I am comfortable talking to you today because I have been encouraged to have a go, with the complete support of my friends and my teachers and without worrying about what the boys might be thinking about how I look, or sound.

Although I like and respect boys, right now I find that working without boys around has been a lot better for me. My efforts and my participation in class have increased. We all take our work seriously and we are also encouraged to talk about issues that matter to us.

Our school is recognised nationally and internationally. Did you know that one of our Year 11 students has been chosen to represent Australia at a Youth Leadership conference in Washington in August?

As well as this two Year 10 students have been chosen to attend the South Australian Space School 2009 Mission to Mars conference.

Research shows that
- Girls achieve better results in a single sex school.
- Girls become more competitive in a single sex environment.
- Girls and boys brains work and develop differently and therefore must be taught differently.

I chose to come to Mitcham, not because I understood all of these benefits, but because my older sister had attended Mitcham and for five long years all I had heard was what a wonderful school Mitcham was. A year has passed and I can truly say that at Mitcham:

- There are no distractions in the classroom and we are all keen to learn.
- I am not afraid to participate in PE classes anymore, because there are no boys to comment on my appearance or my ability.
- I am not afraid to speak up in class; in fact I am encouraged to express my views.
- It is cool to excel academically, nobody makes fun of you, in fact success is celebrated.

I am happy at Mitcham because I have grown in confidence, the friends I have made are the most sensible, intelligent and fun friends I could have made.
On Friday 3 April the familiar colours of red, blue and yellow were on show again as Mitcham held its Annual Sports Day. By 9:00am the school was consumed by a sea of painted bodies, coloured hair and tinsel skirts.

The day kicked off with two rounds of team sport competition. This gave students the chance to unveil their hidden talents in soccer, basketball, tennis and frisbee. During this time, students trekked over to Kingswood Oval where they could earn their house extra points by taking part in the individual novelty events, which consisted of softball throw, football kick, netball shoot and cricket accuracy. Each point earned from their individual novelty events contributed a vast percentage of their team's overall scores.

At recess and lunch the quadrangle was filled with masses of hungry athletes as Ms Gray and her Year 12 class did an excellent job of feeding Mitcham's hungry competitors. The class did a fantastic job in preparing and selling the food.
As the temperature reached its peak and the dark clouds threatened, it was time for everyone to head to the oval for the relays, sprints and novelties. The staff members and house captains did a fantastic job of organising teams for the events. The participation rate was so good that Fraser broke the record for the number of teams in a continuous relay.

For hours girls battled the heat whilst fighting for their team’s pride and glory. However, there can be only one winner. Congratulations to Mitchell who survived very tough and tight competition to take home the Sports Day Cup, finishing just 20 points ahead of Fraser who finished a very close second.

Sports Day was once again a brilliant success, however it wouldn’t have been the same if it weren’t for all the help the staff and students provided on the day. Well done to the staff organisers and officials, House Captains and Vice Captains, Ms Gray’s Year 12 Caterers and finally the students for making the 2009 Sports Day the closest scoring and most successful one yet.

Junior:  
Mitchell: 1182  
Fraser: 1026  
Spence: 964

Senior:  
Mitchell: 1276  
Fraser: 1412  
Spence: 1290

Overall:  
Mitchell: 2458  
Fraser: 2438  
Spence: 2254
**Vacation School in Languages**

Students who study a language at Year 12 level have the opportunity to attend a Languages Vacation School on Tuesday 7 July during the July holidays.

This opportunity is available for students of Chinese, French, Italian, German, Indonesian, Japanese, Spanish and Vietnamese.

If you are interested, please see Ms Beauchesne or Ms Howlett. There is a limited number of places for each subject, so apply early. The cost for students at Mitcham is $10.00.

*Sue Howlett*

---

**Clinical Sciences at Flinders University – for direct entry to Medicine**

This is a new course which will be introduced for 2010. It will be in addition to the postgraduate course for medicine currently being offered and it will give students the opportunity to start medicine immediately after Year 12.

**Features of the undergraduate pathway to Medicine:**

- Will provide 25 secondary school leavers the opportunity to study the first two years of an undergraduate degree with a clinical sciences emphasis and, subject to students passing all topics and maintaining a grade point average of at least 5.0 (credit average), guaranteed entry into the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery.

- Students will graduate with a Bachelor of Clinical Science/Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery.

- The combined degrees will take 6 years to complete and are only offered on a full time basis.

[Information from http://www.flinders.edu.au/undergrad-medicine/]

Entry to this course will be very competitive. Only students with a TER of 95 and above will be considered. However, any bonus points will be included in the TER of students from eligible schools.

Students will need to do the UMAT test this year in order to be eligible. (You need to apply and pay for this test by June and sit for it in July).

Ranking for offers of places will be based on an entry score combining TER (90%) and a UMAT-derived score (10%), which will be based mainly on sections 1 and 2 of the test.

Adelaide University also has undergraduate entry for Medicine and students need to check their website for information about requirements.

Flinders is also planning to introduce a new undergraduate course in Optometry in 2010. Find out more on the website.

*Sue Howlett*

---

**Environment Group**

The Environment Group recently undertook some hands-on work. Some of the members are shown below replanting one of the garden beds at the entrance to the school with drought tolerant grasses.

The group has had an enthusiastic start to the year and has many ideas for the future including a revegetation project in the local area and continuing to improve recycling and resource use at the school.

*Sharyn Clarke*

---

**Year 8 Debating**

Year 8 Debaters had a great start to the year with a win over Mercedes College. The girls were the negative team for the topic: “That we should ban pokies”. We have another tough one coming up with a topic close to many of you: “South Australia’s public transport system.”

Well done to Ivana Amanatidis, Maggie Aylett and Denise Abfalter who all spoke very well. Also pictured are Amelia Mikos and Kahlia Clarke who came along to support their team.

*Sharyn Clarke*
Girls Surfing Day

Twenty-four lucky students spent their Wednesday of the last week of Term 1 at Moana Beach learning how to surf. The annual Girls Surf Coaching Day is a very popular event at Mitcham and this year proved no different. Girls ranging from Years 8 to 12 decided to replace their school uniforms with wetsuits to brave the elements. However, the ‘elements’ were pretty relaxed on the day. There was a steady breeze, warm sun and some gentle waves early on, which thankfully picked up by late afternoon.

After the girls collected their wetsuits and boards and split into smaller groups, they eagerly met their coach who taught them the basics of surfing. Once informed, the girls headed to the water where they spent the first half of the day trying to stand up. Unfortunately, for the first half of the day, the ocean only provided us with small waves. However, through strong determination some of our girls managed to stand up and catch some waves. Thankfully, after lunch, the surf picked up and allowed a few of our girls to catch a wave right into shore.

Another highlight of the Surf Coaching Day is the raffle. The annual raffle is comprised of surf clothes, accessories, vouchers as well as some other cool free stuff. A few of the girls were lucky enough to walk away with one or two prizes, others not so lucky. However, the raffle is for a very good cause, with all proceeds going toward the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Overall the day was a big success, with the majority of our girls able to stand up on their board and catch some waves. Congratulations to all the girls from Mitcham who participated. You showed the school in a very positive light with your determination and eagerness to learn. Well done.

Caitlin Shooter
Sports Assistant

What’s New To Do At Lunchtime

House Sports are starting again from Week 2. This is an excellent way for your House to earn extra points towards the Collier Cup. For the first four weeks of this term the Year 8s will play Indoor Soccer every Thursday in the gym, with the Year 12s playing Volleyball every Tuesday, also in the gym. If you wish to play in this fun lunch time House Sport competition, see your House Captain to put your name down.

The last four weeks of term will see the Year 9s and 10/11s battling it out for their house.

Don’t forget, every point you win is going towards the Collier Cup, which is to be presented to the winning house at the end of the year.

Caitlin Shooter
Sports Assistant

Sports News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Final Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Open Indoor Soccer | Mitcham def Urrbrae 4 – 1
|                    | Mitcham def Seaview 3 – 2
| Year 8/9 Volleyball – White | Glenunga Navy def Mitcham White 3 – 0 |
| Year 8/9 Volleyball – Navy | Glenunga Gold def Mitcham Navy 3 – 2 |
| Open Volleyball    | Mitcham def Blackwood 2 – 1                      |
| Year 8/9 Tennis    | Mitcham def St Mary’s 6 – 0                      |
| Open Tennis        | Mitcham def Glenunga 4 – 2                       |
| Year 8/9 Basketball| Mitcham won due to forfeit                       |

At the end of the Term 1 season we had 4 out of 7 teams finishing in first position. Unfortunately our Year 8/9 Basketball team did not finish in the top four. However, they should be very proud of their efforts over the season. Our Year 8/9 Volleyball teams also put in a very good effort over the season and never gave up. Mitcham White finished in 2nd position, with Mitcham Navy finishing 4th. All teams should be very proud of their efforts for Term 1, your enthusiasm and encouragement was outstanding.

Thank you to all coaches, umpires and parents who gave up their time to support our school teams during Term 1. If we didn’t have your support we would not have such a successful after school sport program.

Caitlin Shooter
Sports Assistant
The South Australian Dental Service provides a range of dental services for children at clinics throughout Adelaide and all major country regional centres.

Dental care is provided by dental teams comprising Dentists, Dental Therapists and Dental Assistants.

All children from birth up to 18 years of age are eligible for care with the School Dental Service. Fees may apply.

For information about enrolment, contact your local School Dental Clinic, Mitcham School Dental Clinic, on 8271 0371.

- All children under the age of 18 years who are dependants of, or holders of, Centrelink Concession Cards or School Cards are eligible to receive free dental care through the School Dental Service. A fee applies to children or students who are not dependants of, or holders of, Centrelink Concession Cards or School Cards. This fee applies per child for each course of dental care (a general course of dental care in the School Dental Service may include check ups, x-rays taken at the clinic, fillings and preventive services such as fluoride treatments).
- Dental emergencies treated at a School Dental Clinic between check ups will be covered by the fee paid at your child’s current check up.

The first and last general course of care will be provided to all School Dental Service clients free of charge regardless of their card holder status. Parents of children with special physical or intellectual needs should contact their local School Dental Clinic to discuss their child’s needs. In case of a dental emergency contact your local clinic to arrange an appointment. For after hours emergencies phone 8232 2651 (children only).

**Teen Dental Vouchers in the School Dental Service**
The Commonwealth Government, through Medicare, have been issuing teenagers with a Teen Dental Voucher. To be eligible to receive a voucher a teenager must be aged between 12 and 17 years for at least some part of the calendar year. They must satisfy the means test for the program, which is receiving Youth Allowance or Abstudy or their family/carer receiving Tax Benefit Part A. These vouchers can be redeemed at a School Dental Clinic or participating private dental practitioner.

If presented at a School Dental Clinic the vouchers entitle the teenager to a full course of dental care including preventative care and any treatment required. If presented at a private dental practitioner the teenager is entitled to $150.00 dollars worth of preventative care including an examination.

For further information please contact your local School Dental Clinic (listed in the White Pages, Business and Government Listing, under SA Health) or Medicare.

---

**FOSTER CARERS’ INFORMATION EVENING**

Have you ever thought about being a Foster Carer?

Foster Carers can be single, couples, people at home, working full-time, part-time or studying. Free training and ongoing professional support (including 24-hour assistance) will be provided.

You are invited to attend an information evening on:

May 26 – Fullarton Park Community Centre
411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton
6:30 – 8:30pm

For further queries please call Linda on 8256 2185
Would you like to assist students in high schools explore career options and increase their knowledge of the world of work?

Are you currently working in or are recently retired from a trade or professional career?

Can you spare 1 hour a week and are able to offer your expertise to students in high schools in the Inner Southern Region of Adelaide?

Interested in individual mentoring or group work?

If you would like to share your knowledge and are open minded, able to communicate well and can listen effectively, then give mentoring a go!

To participate, please note:
• Training will be provided
• Police checks will be undertaken
• All expenses incurred by mentors will be covered.

We need your skills!

For more information or to receive a Registration of Interest form please contact Mentor Coordinator:

Nicole Theodorou
Office Ph: 8372 6951
Mobile: 0407 393 708
Email: quality.lincs@urrbraehs.sa.edu.au
### Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>Thursday 14</th>
<th>What, When &amp; Why No 5 Home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 18</td>
<td>Senior School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 19</td>
<td>‘Bedroom Dancing’ Year 10/11 Dance 11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 20 – Friday 22</td>
<td>SHIP Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 20</td>
<td>Open Netball Grading 3:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 22</td>
<td>‘Freaky’ Year 9 Dance/Drama 1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 25</td>
<td>Senior School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 26</td>
<td>Year 8 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 27</td>
<td>Year 9 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 28</td>
<td>Year 12 Drama Moderation Performance 7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 29</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>Monday 1</th>
<th>Senior School Assembly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 2</td>
<td>Year 8 &amp; 9 Immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 3</td>
<td>Year 12 Music Moderation Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 4</td>
<td>What, When &amp; Why No 6 Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 8</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 9</td>
<td>Year 8 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 10</td>
<td>Year 9 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SRC Meeting – Mixed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Please return this slip to your Care Group Teacher or write a note in the student diary

**Student Name:** ________________________________________________  **Care Group:** __________

I have received *What, When and Why @ Mitcham No 5*

**Parent/Guardian signature:** __________________________________________

**Any comments?**

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Would you like to receive your *What, When & Why* by email?**
If so please print your email address below.

______________________________________________