From July 8 to 11 we were lucky enough to be selected to attend the 12th South Australian Space School. Only thirty-one students were chosen from all over the state to take part.

Space School was a three day intensive residential conference based in Adelaide and Melbourne. It began on the Wednesday of the first week of the holidays with lectures and experiments at the University of Adelaide, followed by tours of three physics laboratories. We were lucky enough to see how photonics is an emerging part of science and what they are working on in Adelaide.

Wednesday evening we attended a public lecture at the National Wine Centre given by retired Astronaut, Dr Jim Reilly. Dr Reilly spoke about the challenges of technology and space and the search for life on Mars.

Thursday morning, at 5:15am, a group of tired looking teenagers were up and dressed, ready to hit the road. By 5:45am we were on a public bus with our luggage on the way to Adelaide airport. By 8:30am (Melbourne time) we had arrived in Victoria and were on our way to Strathmore Secondary School where the fabled VSSEC stands.

VSSEC stands for Victorian Space Science Education Centre and is an amazing complex. Here we changed into flight suits, which are surprisingly comfortable, and were ready to begin the Mission to Mars. The Mission to Mars was a simulation of a real exploration with a virtual 'Mars' and Mission Control. Astronauts had to wear space suits and took different equipment to Mars. The types of jobs were biologist, chemist, geologist, engineer or commander. In Mission Control we had to record the data collected on Mars and solve any problems via our computers.
On ‘Mars’ we had particular samples to collect while wearing an extra suit, head protection, boots and gloves. We had to relate our findings back to Mission Control who recorded the information and alerted the astronauts if there was a hazard. We had a chance to complete both Mission Control and the Astronaut Mission. The Mission to Mars was challenging and stressful because of time restrictions, but it was lots of fun.

In the afternoon we tested the samples we had found on Mars and compared them to similar things found on earth. We compared samples of rock and fossils found on earth and tested soil for pH while also looking at photographs of Mars to analyse the landscape.

Thursday night we were treated to another lecture by Dr Reilly, as well as another lecture by an Australian man who nearly became a European Astronaut. After dinner at VSSEC we got back to the hotel exhausted but satisfied.

Friday Morning we arrived back at VSSEC to be greeted with another assignment: Mission to the Orbiting Space Laboratory. In the International Space Station a number of experiments were set up in a small lab to mimic the conditions of the real live station. I was in charge of the ‘space garden’ which is an experiment to see how plants grow in a hydroponic solution in space and then assess their Vitamin C content. Hyun-Jeong solved anomalies and relayed information from Mission Control. Other experiments involved lasers, crystal growth and building small robots as well as monitoring weather.

On Friday we also had the chance to complete Human Physiology Testing. We tested our respiration rate, heart rate, vision, body temperature, hand grip strength - all tests that astronauts undergo before going into space. We then got the opportunity to participate in a metabolic rate exercise. We tested people’s metabolic rate while they were exercising and while resting using a vital signs machine, an exercise bike and a series of calculations.

What did we learn? What we learnt was a lot about Mars and space and exploration. We learnt about solving and dealing with problems and the search for life. We definitely became a lot more knowledgeable and more interested in space science.

We learned a lot from our experiences and the hands on activities certainly made it easy to enjoy. We recommend that any Year 9 student who has even a slight interest in this area should apply to attend The South Australian Space School next year. The Year 8 students should also start thinking about it.

It’s not only the space suits and the fancy headsets and computers that make this one of the best experiences. It’s about meeting thirty new people who have similar interests and are easy to get along with. (We both have thirty new email addresses for our address book.) It’s about sitting on the floor, eating pasta out of Tupperware containers, pretending to be astronauts, while laughing as someone relays a funny story about their headset getting stuck in their hair. It’s about meeting experts in engineering and astronomy. It’s the people!

We sincerely hope that another two Year 9 students will enjoy the same experience next year.

Saffron Ronson and Hyun-Jeong Kim
From the Principal…

School closure and student free day – Friday 4 and Monday 7 September.

Please be aware that on Friday 4 September the school will be closed. This is considered “Show Day” and it is granted by the Education Department. The following Monday, 7 September, is a student free day and the staff will engage in professional learning activities. While some time will be spent looking at relevant learning technologies, most of the time will be spent working on the New SACE in readiness for the Year 11 implementation in 2010.

Given that students have a total of four days, two school days plus the week-end, they should not take any other time off school to go to the Royal Show.

On 3 September, a very large group of students will travel to Falls Creek for the very popular annual ski trip. The bus will leave on Thursday evening and return on Monday morning. This means that students who go skiing will not miss out on any school work.

CIS
I would like to thank all parents and caregivers who took the time to complete the online survey as required by the Council of International Schools. A small group of people will meet this Friday to begin the review of the school’s philosophy and objectives. In due course, your feedback/input will be sought. The school’s self review will probably commence in Term 4, once the results of the survey are collated and analysed and the Philosophy and Objectives Committee has completed its task.

Antoinette Jones

Languages

Year 8 students in Ms Bamford’s class enjoyed talking with the exchange students about Italy and showing the girls the Italian they knew.

Forza Azzurri! Allez les Bleus!
On Tuesday 11 August, a replay of the 2006 World Cup was held between Ms Perre’s French class and Ms Bamford’s Italian class. Students enthusiastically prepared streamers and slogans and decked themselves in the appropriate colours.

Unfortunately for the Italian class, the result was not the same as in the World Cup; it was soundly beaten by the French class. However, as can be seen from the photos, the Italians did very well in the dress department.

Well done to the French class and to all players for a game played in a great spirit. A special thanks to Mr Nimmo for his expert umpiring skills!
School Aerobics Nationals

On Sunday the 16th of August, the National Aerobics Championships were held at the Adelaide Convention Centre on North Terrace. Teams from all over Australia were selected to compete after placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in their State Finals.

Our ‘Bollywood Bombshells’ team came 3rd in the State Finals in June and therefore won a place to compete at Nationals in August.

The girls performed beautifully and stood out in their bright blue Bollywood costumes. The team placed 7th overall in Australia out of 11 teams. The team were great ambassadors for Mitcham Girls High School and the State.

Well done girls.

Vashti Liebeknecht
Dance Teacher

Italian Exchange Students

On Friday 14 August, our Italian Exchange Students, together with those from Woodcroft College and Cardijn College, went on an excursion to the city to explore some of Adelaide’s main attractions. Visits included: Parliament House, the Migration Museum, the Museum of South Australia, a walk through Adelaide University, a tram ride to Victoria Square and lunch at the Adelaide Central Market.
Forensic Science

8.07 had fun this week preparing a crime scene for our budding forensic scientists. Fortunately for their marks, the teacher was not one of the victims.

Penny Henschke  
Science Teacher

Career Investigation and Planning

The Australian Defence Force is encouraging young people to continue a trade pathway in the defence forces. To support students they are providing scholarships. They are obviously concerned to increase the numbers of young people studying technical trade career pathways.

For Year 11 students scholarships are worth $2000  
For Year 12 students scholarships are worth $3000.  
Students who receive a scholarship in Year 11 will also be entitled to apply for and win a scholarship for Year 12.

There is NO obligation on holders of scholarships to join the Australian Defence Force, but of course many scholarship holders will be interested in this career pathway.

Applications are now open. They close on 25 September. All information is available on line. It may be found at [www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/dts](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/dts)

There is a DVD explaining some of the possible careers, which will be located in the library for students to access.

Students do need to be enrolled in some specific subjects in order to be considered for one of these scholarships. These vary from state to state.

Students need one subject from either column A or B and must be enrolled in Maths [column C].

In South Australia the list is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
<th>Column C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Material Products</td>
<td></td>
<td>Applied Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems and Controls</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maths Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maths Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Specialist Maths</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So, have a look at the website. It may encourage you to look at a very different pathway.

Sue Howlett
Mrs Moody’s Year 8 Italian class made Tiramisu, which is one of many traditional Italian desserts. Most students took part in making the dish and below they have described the process.

**Year 8 Italian**

**Nicki and Izzy**  
*Step 1:* We heated up the iced coffee in a large bowl.  
*Step 2:* We then dipped the sponge finger biscuits in the milk coffee and placed them in rows, filling the bottom of a square dish.

**Kelsey and Ingrid**  
*Step 3:* We put the mascarpone cheese and the Philadelphia cheese into a bowl and mixed them together.  
*Step 4:* We separated the egg yolk and egg whites into separate bowls.  
*Step 5:* We beat the egg whites till they were stiff and white.  
*Step 6:* We beat the egg yolks with the sugar until it was light and fluffy.

**Kelei and Abbie**  
*Step 7:* We mixed together the cheese and the egg yolk mixture.  
*Step 8:* We then added the egg white to create a soft creamy mixture.

**Hawa and Mamie**  
*Step 9:* We then poured half of the mixture over the layer of biscuits.  
*Step 10:* We dipped more biscuits into the ice coffee and placed another layer of biscuits over the mixture.

**Shannon and Tash**  
*Step 11:* We poured the rest of the mixture over the biscuits and spread it evenly.

**Maggie**  
*Step 12:* I sprinkled some cocoa over the Tiramisu.
House Sport

The first 5 weeks of this term have flown by, which means the Year 8 and 10/11 house sport competition has already drawn to a close. The last 4 Mondays saw the Year 8s battle it out in a Dodgeball competition, and the Year 10/11s competing in a Netball competition.

The Dodgeball competition was close each week however, Fraser proved too strong and finished in 1st with Spence in a close 2nd position and Mitchell not far behind in 3rd.

In the Netball competition, Spence showed their dominance very early and finished in 1st place convincingly. This left Mitchell and Fraser to fight it out for 2nd and 3rd places. However, Fraser proved to have the upper hand by finishing in 2nd place with Mitchell a very close 3rd.

The next 4 weeks of this term will see the Year 9s competing in an Indoor Soccer competition on Mondays at lunch time in the gym. The Year 12s will be competing in their very last house sport competition ever. They too will be competing in an Indoor Soccer competition on Tuesdays at lunch.

Don't forget all points won in the house sport competition are going towards the Collyer Cup which will be presented at the end of the year to the winning house.

Caitlin Shooter
Sports Assistant

Maths Online Tutoring – All students

A reminder to parents with student who have not yet taken advantage of this great opportunity.

When students are having problems with Maths homework, they can visit the Maths Online website www.mathsonline.com.au which provides an independent tutoring program for Years 8 – 12.

This service is now free of charge to all students (normally it would cost $40.00 a month). The best part is that it's easy to access. By simply going online and registering, students immediately have access! It caters for all year levels and topics that we currently cover in our Maths curriculum!

Terry Dalkos
Maths Coordinator

Overseas Volunteering for Young People
Aimed at 18 – 30 years

Blackwood Library
215 Main Road
Blackwood

Thursday 10 September
6:30pm

World Youth International
Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development
and others, as well as young people with personal experience

For more information, and to secure your spot for this evening please phone:
Blackwood Library on 8278 5200 or
Mitcham Library on 8271 0999

Congratulations

Congratulations to Melinda Frew, Sherry and Maddison Murray and Bonnie Andrews, who recently returned from the 2009 Synchronized Ice Skating Nationals in Pentrith, Sydney.

Their senior division team, 'Adelaide Ice Magic' finished in 2nd position. Congratulations girls, this is a fantastic achievement and you should be very proud of yourselves.

Caitlin Shooter
Sports Assistant

A Note from the Finance Office

On Thursday 16 July we received an internet payment but unfortunately no family code or student number was included.

To help us with balancing our school payment records, could you please ring Margaret Neumann or Sue King on 8272 8233 if you made a payment on that date.

Sue King
Finance Officer
Science News

Excursions

Year 9
Students from 9.16 enjoyed their visit to Urrbrae wetlands as part of their ecology unit of work.

Some students from the Year 9 SHIP class worked hard during lunch times to build bridges. Their creations were then tested to breaking point at the recent state competition.

Great effort girls!

Year 10

All Year 10 students attended the Science Expo on Friday 7 August. The Star Dome Planetarium, making electronic torches, & the Virtual interactive ‘Human’ were some of the most popular activities.

Opportunities
Year 9 & 10 students are encouraged to apply for the following opportunities, both sponsored by the Rotary Club:

Science Experience at the Universities in January. Please ask your science teacher & check www.scienceexperience.com.au

Health of the River: If you are concerned about the river Murray, there will be a camp during November. Please ask your science teacher or check www.mdfrc.org.au

Helen Marussinszky
Science Coordinator
I'm Grazia Camporeale. I live in Giovinazzo, a small town near Bari in the South of Italy. I'm 17 years old, so I will be attending my last year of the Classical High School in my town when I return in September. I love travelling and I love the diversity of the world, that's why I've decided to come here. It's the first step to fulfil my dream. I must confess that what I'm seeing here is very far from what I expected, because it's better. I could never have dreamed to find the people so tender and loving.

I'm Alice Lamperti. I'm 17 years old and I live in a city very close to Milan. I'm attending an Art School but with scientific subjects too. So my subjects are professional design, graphic project, art, history of art, maths, physics, chemistry, Italian, history, philosophy and law. I also play the guitar in a band. I love it. I've found Australia very different from Italy because everything is more relaxing. In Italy I do such a lot of things that I'm never home. However, Aussie people are very friendly and lovely, so that I can't think of anything but coming back here as soon as I can.

I'm Mary. I come from Italy, from a city called Piacenza, which is located near the big city of Milan. I'm currently staying in Australia for two months; more than a month has already gone and I'm so sad I've got only a few more weeks to spend in this lovely country. When I got here a month ago, I would have never expected this experience to be so useful and enjoyable. I love everything; the people are so friendly, I've already made heaps of new friends, my family is wonderful, the weather is nice, the teachers are incredibly open-minded and kind. If I only had the chance, I reckon I wouldn't go back to Italy! But I promise I'll return to Australia as soon as possible, maybe at uni!

Hi, my name is Maria Daria di Trapani and I'm from Sicily, the biggest island of Italy. I live in Palermo, which is the capital and it's quite a large city. I'm 16 years old and I attend what we call a "classic high school" which means that I study Latin, Greek, Philosophy, History, Italian, Maths, Chemistry, English, History of Art, Literature and P.E. My school is really different from the ones here, but I like it even if it's quite hard. In the future I would like to be a biologist because I love the nature and the animals, especially the reptiles. I love this place and I think I'm living a great experience which I'll never forget and it has changed me. You should try it.

My name is Carol Lauwers. I'm 15 years old, I live in Sassari, a city in Sardegna (it's an island). In Italy I go to an International Languages School that specialises in Spanish and now when I return to Italy I need to start my third year of school (it is equivalent to Year 10 in Australia). Other than school, I go to a music school (Conservatorio) in which I have spent 6 years learning piano. I love all types of sport, but especially swimming and dance! In the future I would like to be an actress and travel around the world and definitely return to Australia. In fact, it's only a few days until we will return to Italy and I'm certain that I will miss this beautiful place.
After School Sport – Term 2/3

Over Terms 2 and 3 our school entered several teams into the Southern Zone After School Sport Competition. These sports consisted of: Open Soccer, Junior Soccer, Open Netball and 3 Year 8/9 Netball teams. Of these 6 teams, 5 played in the Grand Final last week and of these 5 teams, 4 were successful in becoming premiers. This is a huge accomplishment and all of our girls should be very proud of their efforts. All girls were presented with a certificate at their year level assembly to acknowledge their efforts. Below is a table of the results from the last two weeks of competition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Round 10</th>
<th>Finals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8/9 Soccer</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated St Aloysius Blue</td>
<td>St Aloysius red defeated Mitcham 1 - 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Finos</td>
<td>1 - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Soccer</td>
<td>Glenung defeated Mitcham 1 - 0</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated St Johns Maroon 3 - 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bambrough &amp; Mr Dalkos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Round 9</th>
<th>Finals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mitcham 1 Ms Murrell</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated Brighton 3</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated Brighton 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 - 16</td>
<td>26 - 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitcham 2 Ms Potoczky</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated Blackwood 4</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated St Mary’s 33 - 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48 - 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitcham 3 Ms Raggatt</td>
<td>BYE</td>
<td>Mitcham defeated Brighton 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21 - 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Ms Beauchesne &amp; Ms Tsoukalas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunrise defeated Mitcham 26 - 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitcham defeated Brighton 35 – 28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to all girls who participated in After School Sport for Terms 2/3. You all showed great enthusiasm and a positive attitude each match, and you should be congratulated on this. A big thank you to all staff, parents and umpires who gave up their time to support and manage our school sports teams; without you our teams would not go ahead and be as successful as they are. Thank you once again, hopefully our Term 3 / 4 competition will be just as successful.

Caitlin Shooter
Sports Assistant
# Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Thursday 27</td>
<td>What, When &amp; Why No 9 Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 28</td>
<td>Quiz Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 31</td>
<td>Senior School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Tuesday 1</td>
<td>Year 8 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 2</td>
<td>Year 9 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 3</td>
<td>Ski Trip departs pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 4</td>
<td>School Closure Day (Show Day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 7</td>
<td>Student Free Day (Staff Professional Learning)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 9</td>
<td>Governing Council 7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 14</td>
<td>Senior School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 15</td>
<td>Year 8 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical Resources Meeting 9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Finance Meeting 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Dance Moderation 6:30pm - PAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 16</td>
<td>Year 9 Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Dance Moderation 7:00pm - PAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>What, When &amp; Why No 10 home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Music Solo Performance 7:00pm - PAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 21</td>
<td>Senior School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent/Teacher interviews booking information distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 25</td>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reports distributed 3:10pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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 9*

Parent/Guardian signature: __________________________

Any comments?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

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

__________________________