Dear Families,

First of all I would like to thank the many parents and students who attended the Parent Forum last week. Hopefully you are now better informed about the SACE as the school prepares students to make their subject choices for 2016. We would encourage as many parents as possible to attend the Course Counselling meetings scheduled for Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 August.

Our guest speaker and Psychologist, Kirrilie Smout, certainly provided us with tools to deal with some of the issues young adolescent girls face. Earlier in the year the school engaged Kirrilie to work with our senior girls on wellbeing and thought it would be useful for parents to hear what she had to say on this topic. I am sure you found the session useful as well as entertaining.

Council of International Schools (CIS): Five Year Review

Last week the Visiting Team spent three days at the school, gathering evidence about curriculum development, student voice, governance, use of resources, academic achievement, physical resources, equity, pathways for students, social justice, planning and workplace safety. The way we use our Vision Statement, Values and Goals to guide our work was also thoroughly examined. They spoke to staff and students and visited many classrooms. Their aim was to assess how well the school had responded to the recommendations made by the Accrediting Team in 2010.

Although the report will not be received by the school for another three weeks, we did receive some verbal feedback. The Visiting Team had nothing but praise for the way we empower the students to become responsible, global citizens and for their involvement in the running of the school.

They commented on the strengths of our staff: their commitment, their passion, their understanding of curriculum, their willingness to embrace change and participate in our Performance and Development processes.

They were certainly complimentary about our NAPLAN and SACE results, the programs we have in place to support our students and the progress made since the first visit five years ago.

I would like to thank the staff and students for their hard work over the past five years, as well as the parents for their support. Let me assure you that we will not rest on our laurels; we will continue to work extremely hard so we can go from being a great school to becoming ever greater.

Tests, Tests, Tests

NAPLAN

Students in Year 9 undertook the NAPLAN tests early in Term 2. We have had a very high participation rate and we thank families and students who understood the value of the process and were willing to participate.
From the Principal (cont.)

PISA
This year our school was also chosen by PISA (Programme for International Students Assessment) to take part in world-wide tests, undertaken by approximately 510,000 across 70 economies. These tests are not directly related to the school curriculum but are designed to assess to what extent students can apply knowledge to real life situations. Results will be given directly to students and no-one else, but they will be used to compile statistics about the performance of students in each of the economies. Anonymity is guaranteed.

Twenty of our students were chosen by the Organisation and the school will ensure that these tasks are taken in a comfortable environment with many breaks and treats throughout the day.

PAT R and PAT M
Later this term, every Year 8, 9 and 10 student in our state will also be completing the Literacy and Numeracy tests, namely PAT R and PAT M. These tests, an initiative of the State Government, are also compulsory, but they are designed to give immediate feedback to students, their families and teachers about individual student strengths and weaknesses. The testing will occur in the recommended time frames and within our normal school routines.

I can hear everybody say: “we are sick of tests”, and to some extent I agree; on the other hand, there are positives that come out of these tests. First of all the results of these tests will provide us with extra information on how to support the students; secondly it prepares students to work under test conditions which they will encounter not only whilst at school, but also in tertiary institutions and when seeking employment.

Regards,
Antoinette Jones

Important Diary Dates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 10/11 Course Counselling</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>26 August</td>
<td>2:45 - 8:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10/11 Course Counselling</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>27 August</td>
<td>9:00am - 3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Closure Day</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4 September</td>
<td>Show Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7 September</td>
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Arts News

GifT Dance
Eight Year 10 GifT Dance students have over the past term been rehearsing and performing with Patch Theatre Company to present the professional production “The Moon’s a Balloon”.

The students have enthusiastically faced the challenge of dancing intricate choreography with helium balloons, even moves with the balloons balanced on their heads, and many directorial changes in a complicated High Tech show.

Audiences have been spell bound by the emotional use of movement, lighting and of course the many sizes of balloons including the giant 2 metre balloon.
Mid Year Report

Students of The Arts at MGHS have been moving, creating and learning in 2015.

Our facilities in Dance have had a major face lift with new painting in the Dance Studio and a new studio under construction. The Performing Arts Centre has also had significant upgrades with safer steps installed and lighting and sound upgrades.

Music, Dance and Drama students have performed in a wide range of school and public performances, culminating with the Year 12 Production of ‘Into White’, as well as the Year 9 Production of ‘Hoodie’, Dance ‘Time to Turn Out’ and the Music Showcase. Music students attended a Symphony concert at Elder Hall. Our vocal students have also participated in the Inaugural Singers Day run by the Instrumental Music Service.

Students from all year levels displayed confidence and resilience in their approach and organisation for rehearsals and final performances. Their creativity and learning in the Arts was evident in their polished and focussed performances. Team work and cooperation were clearly displayed in group pieces and ensembles.

Many classes have had opportunities to see and participate in professional productions and workshops on excursions in Semester 1. A small group of Dance students have been rehearsing with the professional company, Patch Theatre, to perform ‘The Moon’s a Balloon’ at the Odeon Theatre in August.

Students in the Visual Arts have been working in many media and styles of Art and Design. SACE students produced an interesting group of works displaying the development of their artistic ideas and technical skills, many in the difficult genre of portraiture.

Design students stretched their thinking to create architectural models, t-shirt designs, fashion illustrations and garden models. Problem solving skills were developed to solve the diverse, self-defined Design Briefs.

Meredith Arnold  |  Arts Coordinator

Dance Show: ‘In This Day and Age’

Date / Time:  Tuesday 22 September 2015 at 7:00pm

Venue:  Odeon Theatre, Queen Street, Norwood

Tickets:  $15 Adult; $10 Concession

(tickets available at Finance Office from Monday 24 August)
Subject Selection for 2016

Students are currently in the process of selecting subjects for 2016 using a program called “Web Preferences”. Web Preferences allows students to lodge their subject selections online directly, doing away with much of the paperwork and data entry processes used in the past. This reduces incidences of lost paperwork and data entry errors.

Students have been emailed personalised log in details and subject selection instructions for Web Preferences to their school email address. As part of our course counselling processes Care Group teachers have explained the course counselling processes and timelines and in many cases, have accessed Web Preferences during Care Group time.

Once subjects have been finalised in Web Preferences, we ask that a receipt be printed, signed by a Parent/Caregiver, and returned to the Care Group teacher. This ensures the subjects selected are completed in conjunction with a Parent/Caregiver as we encourage Parents/Caregivers to discuss subject selections and post-school pathways with their daughter.

Students in Years 10 and 11, and their Parent/Caregiver(s), will have the opportunity to discuss their subject selections with trained staff members on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday 26 August or during the day on Thursday 27 August. Appointment request forms have been distributed to students and are also available on the school’s web site.

School Recommended Devices (SRD)

School Recommended Devices are still available for purchase via the link on the school website. At this stage we will still offer the Switch 11 and the R13 for purchase in 2016, with possibly the addition of a Switch 12.

As we have mentioned previously, students have found that having the same device to work on both at school and home has proven to be extremely beneficial and far more satisfactory than the school laptops that are now very old and slow.

The price of the devices for 2016 is currently unknown as the price is, of course, affected by the world of finance and, in particular, the Australian dollar.

We are aware that some of the Switch 11 (smaller tablet) devices are experiencing issues with the tracking pad. I have been in negotiations with Acer regarding this issue and they are going to replace the faulty pads with new ones. The issue is with the electronic component requiring Acer to source a replacement component from an alternative supplier. The replacements will be available in Australia at the end of this month and I have insisted that our devices are dealt with as soon as possible. There is also a smaller issue in that the devices are top heavy. Acer is offering to add some weight to the keyboard section, if your daughter would like. Please bear in mind that this will increase the overall weight of the device, albeit slightly.

Please encourage your daughter to let the IT Help Desk know if they are experiencing any issues with their device so that we can have them seen to. Also, please ensure that all updates are installed as they become available, again the IT Help Desk can assist girls if they are unclear on how to do this.

All devices are covered by a 3 year warranty.

If you have any questions regarding the devices or technology at the MGHS please contact me on 8272 8233 at or email anne.carpenter883@schools.sa.edu.au.

Tony Sims | Deputy Principal

Anne Carpenter | Assistant Principal, ICT & Timetabling
**Humanities News**

**Civics and Citizenship Excursion**
In week 9 of Term 2, all Year 8 students went on an excursion to the Law Courts and to Parliament House as part of the Civics and Citizenship components of the Australian Curriculum.

Students were able to view the different courts and learn more about our legal system under the able guidance of Peter Cavouras, the Outreach Education Manager. We were lucky enough to be present at some very interesting cases and the barristers and magistrates were extremely helpful in answering questions.

In the afternoon our venue was Parliament House where we saw both the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council with Penny Cavanagh, the Outreach Education Manager – Parliament of South Australia, and some of her colleagues.

Students then took on a range of roles to act as Members of Parliament during the debate for Women’s Suffrage in 1894. They participated with great gusto and, of course, passed the legislation.

The hands-on, on-site experience was a really valuable opportunity for all students and staff to learn about their rights and responsibilities as South Australian citizens.

**Shelley Alexander, Sue Howlett, Maria Moody | Language Teachers**

**Australian Geography Competition**
The Australian Geography Competition is based on the new Australian Curriculum, testing students’ knowledge, understanding, skills and analysis of a range of aspects of physical and human geography. Students were tested on their general knowledge of places around the world, interpretation of various forms of data (maps, graphs, diagrams, photographs) and use of skills.

Across Australia over 70,000 students entered from 760 schools. All students in the Year 9 Humanities GifT class entered the competition this year and the results were outstanding.

**Credit**
Lauren Jury; Autumn Lennard; Chelsie Morey; Jessica Rokkas; Ayeisha Wallace

**Distinction**
Skye Hartman-Kearns; Nicole Hewett; Stella Love; Ashlee Parrott; Keera Poole; Clara Schwerak; Arisha Silverlake; Madelaine Thorne-Sellars; Summer Till; Maisie Walker

**High Distinction**
Alina Jansons; Rose Mattingly; Jean Schwerak

Congratulations to those girls for achieving such excellent results. Geography, as a separate subject, is a relatively new course in the Australian Curriculum. Students are gradually developing its specific knowledge, skills and understandings and we hope to see more students achieving such results in coming years.

If you would like to have a look at past questions please go to [http://www.geographycompetition.org.au/](http://www.geographycompetition.org.au/) and test yourself. It’s fun!

**Maria Ivey | HASS Coordinator**
Youth Environment Council of South Australia (YEC)
The YEC is an environment group that tackles environmental issues with our schools and communities. I was a part of it last year, and wanted to do it again.

At the start of the year I applied to be a member of the YEC. The application form asked me to answer some questions about myself and the environment. Later I was excited to find out that they accepted my application.

I attended my first YEC camp in June. The camp and the other events are completely funded by the government. On camp, I got to meet some amazing people, who want change in their schools and communities.

The aim of the camp was to:
- Further develop leadership skills
- Empower youth to take action on environmental issues
- Raise awareness about real issues
- Make friends with like-minded people.

Sustainability Summit
On Wednesday 3 June students from Year 10 and 11 attended a Sustainability Summit held at the Adelaide Town Hall. The Summit was in partnership with the City of Adelaide and the Australian Youth Climate Coalition and was a free event for students interested in making a difference and having an impact on environmental issues. The Summit was part of the Switched on Schools program. Students who attended learnt about climate change, and about how councils, governments and environmental organisations were trying to make sustainable changes.

In the morning, students listened to guest speakers including leaders from the AYCC, Ian Hunter, Labour Minister for the Environment, and representatives from the Adelaide City Council. In the afternoon students from Mitcham were involved in workshops to come up with practical measures they could implement in our school.

Information was presented in a very positive manner and overall it was a really worthwhile and educational day for all those who attended.
The ConocoPhillips Science Experience

Applications are now being taken for the ConocoPhillips Science Experience. The three day program is designed to provide students in Years 9 and 10 who have an interest in Science with an opportunity to engage in a wide range of fascinating science activities, perform experiments in the laboratories, meet and hear senior lecturers in the lecture theatres and experience what it is like to be on the campus of a university.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University / Tertiary Institution</th>
<th>Program Dates</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flinders University</td>
<td>1 - 3 December 2015</td>
<td>N/A for Year 10 students (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Adelaide</td>
<td>9 - 11 December 2015</td>
<td>North Terrace and Waite campuses</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of South Australia</td>
<td>8 - 10 December 2015</td>
<td>City East and Mawson Lakes campuses</td>
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(*) please note that Year 10 students will not be able to attend the Science Experience at Flinders University due to school commitments.

For further details go to www.scienceexperience.com.au or contact me at school on 8272 8233 or email elizabeth.rogers438@schools.sa.edu.au.

Mitcham Girls Investigation Squad (MGIS)

Meet the members of the Mitcham Girls Investigation Squad (MGIS) who attended the Chemical Murder Mystery Forensic Science Workshop at Flinders University during the last week of Term 2.

The workshop gave these students the opportunity to further explore some of the behind the “crime scene” secrets to a Forensic Scientist’s work. Using highly technical equipment, they gathered and sorted through evidence as they searched for the clues and delved deeper into the murder mystery. They visited a mock crime scene and learnt from real life forensic scientists and researchers before trying their hand at techniques such as DNA analysis, toxicology, chromatography and fingerprinting.

Liz Rogers | ScienceTeacher

Student Robotics Club of SA: RoboRoos Open Day at our workshop

Join the Student Robotics Club of SA and see the robots their students have made for the FIRST Robotics Competition and sign up for next season!

For more information visit their website roboroos.org.au.
**Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015**
Don’t forget, we are participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn Program from Wednesday 15 July to Tuesday 8 September.

When shopping at Woolworths you will receive one sticker for every $10 you spend (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the stickers onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker sheet and, when it’s complete, it can be dropped into the Collection Box at the school outside the Science office, or at your local store.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new science equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students. If you’d like to more information visit [woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn](http://woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn).

**South Australian Space School (SASS)**
Interested Year 10 students are invited to apply for a three day South Australian Space School.

When: Wednesday 7 October – Friday 9 October 2015
Where: Students will be accommodated at the Royal Adelaide Hospital Residential Wing.
Cost: $70.00 (including all food and transport, printed materials, SASS windcheater, a large souvenir group photograph and two nights’ accommodation)

Web site: [www.spaceschool.com](http://www.spaceschool.com)

Activities:
Take part in science investigations including building and launching model rockets; undertake tours of the University of Adelaide Physics laboratories; visit the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO); hear inspiring talks about careers in space science, physics, engineering, life sciences; talk with a guest astronaut; visit the RAAF Base at Edinburgh and be escorted through various testing facilities and aircraft; visit the Planetarium at the University of South Australia; visit PIPEHENG.

Have a great time, and of course, make many new friends!

Applications close Monday 31 August.

SASS will be supervised by female and male South Australian science teachers.

**Oliphant Science Awards Open Day**
Come along, and experience the fun and magic of science in action!

Come to see, learn and immerse the whole family in science this year at South Australia’s largest student science competition - the Oliphant Science Awards Open Day!

This FREE event is open to the general public on Sunday 23 August, 12:00 - 4:00pm at Festival Functions, 292 Findon Road, Findon.

This year they are celebrating the International Year of Light with light-themed Come & Try activities, and Science Shows from Mobile Science Education and SciWorld.

All of the prize winning projects from the 2015 competition will be on display, plus there will be a selection of food and beverage options available for purchase.
Stage 2 Science Students Exam Preparation Seminars
Biology: Saturday, 5 September, 2:30pm 5:00pm
Physics: Saturday, 12 September, 2:30pm - 5:00pm
Psychology: Saturday, 12 September, 2:30pm - 5:00pm
Chemistry: Saturday, 19 September, 2:30pm - 5:00pm

The seminars will all be held at The University of Adelaide, Napier Building, Lower Ground Floor.
Cost: $10.00 if you book early at SASTA or $15.00 (late bookings).

Mitcham Magic Science Shows
Four groups of Year 9 students rehearsed and performed chemistry (magic) plays that both entertained and educated the junior school students at Westbourne Park and Colonel Light Gardens primary schools.

Thank you for being wonderful ambassadors for our school!

Chickens
Year 11 Biology class were busy hatching & measuring 14 chickens. These were enjoyed by the rest of the school during lunch and science lessons.

Science Alive
Year 10 Science students visited the Wayville Showgrounds and enjoyed participating in a wide variety of experiments, displays and activities while learning more about career opportunities.

Helen Marussinzky | Science Coordinator
Science News (cont.)

Year 9 Bridge Building
Students from the Year 9 GifT class participated in the Aurecon Bridge Building Competition. They worked hard during many lunch times to research, design and complete their structures. ‘Mitch Mania’ (right) won the Innovative Design Award. Congratulations!

Anna Cullen | Science Teacher

Sport News

Term 3 House Sport
Each year, the Term 3 House Sport competition is played over multiple weeks, culminating in a finals series where the winner takes out the House Sport Trophy. The last two years has seen Mitchell win the competition in Netball (2013) and Basketball (2014). This year the sport is Volleyball.

The competition started in week 4, with Spence taking on Fraser and Mitchell was the duty team. The Junior (Year 8/9) match was a close encounter, with both teams winning a set, before Spence won 11-3 in the decider.

The Senior match was also a close match, which Fraser won 2 sets to zero. The cumulative score of the round was Fraser defeating Spence, 105 points to 99.

The House Sport competition will continue until week 8.

A new addition to the competition is the voting of a Junior and Senior ‘Best and Fairest’ Player which is voted by the duty team after each match. This will also be awarded in week 8.

May the best House win!
Sport News (cont.)

Zone Sport
The Term 2/3 Zone Sport competition finished in week 4, culminating in finals for all teams.

8/9 Soccer
The 8/9 Soccer Team played off for 3rd place and won convincingly in the rainy and cold conditions 5-1. Congratulations to the team who finished in 3rd position.

Open Badminton
The Open Badminton team played off for 13th position. In a close fought encounter, they went down by 3 sets. It was a tough season for the badminton team, due to limited numbers of teams in the competition, who played many matches against boys teams. The team should be proud of themselves for accepting the challenge and giving it their best.

8/9 Netball
Mitcham 1 (Year 9s) and Mitcham 2 (Years 8s) had a great season and both ended up in the match for 3rd place- versusing each other!

The game was close, especially with the strong winds and rain making shooting a real challenge!

The Year 9s were able to exert revenge for their loss earlier in the season to the Year 8s and took out 3rd place with a 7 goal win.

Open Netball
Mitcham 1 was initially playing for 5th place. However, when arriving at the courts, found their opposition (ASMS) had forfeited at the last minute, meaning they came 5th by default.

Mitcham 2 playing for 5th place as well and played St Johns. In another close encounter the team won by 5 goals!

Overall, another great season for Mitcham in the Zone Sport competition.

Thanks to Grace Condello, Tamara Norman, Georgia Tucker, Cecilia Ronson and Evelyn Denton for umpiring matches all season - the games couldn’t happen without you! Also, thanks to Nicola Sulley-Beales, Bec Jury and Ashley Bakker for coaching netball teams this season! Finally, thanks to all staff members who took the time to coach Mitcham teams.

Term 3/4 Zone Sport
The Term 3/4 Zone Sport competition commences in week 7 and runs through to week 5 Term 4. Mitcham is fielding teams in the following competitions:

- 8/9 Volleyball - 1 team
- 8/9 basketball - 2 teams
- Open Volleyball - 2 teams
- 8/9 Badminton - 1 team

Georgina Sulley-Beales | Sports Assistant
Year 12 Retreat
On 18 and 19 June the Year 12s went on Retreat. After much preparation (i.e. deciding on what to wear, which chocolate to eat and which items to pack) we arrived at the ‘Mantra on Frome’.

The room was very impressive and we all wanted to live there permanently! It was not long until we had to change into our sports clothes and walk to Adelaide University for our first activity. Not being much of a sports person myself, I was pleasantly surprised when we started ‘zumba’. I don’t think I have laughed so hard at myself as I did that day. I was absolutely terrible but my friends and I had the funniest time trying to follow the instructor’s dance moves.

We were all now starving after our dancing attempts and glad it was time to shop for our dinner ingredients. After the official price calculations were made and several trips were taken back to the ice-cream department we made our purchases and headed back to the hotel to start cooking. We thought our chicken pasta could have won best dish prize but we had a great time eating it anyway! After we packed up from tea we put on the dressing gowns and nail polish gifted to us by our teachers.

The next morning we were up before the teacher wake up call. While madly cleaning the room, we had breakfast and packed, ready for a busy day. We left the room hoping ours was the cleanest and walked over to Adelaide Uni. I was feeling good about the low energy activities. This is where I found yoga very relaxing but also realised you needed a whole lot of balance too.

The next session was the one I had been looking forward to for many years. It was refection time, where we looked over letters we have written to ourselves during the high school years. This opened my eyes so much, from the person I have become, what has changed within me and how far I have come over the years. I found that my motivation has not changed but I realised I need to remember to enjoy the little things in life more. This session helped me remember who I am, who I want to be and what I want to achieve in life.

After lunch we split up into different high intensity classes. We got our shimmy on in belly dancing. We relieved some of our school related stress with a high intensity boxing session.

‘The instructor was lots of fun, and made sure the session was enjoyable as well as a physical workout.’
(Nicola Sulley-Beales).

Last but not least, don’t get fooled by the name ‘spin class’. My exercise pretty much hits its limit at the school stairs, so this was a big leap for me! I decided bike riding wasn’t something I would do but I am glad I tried it! All these different activities were designed to give us personal exercising techniques for now and in the future.

After we were given ice-cream for all our hard work, we got into our room groups and came up with a group mantra (quote) to paint onto a canvas. Our group came up with ‘Shoot for the moon, even if you miss you will land among the stars.’ This was the end to a wonderful, reflective and fitness level increasing two days. Parents were invited to reflect with us at the end of our time, it was lovely to share this experience with my mum!

Thank you to all the teachers and especially Ms Howlett who made those two days possible for us. I will look back on Retreat and think about the fun times, what I learnt about myself and the wonderful people I shared it with.

Emma Crook  |  12.03
Reflection Day
Reflection Day 2015 was a time for Year 11 students to look back at their progress through school and reflect on their learning.

This year Kirrilee Smout, Psychologist and Director of Developing Minds Psychology, spoke to the students about how to overcome difficulties and take control of emotions. Students were given some hints on achieving their Personal Best in the SACE and had a meditation session with Ms Olifent.

The Annual SACE survivor quizzes and activities saw some hot competition and blatant bias by Care Group teachers. The out-right winners were 11.31. Congratulations!

Meredith Arnold | Year 11 Manager

English News

‘Meet the Writers’ 2015
On 24 June, we had the privilege to travel into the city and meet published authors at the Adelaide Convention Centre as a part of the Meet the Writers Festival 2015. We left the school just before recess, and took a rather chilly walk down to the train station. After a brief wait, we boarded the train into the city centre. From there we walked down to the newly renovated Adelaide Convention Centre on the banks of the River Torrens.

The range of authors attending this year’s Festival included people such as Janeen Brian, Fiona Wood, Jack Heath, Cristobel Mattingley, Edoardo Crismani, Doug MacLeod, and many more. After an introductory speech from Fiona Wood, we split into groups to see different authors. We chose to see Jack Heath and Doug MacLeod. After their very entertaining speeches, we ate lunch, then split up again to see our next chosen author. A little while after Cristobel Mattingley’s talk about her various works, including those about World War and Aboriginal rights, we moved back to the main auditorium for a closing speech from Nick Earls. It was both humorous and entertaining.

A fun day ended as we finally boarded the train back to school. We thoroughly recommend next year’s event to all those interested in reading, writing, or meeting successful authors.

Claire Collins, Jean Davis and Hannah McGrath | 8.09
Whole School News

Language Perfect - World Championships
In May of this year, the Language students took part in the World Championships for Languages, conducted online through the Language Perfect organisation. All Languages students at Mitcham are registered for this program.

We were delighted with the enthusiasm shown by students and the level of participation in the Championships. 34 of our students were awarded certificates at various levels, with three gaining a Gold Level Award, thus being in the top 2% of 300,000 students world wide.

Students who received awards: Jasmine Wright, Shayla Woolf, Mehru Fatima

Our school ranked 2nd for Italian in South Australia out of 33 schools and 11th for French out of 34 schools. Overall we were ranked 271 out of 1,077 schools world wide.

Well done everyone! We are very proud of our students and their efforts.

Shelley Alexander, Sue Howlett, Maria Moody | Language Teachers

Children’s University Graduation
Mitcham Girls High School has received a special acknowledgment for being the first school to have students graduate from the Children’s University with a Passport to Volunteering. Held at Bonython Hall on Tuesday 23 June 2015, the graduation ceremony was both solemn but uplifting and gratifying as the wonderfully old hall was decorated by a plethora of fairy lights. The speakers included: Rear Admiral the Honorable Kevin Scarce AC CSC RAN-Rtd, Chancellor the University of Adelaide, Chancellor Children’s University Adelaide; Katrine Hildyard MP, Kiri Hagenus, Director Children’s University Australia; Professor Christopher Findlay, Executive Dean Faculty of Professions, The University of Adelaide. A key theme for all speakers was the notion of service to others, participation in the work of different organisations and the importance of having this valued and recognized. The formal part of the evening, which also included award presentations, was followed by refreshments and some special events – performers and a caricaturist, for the graduates and their guests.

The school is particularly proud of its graduates: Laura Cole, Claire Collins,(Year 8); Esther Burnett, Zeneb Hassan, Indiana Piggin (Year 10) who each completed at least 35 hours of learning/volunteering and received appropriate awards. These students gained hours not only through school service SRC, Debating, Book Club, Oliphant Awards for example, but also through their involvement in sporting clubs and other interests, including volunteering at a Church Play Group.

We have a number of other students involved in the program, who will graduate in the next round, but also encourage anyone who is involved in extra-curricular learning or volunteering to acquire a passport and have their efforts recognized. Passports are available through the Finance Office at the school.

Zinta Ozolins | CU Coordinator
The SRC 2015 was elected early in the Term 1.

We enjoyed a training day on 20 February where members got to know each other, considered aspects of leadership and the challenges of representing their peers.

The SRC successfully ran the Swimming Carnival BBQ on Wednesday 18 February with profit going towards the SRC chosen charities and on Friday 6 March we assisted with the IWD Assembly.

In Week 6 we organised and presented the Whole School Assembly at which we were awarded our SRC badges and recited our Oath of Office.

The SRC has also represented the school at many public events, the UN IWD breakfast run by the IWD Committee of SA and the GRIP Student Leadership Conference which was attended by the Year 12 Executive members and some Year 10/11 SRC members. Year 11 members have continued to represent us on the Mitcham Youth Advisory Council run by the City of Mitcham.

SRC members attended ANZAC Day Dawn services and marches at different locations across Adelaide. The school was represented by Alina Jansons, Hibra Shujaat, Zoe Charman, Emma Crook, Summer Till, Ms Howlet, Ms Jones and Ms Tomlian at the Mitcham Dawn Service, where a wreath was placed on behalf of Mitcham Girls High School.

The SRC was heavily involved in Open Day/Night as guides, presenters and greeters.

In Term 2 our main activities were Casual Day, running the Term 2 Whole School Assembly, planning in our task groups for activities later in the year and responding to class feedback. The Whole School Assembly saw excellence and volunteering recognized in Swimming, Debating, World Challenge, V-Gen and reminders of our school values.

Zali Craig and Izzy Lean attended the Adelaide High School Prefects Leadership Day in week 5.

Our School Improvement group is currently working on repair and maintenance of the assembly chairs and surveying students regarding future developments.

Week 4 in Term 3 was Well Being Week with a Whole School Assembly and various lunchtime activities being carried out throughout the week. A more detailed report will appear in the next newsletter.

Zoe Charman & Hanna Woodlock | SRC Co Presidents

Student Medication
In accordance with the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) guidelines, we are currently updating our procedures regarding the storage of student medication at our site.

Should you require medication to be stored at Student Services it must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Medication Authority - signed by relevant Health Professional
- Health Care Plan - signed by relevant Health Professional
- Pharmacy labelled - medication to be in original packaging with pharmacy label affixed

Medication Authority forms are available from Health Professionals or Student Services. If you require further information please contact Liat D'Ambrosio in Student Services on 8272 8233.

Kate Burdett | Business Manager
**VET / Tertiary / Careers**

Flinders University - New Courses in 2016
- Bachelor of Communication & Professional Writing
- Bachelor of Letters
- Bachelor of Arts & Sciences
- Bachelor of International Relations
- Bachelor of Education (Primary-7)/Bachelor of General Science
- Bachelor of Psychological Science/Bachelor of Business (Marketing)
- Bachelor of Information Technology (Digital Health Systems) (Honours)
- Bachelor of Computer Science (Simulation and Serious Games)
- Bachelor of Science (Science Policy and Communication)


**University 1-1 Sessions for Year 12s**
- University of Adelaide  Friday 28 August  10:00am - 2:00pm
- University of South Australia  Monday 7 September  10:30am - 2:00pm
- Flinders University  Monday 21 September  10:30am - 1:30pm

Sheets will be put up prior to each session to allow students to book in session times. If you are intending to attend one of these universities, it would be very advantageous for you to book a time!

**Tertiary Advice**

Year 12 students and parents are welcome to make an appointment with me regarding tertiary choices - advice, options, alternatives for next year. Either call 8272 8233 or email jill.olifent705@schools.sa.edu.au.

Jill Olifent  |  Student Counsellor

**Placement Students from Flinders University**

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and thank the staff of Mitcham Girls High School for hosting students on placement from Flinders University. My name is Lynley Johnson and I have a Bachelor of Psychological Science with Minors in Counselling and Sociology from the University of South Australia. My fellow student, Janice Lau, has a Bachelor of Sport and Recreation also from the University of South Australia.

We are both now in the first year of a two year Master of Social Work degree at Flinders University. We will be engaging in Placement activities at MGHS for two terms under the auspices of Ms Jill Olifent. We look forward to meeting the school community during our time here and welcome the opportunity to discuss social works diverse applications within society.

Lynley Johnson & Janice Lau

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Whole School News (cont.)

**Work Placement**

In Week 9 of Term 2, four Mitcham students participated in a work placement opportunity organised and sponsored by NAB, called Work Inspirations. The students: Caitlin Curran, Daria Shanta, Daisy Barlow and Jess Powers spent three days in workshops with mentors learning about working life, careers in business and their own aspirations and career pathways.

The three days culminated in a video presentation to teachers, mentors and other students in the program.

Jill Olifent  |  Student Counsellor
AUSTRALIAN AIRFORCE CADETS
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Monday Nights @ Unley High School
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General information - www.aafc.org.au

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AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS
Cadets – Air Force’s future
www.aafc.org.au
Careers week
...at the Botanic Gardens and Zoo

Attention Teachers of:

- Year 10 & 11 PLP
- ACARA Work Studies Year 9 & 10

Broaden your students thinking and understanding of possible career pathways with a day at the Botanic Gardens and Adelaide Zoo. Career sessions are supported by DECD Education Managers at both sites.

Students will:

- Investigate over 50 possible careers relating to working at the Zoo and Botanic Gardens.
- Participate in a wildlife presentations at the zoo, focused on presentation skills and important plant and animal conservation issues.
- Tour the botanic gardens discussing the different careers and roles.
- Take part in an orienteering trail of plant and animal careers.
- Download video clips and links to follow up back at school. Student will utilise their Smart Phones to access information across the Gardens and Zoo.

Bookings are essential:
Places are limited to maximise the learning experience for students.

For enquiries and bookings contact Adelaide Zoo Learning on 08 8230 1258 or email azes@zoossa.com.au

Cost
$12 per student
Zoo entry
When
Term 2 & 3
Week 10
of both terms
Supported and encouraging parents in their vital role of:

- Nurturing and empowering children
- Helping them be the best people they can be

Seminars 2015 - Terms 3 & 4

**Effective Living Centre**

**Positive Parenting**

- Understanding your Child’s Temperament
  - Wednesday 5 August 7:30 - 9:30pm
  - Presenter - Donna Broadhurst
  - Understanding a child’s temperament is needed to develop effective parenting strategies for each child. Donna will give some practical ideas for relating to your spirited or sensitive child’s particular needs to help them flourish.

- Managing Anger in Children
  - Wednesday 19 August 7:30 - 9:30pm
  - Presenter - Donna Broadhurst
  - It’s not easy living with our own emotions, let alone our child’s ups and downs. Yet parents can help their children to safely express their feelings and manage strong emotions. It is a gift that will serve them well for a lifetime.

- Helping Teens through Adolescent Emotions
  - Wednesday 2 September 7:30 - 9:30pm
  - Presenter - Vina Hotich
  - Transitioning from childhood through teenager years to adulthood can be a tumultuous journey for all involved. This seminar aims to help parents identify ways to enable teenagers to express their stress, anger and other strong emotions effectively and respectfully.

- Fun not Fuss with Food
  - Wednesday 28 October 7:30 - 9:30pm
  - Presenter - Peter Hill
  - Peter looks at steps to change behaviour, and provides strategies that cue into natural developmental changes in children, supporting their growing independence and curiosity.

- Talking to Babies & Toddlers - why & how
  - Monday 9 November 7:30 - 9:30pm
  - Presenter - Dr Debbie James
  - To babble or not to babble; to use screens or not to use screens. Find out why babbling, chatting and reading to your little one is essential for them to learn how to talk as well as read, write, socialise and regulate their own emotions. Debbie will provide practical suggestions of how and how often to talk to your child. She will help you learn to recognise different ways and opportunities to engage in baby chatter, and about the many benefits to be gained.

Cost for sessions:
- $15 adult
- $10 concession
- $20 per couple

26 King William Road, Wayville SA
Bookings essential and available online

effectiveliving.org
Community News

School Dental Clinic
Keep your kids smiling. Dental care is FREE for most school children and ALL preschool children at the School Dental Service. All children aged 0-17 are welcome.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au or call us now on 8222 8222.

Child & Adolescent Sleep Clinic
Does your teenager have a sleep problem? Does your teenager:
• have trouble falling asleep?
• not fall asleep until late at night?
• have trouble waking up or getting out of bed in the morning?
• miss school or feel fatigued throughout the school day?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, your teenager could benefit from a new treatment program being run at the Child & Adolescent Sleep Clinic, within the School of Psychology, at Flinders University.

For more information please call 8201 7587 or email casc.enquiries@flinders.edu.au or find them on Facebook www.facebook.com/cascsleep.

Campion Education - Summer Employment Opportunity 2015/2016
Each summer Campion Education employs students from schools it services to aid with the preparation of booklists requirements for the new school year.

If you are interested in applying for work over the summer break and you are 15 years of age or older, send a brief Resumé containing your details - name, age, address, phone number, date of birth, email address, to Luisa Sangermano, c/- Campion Education, 46 Glynburn Road, Hectorville SA 5073 no later than 1 October 2015, and include a list of any previous part-time employment.

Club Tennis – Players Wanted (all ages)
Hope Ward Tennis Club (an ANZ Hot Shots Club) has vacancies for Junior and Senior members, of all standards, for the 2015/16 Summer season (commencing mid-October). Interested? Then come along to our Open Day/s:
Seniors Sunday 23 August 12:00 to 2:00pm (free sausage sizzle)
Juniors (17 & under) Sunday 30 August 11:00am to 1:00pm (free sausage sizzle)
Senior enquiries to Madeline Hill - 8277 3937; Junior enquiries to Lyn Pettman - 0418 851 873.

Diary Dates

August
Wednesday 26 Course Counselling - Years 10 & 11 2:45 - 8:00pm
Thursday 27 Course Counselling - Years 10 & 11 9:00am - 3:00pm
Monday 31 Governing Council 7:00pm

September
Friday 4 School Closure (Show Day)
Friday 4 - Monday 7 Ski Trip
Monday 7
Monday 14 Student Free Day
Tuesday 22 WWW No. 6 published
Friday 25 Dance Performance, Odeon Theatre 7:00pm
End of Term 3, Reports distributed 3:10pm