come to an end for Semester One. This semester, students worked in groups to create an activity to teach the primary school children in an 'activities afternoon'. You can only imagine how excited our primary students were!

We had obstacle courses, Pancake making, biscuit decorating, football drills, and many, many more activities.

It was great to see some maturity from our older students as they took the lead and provided fun activities.



Nevaeh (Year 7) with students from the year 3/4 class who made muffins!



Maths

Daniel Irvine

Triangles, Triangles, Triangles

The Year 9 and 10 Mathematics classes are both looking at Trigonometry concepts and ideas at the moment. Having considered the uses of Pythagoras' Theorem they are now considering how similar triangles with a given angle can be used to establish the identity of the ratios we know as sine, cosine and tangent (sin, cos and tan). It is a big idea and one that can come in handy in more ways than people might think, especially if you are a DIY'er planning to build something or want to make sure that the tree you are going to cut down can't fall on your shed roof! In our lessons so far, we have tried to combine the skills and theory of the concepts with some outdoor and practical applications that will hopefully culminate in using clinometers and understanding road gradient signs.



Not wasting any space, examining the relationship between sides of triangles spilled onto the classroom floor and wall!



Year 10 Students determining angle of elevation for the flagpoles

Year 3/4 Class

Julie Frahm

In Chemical Science this term we have been learning about the properties of materials. We have learned that if something is absorbent, it's probably not waterproof. We have learned that materials can either be transparent, translucent or opaque. We have learned that some materials are flexible, others are malleable and some are elastic! We have been going to the science lab to do experiments on different objects to discover more about the materials they are made from. It has been lots of fun!





Agriculture

Phil Roberts

Cattle

This year we will be showing 4 animals, Two beef steers and two dairy heifers.

We have a Poll Hereford steer from Allan Morgan- Morganvale stud at Willalooka
A South Devon steer from Neil Hagger Watinga stud at Bordertown.

The heifers are from Billabong stud at Woodspoint. We have a Holstein Friesian and an Ayrshire. Senior school students have been working with the cattle teaching them to lead.



Sheep

We will also be entering two teams of wethers in the school's competition. We have wethers from Tuckers from Sherlock, Whites, Kleinigs and Kowalds from Cookes Plains. We will select the 6 best wethers from our group. Students have been using the Breedelite drafting race to measuring the weight gain of the wethers.

Boer Goats

This year we are entering 8 Boer goats in the Led Wether Competition. The goats have been sourced from Michael Leopardi at Upper Sturt.

Cows Create Careers

Students from years 5 to 7 helped with the Cows Create Careers program. Earlier in the term we had two dairy calves which required feeding twice day. Students mixed up the milk formula and fed them.

Students from year 10 have sown the school farm paddocks to wheat for this year's hay crop.

Cert 3 in Agriculture – Year 11/12

Chainsaw Operation and Safety Course



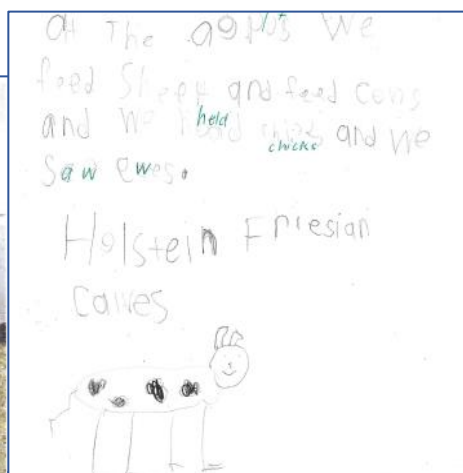
Year 10 Precision Ag Seeding Tour

Students visited Thomas Farm – Moorlands and Hansen Farm – Coomandook to look at seeding practices.





Foundation/1/2 Class wrote about the dairy calves. Enjoy the stories they created.



I LOVED when we went to Ag because we got to feed the baby calves. Their names are Uno and Ula and they are Holstein Friesian breeds.

The calves are Holstein
The calves are Holstein Friesian and their names are Uno and Ula.
are Uno and Ula.
are Uno and Ula.

Holstein Friesian calves
milk powder
Uno Ula
mix warm water
and powder

Holstein Friesian calves
milk milk powder
Uno Ula
mix warm water
and powder.

The calves are Holstein
The calves are Holstein Friesian and their names are Uno and Ula.
are Uno and Ula.
are Uno and Ula.

when we go to the calves we get to feed them powdered milk they are Holstein Friesian calves.

The calves are Uno and Ula and we mix warm water and powder and we saw the hissing geese.

This is Uno and Ula in the hay and they are eating the hay.

the calves home are Ula and Uno
They are dairy cows
after they are Holstein
Powderies are in the calves
we feed them with water



Year 5/6 Visual Arts

Karen Lienert

This term since Mrs. Lienert has been working on Friday's with the 5-6 class, they have been starting their Visual Art lessons off with some directed drawings. Quite a few students feel they are not good at drawing and directed drawings are fantastic as they explain the technique of drawing using shapes, lines and symbols to create drawings. Directed drawings can benefit students in a number of ways:

1. Boosts confidence
2. Improves listening and following direction skills
3. Develops fine and gross motor skills
4. Enhances problem-solving skills
5. Improves observation skills

They have all tried so hard and should be really proud of the fantastic pieces they have all created. Perhaps over the holiday's parents/caregivers could have a-go at a directed drawing – trust me they are addictive! Students have also learnt how to do simple and effective bubble writing to create a Graffiti Name Art piece. They turned out so well we used the original art piece to decorate their classroom and a copy as their front cover of their Art Portfolio. Don't they look excellent!





Science

Hannah Scott

Year 11 and 12

Stage 1 Biology students completed their microbe investigation task and the results are in. According to the results essential oils can be quite beneficial at killing microbes, with the most effective being peppermint and lavender oil. It was found that the most effective surface disinfectant was hand sanitizer, wiped over a bench, and Dettol surface cleaner. We also found that it is best to disinfect a dirty sponge in a microwave for at least 5 minutes to heat and kill the microbes.



Year 10

The year 10 students completed a Science as a Human Endeavour (SHE) report investigating Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

including salmon, rice and canola. Below is an extract taken from Michael Pope's article explaining the application and limitation of a new technology being investigated to reduce the egg laying ability of mosquitoes, therefore reducing their numbers and the risk of disease they carry.

CRISPR has been utilised to create gene drives that control the population of species of mosquito that carry the malaria parasite. A gene drive allows rapid propagation of a gene through a population because the gene in question is inherited by all offspring of the carrier as opposed to half in normal circumstances. Experiments showed propagation through the entire population of mosquitoes in a cage in less than a year. The subject gene of this drive was an alteration of the mosquito doublesex gene, a gene responsible for sex determination. Female mosquitoes with this altered gene exhibit altered sexual development and are rendered unable to produce offspring. This, of course, results in a collapse of the species population, and with no carrier the malaria parasite cannot spread.

This technology has the potential to be far more effective than standard vector control techniques, and potentially even end the malaria epidemic in some regions. However, there are many concerns about the usage of a gene drive. There is potential for devastating and unforeseeable consequences. Eliminating an entire species from an ecosystem can have wide reaching effects that can potentially cause great environmental damage. For example, it could allow other pests to emerge or have impacts on organisms higher up in the food chain. Another concern is that there is potential for mutation in the gene drive which could alter the effects and spread throughout the population, changing the entire population of mosquitoes in an unpredictable manner, but this seems to be less of a concern.



Term 2, Week 9

27th June 2023

The year 10 class also investigated the theory of evolution and natural selection. As part of this they completed an activity where they were required to hide butterflies around the science classroom – the person whose butterfly is last to be found wins a prize! Can you spot the butterflies in the photos?



Year 9

The Year 9 Class are currently studying the systems of control in the human body. On Friday they undertook a practical activity to explore how sensitive we are to touch in different parts of the body, our reaction time and reflex actions.



Year 7 and 8

Students modelled the rock cycle by undertaking an investigation with crayons. They grated the crayon down (erosion and weathering of rock), compressed it (to make sediments), melted it (igneous rock) and then cooled it. It was a very interesting activity to help us visualize a very large, and often long process.





SRC

Hannah Scott

The SRC has continued to raise funds for our school goal (a transportable gaga ball pit) and global goal (donations for a shelterbox). The SRC enterprise raised approximately \$60 from the sale of toasted sandwiches and approximately \$34 from the sale of the milo and biscuits. We thank everyone for their support.

Our final SRC fundraiser for this term will be held on the and will be a casual clothes day where students are invited to come dressed as something starting with the first letter in their name. A gold coin donation will be collected by the SRC for students in casual dress during lesson one on this day.

The senior SRC had the opportunity to attend a team building day held in Adelaide on Monday the 26th of June. Students attended an escape room which required them to use their problem-solving skills and work collaboratively to solve a series of puzzles and escape the room. They then participated in an orienteering activity, where they worked in small teams to improve their navigation and map reading skills. It was a very beneficial day for students to spend time getting to know one another better and improve their leadership capabilities.

The Junior SRC team building day is planned to be held in Murray Bridge on the 5th of July (week 10). Don't forget to return your notes!

SRC Senior School Team Building Day



Parents & Friends

Marie Peterson

Recently we have been busy gathering kitchen items for our Home Ec Centre as many older items have broken or been lost over the years.

As part of this effort I would like to thank both Brinkley Reuse Centre and DVINA Inc (Domestic Violence is Never Acceptable Inc) for their generous donations.

At Brinkley Reuse Centre, 527 Brinkley Road, Brinkley, everything old is new again where their volunteers are breathing new life into the old art of recycling. You can support the ReUse project by donating your unwanted items or stopping in to see what item you may find useful!

DVINA Centre, 1 Standen St, Murray Bridge, is a safe place where you can shop for essentials for a fraction of new prices and get advice regarding domestic violence or donate your unwanted items which may be able to help someone in need.

Show your support to both these great local organisations.

Don't forget our next meeting on Tuesday 8th August at 9am in the library.



HASS

Tamsin Rowntree

OUR GUESTS IN 9/10 HASS

The year 9/10s have been pursuing answers to their research questions by reaching out to the local community and doing online research.

In addition to finding their own primary source, we were visited by many locals who shared their expertise on a few of the research topics. Firstly, Lisa Rowntree from Longridge Olives explained how agricultural businesses, like her own, manage financial risks and rewards in the current Australian market.

In the last few weeks, we welcomed an old scholar from Coomandook Area School, Harrison Rowntree. After studying engineering and then transferring to a teaching degree at uni he shared his opinion on how businesses should use innovation to seek and maintain and competitive advantage in the market. He encouraged us to stay open to learning new things, even if we can't see the immediate value- and that goes for maths and English!

More recently we were visited by Major Paul Simmons who gave us insight into how the Council aims to improve its citizen's living standards by supporting local farmers, sporting clubs and maintaining roads.



Our next guests were Ros and Dave Rohde from Paradise Hill Honey. They shared their business model with us while teaching us about bees, honey, beeswax, and all the amazing products you can make out of them if you've done enough research and have enough patience to test out different methods & products. Each of the year 9/10s was lucky enough to receive a pot of honey and a few lucky girls received a free lip balm after they interviewed Ros for their research project!



Our final guest speaker was another ex-scholar, Bridget Watson who, after recently participating in an ag scholarship, works on her family farm as she researches how she can transition into stud farming. She shared her family's approach to sustainability on their farm, responding to challenges carefully and valuing innovative technology for all it can do to improve agriculture & individual business.



Sport

Kendall Pickering

RMD Netball

Friday week 7, the year 9/10 netball was held at Murray Bridge High School. We had 4 students from our school represent in the RMD team – Matilda Knight, Georgia McPhee, Tahlia Kleinig and Caitlin White. We also had our SSO's, Michelle Cameron and Kendall Pickering coach the team on the day. We competed against Murray Bridge High, Keith Area School and Mt Barker High. Overall, it was a great day meeting new students from other schools and playing a different level of netball.

Unfortunately, the girls did not gain a win for the day but did a really great job!!

Congratulations to all students who participated!



On Wednesday of week 8, our year 7/8 students Matilda Watson and Ashlyn Kleinig braced the freezing cold and represented the RMD netball side at Karoonda. We also had Kendall Pickering umpire the team for the day. The girls were quite successful for the

day, winning against St Joseph's from Murray Bridge and St Francis from Renmark.

Unfortunately, we went down against Unity College.



Around the School

The building by the swimming pool has been removed. This has previously been the year 12 room. PE class room and Mr Sonntag's Maths room. The area has been revamped into a lovely grass area with plans to be redeveloped further.

