

WHAT, WHEN & WHY

No. 4, Monday 27 June 2016, Term 2



MITCHAM GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL



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From The Principal

As another term and semester draw to a close, a reminder to parents that subject reports will be issued on the last day of the term. Please ensure you look at the report and discuss your daughter's progress with her. If you have any queries about the content of the report contact the school or the subject teacher directly for further clarification. As usual, the last day of the term is a normal teaching day and lessons will continue until our normal finishing time at 3:15pm.

Early in Term 3 we begin the process of preparing for 2017 with subject investigation, selection and course counselling. The term reports are a good source of data when deciding on future pathways through school.

As you know, the FIRST Lego League Team "Let it Grow" competed in China earlier this month. Opportunities like this align with our school values, in particular developing global citizens. Although the team didn't return with any awards from the competition, we are extremely proud that they are State Champions, in the top 10 nationally and had the opportunity to compete on the international stage. This was due to the hard work and persistence of all members of the team and their supporting teachers, Emma Langhans and Helen Marussinszky, who put in many hours outside of normal lesson time to prepare. We hope that the success achieved this year will inspire our next group of competitors who will have seen that we can be extremely successful when we work as a team striving for a common goal.

Another reminder to families that our Learner Management System: Daymap will be made available to parents from Term 3 onwards. This will give parents access to information about their daughter including attendance data, calendars, class notes, homework notes, assessment tasks, results and more. Information about the system and log on details will be emailed early in Term 3. In order for the system to work successfully, however, we need to ensure we have up-to-date email addresses (individual, not generic family addresses) and mobile phone numbers. If you need to update these details please contact the school via email.

In order to support parents through the initial implementation stage of the Parent Portal a Parent Forum will be held on Tuesday 9 August at 6:00pm. This will provide parents with information about the system and how it can be used. We will also provide telephone assistance in the early implementation stage. We encourage all parents to download the Daymap App from the Apple Store or Google Play for android devices. Our own school app is also available to download from the Apple Store or Google Play.

The Governing Council has recently been focusing on Fundraising. If you have some great ideas and would like to be involved in this, feel free to be part of the Parent Voice Committee. Contact the school for further details.

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From the Principal (cont.)

Our Global Citizenship credentials will be boosted in the second half of the year with a large cohort of International students arriving from all over the world at the start of Term 3. We look forward to the different perspectives that they bring to our school and our students.

We wish our students a relaxing holiday, even our Year 12s who, despite having some holiday lessons with their teachers, should take the time to recharge before they begin their sprint to the finish in Term 3.

Tony Sims

Middle School News

Students in the Middle School have, in general, continued to be engaged in their learning and willing to take on challenges as they arise; many of the students' achievements have been documented elsewhere. Of particular note are the Debaters and the Lego League participants in Year 9, who have had ongoing success. Congratulations too, to the Year 8 Drama class, who gave an outstanding performance of the play "Boxes". Most of the Year 8 students will have seen the play and be able to make connections to the ideas that were raised.

In Week 6, students in Years 8 and 9 attended an assembly organised by their peers which showcased a range of performances, and where 100% attendance was recognised and rewarded. Congratulations to Ashleigh Semba (Year 8) and Ella Nixon-Dores (Year 9) who 'won' the attendance raffle and each received an iTunes voucher.

At the end of this term students will receive a report which will reflect their attainment of the various Achievement Standards, as described by the Australian Curriculum. Please remember, that Satisfactory Achievement of the Standard will appear as a C grade, which reflects the general, recognised attainment level for each year level. For some subjects too, this grade may be a reflection of progress, rather than a final assessment.

Early next term students in Year 9 will be undertaking the NAPLAN On-line Readiness Trial, in preparation for on-line testing next year. All DECD schools will be involved in the trial in order to ensure that the facilities are able to cope with this process. Students will undertake two short tests, using their own devices, with the aim of checking log-ins and other technical aspects. Results will not be published. In Week 7 of Term 3, all students in Years 8, 9 and 10 will again complete PAT (Progressive Achievement tests) to monitor their pace of learning. These results may be compared to those achieved in 2015 in order to gain a better understanding of individual student needs. Hopefully, we will once again have near perfect attendance levels, proving that we are indeed a school which has high expectations and can keep on achieving them.

Zinta Ozolins | Assistant Principal Middle School

Fundraising Corner

Entertainment Book

Selling for just \$65! Order your 2016 | 2017 Adelaide Entertainment™ Membership from Mitcham Girls High School and 20% of your Membership purchase goes towards the upgrade of our Visual Arts Centre.

Available as a traditional Entertainment™ Book or Entertainment™ Digital Membership for your Apple or Android device, your Membership gives you over \$20,000 worth of valuable offers valid through to 1 June 2017!

Contact Mitcham Girls High School on 8272 8233 or visit the link to order via the secure online order page <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/161m056>.

Science News

'Let It Grow' in China

As I stepped out of the terminal and into the street I was filled with adrenaline. After 16 hours of excitement and expectation building up in an enclosed space with ten other teenage girls bouncing with excitement, we were beside ourselves with elation. "We're in CHINA!" we kept squealing to each other over and over again.

The mini bus pulled out and we saw the city of Shanghai alive with more activity than we'd ever seen before in one place, despite it being 11pm on a Wednesday night. The streets were like something out of a futuristic movie, with roads winding over and underneath each other and looping around. We had really made it!

On the day of the competition the hall was packed full of people and the humidity was stifling. There were 75 teams at the International FIRST Lego League Competition, 74 of whom were Chinese. The competition didn't go to plan as the Chinese had a different interpretation of the rules so we had to rethink a lot of our work and strategies. The other teams didn't speak much English and the judges spoke none. Despite all of this we made some American friends (who were in a different league) and had a lot of fun with them.

The last few days were spent in Beijing and we saw many famous sights such as the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace and of course the Great Wall of China! Seeing these beautiful, ancient sights was my favourite part of the trip! Visiting China was an incredible experience and has really opened my eyes to how different other people's lives are and made me realise how lucky we are to live in Australia!

Jean Davis (9.14)

"We walked into the room nervously, stood in an awkward line and sang our parody of "Let it Go" from Disney's Frozen. We smiled, tested the pots that we had made and presented our speech. The judges looked at us in confusion. Then we realised that none of them spoke a word of English!"

Ellen Demaagd (9.16)

"We underwent many challenges such as negotiating mobs of picture-crazed civilians. But we also experienced many things for the first time: things like bartering, (which for some was a thrill and for others a challenging experience), praying at temples whilst holding about 20 sticks of incense, and picking up rice with chopsticks ... we couldn't have done any of it without our coach and Year 8 Science teacher, Ms Langhans."

Skylah Armfield (9.16) | Emily Ritson (9.20)

"Although it was sad to leave we were happy to breathe (clean) Australian air again."



Sport News

Zone Sport

The Southern Zone After School Sport Term 2/3 Competition kicked off in Week 4 of this term with Mitcham fielding seven teams across various sports – three Year 8/9 Netball teams, one Open Netball team and a team each in Year 8/9 Soccer, Open Soccer and Open Badminton. At almost the halfway mark of the competition, which concludes early next term, each team from Mitcham has performed well and is fighting for a spot in the finals. A special mention of the Year 8/9 Soccer team who, before their first game, had never played a game together. They are now flying with three wins in a row after a narrow Round 1 loss. Good luck to all the teams for the remainder of the season! The next newsletter will feature how each team finished their season.

House Sport

At the start of Term 2, all House Captains voted for Volleyball as their sport of choice for Term 2 Inter-House sport. There is plenty on the line in the Year 8/9 and Open competitions as points for winning House Sport competitions go towards the Collyer Cup. The round-robin stage has been completed with Fraser in the Year 8/9 competition and Spence in the Open competition progressing to the grand final. The other two teams will do battle in the semi finals in Week 8 to play for a spot in the grand final!

Cross-Country Championships

In Week 6, three Mitcham students competed in the School Sport SA Cross-Country Championships on a windy, cold day at Oakbank. Despite the conditions, Jacinta Sydenham-Carter, Hayley Meyer and Paige Bowers toughed it out and strongly completed the 3 kilometre course against some elite junior athletes. Well done to the girls on their efforts as they look to further develop in elite running competitions.

Dimi Sianis | Sports Assistant

Counsellor News

In-School Psychology

In-School Psychology provides psychological services to children, adolescents, their families, and schools. Their unique service is offered on site at primary and secondary schools, in both the public and private sectors. The psychologists at In-School Psychology are experts in child and adolescent psychology and are professionals dedicated to providing outstanding and comprehensive services to assist children and adolescents, their families and their schools.

The In-School Psychology counselling service is a free service provided on-site at the child or adolescents school. The psychologist will work in a collaborative manner with the counsellors, teachers and parents to ensure the best outcome for the child/adolescent.

In-School Psychology's service is bulk billed to Medicare through the Better Access to Mental Health Care initiative. A child or adolescent is able to access the free counselling service when a Health Care Plan is filled out by the child/adolescent's General Practitioner or Paediatrician. Each Health Care Plan entitles the child/adolescent to a maximum of 10 individual sessions each calendar year.

In-School Psychology is an NDIS provider for eligible students.

Cognitive (intelligence) and educational (academic) assessments are a specialty offered by our service. We conduct a range of assessments to determine what the student's core difficulties are, and what their preferred learning style is likely to be. However, the assessment service is not covered by Medicare and is charged at a private rate.

For further information please contact Jill Olifent jill.olifent705@schools.sa.edu.au or Bek Brown rebekah.brown659@schools.sa.edu.au.

Whole School News

Melinda Tankard Reist Student/Parent Workshops: Monday 1 August 2016 - Not To Be Missed

Melinda Tankard Reist runs workshops for students and parents. Melinda delivers strong messages about cybersafety, body image and media exploitation. In the past, students have certainly connected with everything she had to say as did the parents. At the girls' request, we have invited Melinda to return to the school on Monday 1 August to speak to students and parents. The parent workshop will be held in the evening at 7:00pm. More detailed information will be sent out soon. However, put this date in your diary so that you don't miss out.

Gifts of Kindness Stage 2 Retreat

We accompanied our Pastoral Care Worker, Catherine Chambers, to deliver the 'gifts of kindness' prepared by Stage 2 students as part of the 2016 Retreat. The gesture came about as a response to Ken Henderson's (WestCare Manager) address to the Stage 2 cohort earlier this term.

We met the Senior Manager of the WestCare Centre, Ian Townsend, and it was lovely to see how pleased he was to receive our gifts.

We were also introduced to one of the women who received a gift and she explained what a huge difference our gift had made to her.

For us, the gathering of items seemed a small thing to do collectively, but we were impressed to see such a big effect on a range of people in need. Our students all did an excellent job choosing items which would be both useful and personal, and make people feel special. We could see that our recipients really appreciated the thought that had gone into the gifts. The WestCare facility had lots of useful features and we really appreciated seeing how it worked and how welcoming it is.

We gained as much, if not more than the recipients through our 'gifts of kindness'.

Nina Hampton (12.45) | Jaymee Langrehr (12.10)

Performing Arts and Achievement Assembly

The Year 12 Music Ensemble opened the Whole School Assembly on Monday 30 May on a high note with "Haven't Met You Yet".

One of the highlights was the outstanding dance performance "Run Girl Run".

The Year 9/10 Gift Dance students, along with the Year 8 Gift Dance class, performed "Canned Heat" energetically entertaining the assembly and continuing the tradition of excellence in Dance at Mitcham Girls.

Students who have achieved excellence in Debating, Interschool Swimming and Languages were also acknowledged.

Meredith Arnold | Assistant Principal Whole School Events



Whole School News (cont.)

Debating SA Schools' Competition

Congratulations to the five Mitcham Girls teams participating in the Debating SA Schools' Competition this year. There have been three rounds so far with students debating a range of current social issue topics, as well as some more unusual ones; for example, "That vampires are better than werewolves". Students are developing valuable skills in teamwork, critical thinking, public speaking, persuasive argument and rebuttal.

We would like to acknowledge the commitment of students who give up lunch times and time outside of school to participate in this program. Thanks also go to parents/caregivers who provide transport to debating venues, as well as encouragement and an audience. All teams have performed well, with every team winning at least one debate so far. Coaches and parents, as well as the students themselves, have observed significant growth in both their debating skills and confidence.

The debating teams for this year are:

Year 8

Mitcham Blue (coached by Laura Harvey): Kasey Barber, Lillian Bishop, Breanna Liebelt, Isis Walker and Olivia Wilson, supported by Hasini Kapuwelle

Current ranking: 2nd out of 31 teams

Mitcham White (coached by Laura Harvey): Macey Crawford, Alisha Ingham, Odette Sim and Alana Tilley

Current ranking: 21st out of 31 teams

Year 9

Mitcham Blue (coached by Kahlia Hosking): TJ Anwar, Paige Bowers, Caitlin MacFarlane, Marvy Ogbeide, and Anoushka Siddharth, supported by Sofia Massan

Current ranking: 7th out of 32 teams

Mitcham White (coached by Kahlia Hosking): Claire Collins, Emma Fraser, Hannah McGrath, Michela Skipp and Georgia Tucker

Current ranking: 18th out of 32 teams

Senior

Mitcham Blue (coached by Maria Ivey): Hibra Shujaat, Bethany Peartree, Zeneb Hassan and Nicola Bray

Current ranking: 14th out of 31 teams

We wish all teams the best of luck for the rest of the season!

Laura Harvey | English Coordinator

Parent Feedback Opportunity – GOVchat

Parents will have the opportunity to phone in and provide feedback via [GOVchat](#), a community engagement event.

Parents can speak directly with government decision-makers, including Education and Child Development Minister Susan Close, about how the department can better support them in understanding and participating in their child's education.

When: Monday 4 July 2016

Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

All feedback received through the [GOVChat](#) event will help inform the DECD Parent Engagement Strategy.

Contact: Project Officer, Jade DeFavari at jade.defavari@sa.gov.au or phone 8226 0579.

Whole School News (cont.)

Elder Conservatorium Experience

On Friday 3 June a group of 20 students ranging from Year 9 to 12 attended a performance by the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra at Elder Hall. For many it was their first orchestral performance and it was an excellent opportunity for them.

The performance included works by Debussy and Schubert and we witnessed the debut performance of John Polglasse's Sinfonia No. 1. John is a lecturer and composer in residence at Adelaide University.

A wonderful experience for all who attended.

Ann Gatis | Music Teacher



Careers

An advertisement for Dental Assistant Traineeships 2017. It features a young woman smiling in the foreground. Behind her are several hand-drawn icons: a toothbrush, a tooth, an apple, and an open book with the text 'Apply by 28 July'. The text 'Dental Assistant Traineeships 2017' is written in a speech bubble above her. The background is light blue with a stylized graphic on the left. Logos for the Government of South Australia and SA Health are at the bottom left.

Dental Assistant Traineeships

SA Dental Service is offering more than 20 Dental Assisting Traineeship positions at Clinics across the state.

The 12 month Traineeship contract includes on the job training and attendance at TAFE where you will gain a Certificate 3 in Dental Assisting while earning **\$20,710 – \$31,978** a year.

- > If you are 17 to 24 years of age (or up to 30 years if Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander)
- > have finished year 11.

You may qualify for a Traineeship. Apply now

Community News

Sturt District Cricket Club: 2016 Trials - Under 16s

SACA has a strong focus on the development of young players, with boys and girls throughout the State encouraged to compete in youth squads and elite competitions.

SACA fields teams in each of the underage championships coordinated by Cricket Australia and School Sports Australia. The pathway of cricketers to be eligible in these teams is through SACA Premier League Cricket.

Where:	Gillespie Indoor Cricket Centre, 375 Cross Road, Edwardstown		
When:	Tuesday 19 July	8:00pm – 9:00pm	
	Tuesday 26 July	8:00pm – 9:00pm	
Who:	Eligible cricketers aged under 16 years of age as of 1st of September, 2016		
Attire:	Cricket whites or sporting attire, you will need to bring your own cricket gear		
RSVP:	Contact Corey Pearson to obtain a registration form. Complete the registration form and email to pearsonis@hotmail.com to indicate your attendance at the trials		
Cost:	A once off payment of \$10 per player is required on the 1st week of trials		
More Info:	Corey Pearson (Sturt Junior Coordinator) on 0403 195 943 or pearsonis@hotmail.com		

Diary Dates

June	Monday 27	Dance Performance	6:00 & 7:00pm
	Tuesday 28	Parent Forum	7:00 - 8:00pm
July	Friday 8	Year 11 Reflection Day	
	Friday 8	End Term 2: Reports distributed	3:10pm
	Monday 25	Term 3 commences	
	Monday 25 - Thursday 28	Year 12 Exams	
	Friday 29	Year 12 Formal	
August	Monday 1	Melinda Tankard Parent Workshop	7:00pm
	Tuesday 2	Ski Trip Parent Info Evening	6:30pm
	Monday 8	Governing Council	7:00pm
	Tuesday 9	Parent Forum	6:00 - 7:00pm
	Tuesday 23	Principal's Tour	9:15am
September	Friday 2	School Closure (Show Day)	
	Monday 5	Student Free Day	
	Wednesday 7	Course Counselling Evening	2:45 - 8:00pm
	Thursday 8	Course Counselling	9:00am - 3:00pm
	Monday 12	Governing Council	7:00pm
	Tuesday 27	Dance Performance (Odeon Theatre)	7:00pm
	Friday 30	End Term 3	

MITCHAM GIRLS
ONLINE STORE COMING SOON

