

What, When & Why

@ Mitcham Girls High School

No 8, Friday 1 September 2011, Term 3

From the Principal...

Dear Families,

The school has tried for many years now, to get funding to refurbish the Visual Arts Centre and the Dance Studio.

Two years ago the Department of Education and Children's Services conducted a feasibility study and developed an overall concept for the refurbishment. We had hoped that funding would be made available through the 2011-2012 State Budget for the project to begin. Unfortunately our project was not a priority this year and it has been held for reassessment and priority for inclusion in the 2012-2013 Capital Works Project budget.

We have written to Members of Parliament seeking their support for a successful outcome. You could also 'lend a hand' by speaking to your local Member about the need to refurbish such very old facilities.

Ski Trip

Sixty two students, eight teachers and four volunteers will be taking part in the annual ski trip. This is proving to be a very exciting activity for the students and we wish them well. The organisation of the trip is very thorough, in fact, one could say that it is impeccable and everything usually goes according to plan. However, there are events that we cannot plan for. For example, last year one of the roads was closed and students arrived back in Adelaide much later than expected.

Students are expected to leave on Thursday 1 September at 6:30 pm and arrive back to school on Monday 5 September at about 6:00 am. Should there be change of plans, we will ask your daughter to ring you and I will post regular updates on the home page of our website: www.mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au.

School Closure and Student Free Day

You should have received a letter informing you that students are not required to be at school on 2nd and 5th on September. These two days are designated "Show Days" for the students and we ask that they do not take any other time off to go to the Show.

While the school will be closed on Friday 2nd September, Monday 5th will be a professional learning day for staff. We will look at the Australian Curriculum, information and communication technologies and performance management.

Reports

Last week, through the Course Counselling process, we were surprised to discover that some students are not taking their reports home. The school sends reports home on the very last day of each term. Please make it your responsibility to ask your daughter for her report on that day. Be alert! Not attending school on the last day of school is usually an excuse for not bringing home a report. The last day of term is a normal teaching day at Mitcham; we only stop work at 3:05 pm so that we can distribute reports. If, for very sound reasons, your daughter cannot be at school, the report should be collected during the first week of the next term.

.../2

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Government of South Australia
Department of Education and
Children's Services

From the Principal (cont.)

Communication Between Home and the School

Do we have your email address? Send Jenni an email, introduce yourself and tell her your daughter's name. We will then save the email address to our data base and will use it to get in touch with you when needed jenni.stewart@mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au.

Regards,
Antoinette Jones

Science News

Lots of activities have occurred over the last few weeks. These have included:

Science Alive

All the Year 10s travelled by train to the Wayville Showgrounds and enjoyed many science experiences. The highlights included a chemistry show, planetarium, making a giant Nano-tube, doing science experiments (especially those that you could eat), interacting with real animals, including snakes, and talking to scientists. It was a great afternoon.



Chickens!

This year we had ten chickens hatch during Science Week. The Year 11 Biology class conducted a growth investigation, measuring the chickens daily. They also weighed the food consumed to calculate the energy conversion from food to chicken growth.

The rest of the school enjoyed the chickens visiting their science class and many students spent lunch times cuddling them. The hatching was shown on the notices video screen.



Science would like to thank Mr. Peters for his expert camera work.

Primary School 'Science Magic' shows

Eight Year 9 students transformed themselves into witches to perform a chemistry show for Edwardstown and Colonel Light Gardens primary schools. They gave up their lunch times to write the script and practice the experiments. Dr. Sally Plush (our 'Scientist in School' scientist from Uni S.A. – see the article below) came to the school to help them refine their technique.

Grades 1 to 5 students were delighted with experiments with dry ice, colour changes, coloured fire and 'explosions'. Afterwards they were very curious about the chemistry, asking lots of questions that the girls answered confidently.



Thank you Renee Ellis, Nina Ash- Clarke, Maddy Govan, Natalia Sciezka, Sienna Bayliss, Sasha Van Beveren, Erin Templeton and Natalie Handorf - you did a great job representing your school.

South Australian Space School 2011

I was chosen to attend the South Australian Space School on 13 to 15 July along with a number of other students from different schools. In order to be accepted by SASS, I had to write maximum of a half a page of self-introduction and get my science teacher's reference.

I found out a wide range of information about career pathways in engineering related to space. We met lots of engineers working in different areas, such as space medicine and detecting gravitational radiations. We also had fun making a model rocket and launching it.



On the last day of school, we went to RAAF (Royal Australian Air Force) and DSTO (Defence Science and Technology Organisation). It was very interesting listening to the experiences of experts in space related industries and scientists who are making contributions in the development of science.

Through this experience, I have learnt that there are many options in career pathways in the space industry by exploring various areas. It certainly was an unforgettable experience that no one can buy. I can recommend that Year 10 and 11 students try it next year.

Min Kang
10.45

Introducing our Scientist in Schools Scientist - Dr Sally Plush

Sally is a Uni SA Lecturer in Chemistry with the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences at City East Campus. She currently coordinates and teaches the first year organic chemistry course, Chemistry 101. She also teaches 3rd year 2D NMR, MRI and fluorescence spectroscopy in Pharmaceutical Analysis and supervises PhD students researching Organic Chemistry, Fluorescence and Anion Sensing.

She is partnered with both Waikerie Primary School and Mitcham Girls High School in the Scientists in Schools Program, assisting in teaching and raising awareness of science to primary and high school students.

We welcome her expertise and enthusiasm.



Helen Marussinszky
Science Coordinator

Sport News

Term 2/3 Zone Sport Results

The Term 2/3 Zone Sport competition has been completed with the final playoffs being held in week 4 and week 5 of this term. Mitcham teams have preformed extremely well throughout the competition and this was highlighted by many teams playing off in the grand finals or for 3rd Place. The final results were as follows:

Year 8/9 Soccer (Mr Finos)	1 st
Open Soccer (Mr Bambrough)	3 rd
Open Badminton (Mr Peters)	4 th

Year 8/9 Netball

Mitcham 1 (Ms Dodd)	1 st (Div B1)
Mitcham 2 (Ms Murrell)	4 th (Div B2)
Mitcham 3 (Ms Parsons)	2 nd (Div C1)

Open Netball

Mitcham 1 (Ms Tsoukalas)	4 th (Div 2)
Mitcham 2 (Ms Paterson)	2 nd (Div 3)

Congratulations to all teams on a fantastic effort. A huge thanks, also, to the coaches who gave up their own time to coach and manage these teams. Without your help the girls would not be able to participate.

We are now looking forward to the start of the Term 3/4 competition which begins in week 7 of this term.

Chad Alston
Sports Assistant

Writer's Award



Congratulations to Rose Harvey in 10.45 for winning the Youth Writing Competition with the Salisbury Writer's Festival. This is the second year in a row Rose has won this prize, and the judge specifically remarked on the high standard of writing this year.

Well done, Rose. We encourage all students to enter writers' competitions to develop their skills and participate in the broader writers' community.

Maria Ivey
English Faculty

Uniform Shop

The Mitcham Girls High School uniform is available from the following locations:

Mitcham Girls High School

Trading Hours during School Term: Thursdays 8:00am – 1:30pm

or

Uniform Management Services, 109 Rundle Street, Kent Town.

Tel: 08 8363 5255

Trading Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm

or place an order over the phone or online: <http://www.umspl.com.au/contactus.html>

Diary Dates

Sept	Thursday 1	What, When & Why No. 8 published
	Thursday 1	Ski Trip Departs Bus A (Year 10) departs 6:30pm. Students are required to be at school at 6:00pm
		Bus B (Years 11 & 12) departs 7:30pm. Students are required to be at school at 7:00pm
	Friday 2	School Closure (Show Day)
	Monday 5	Ski Trip Returns ETA 6:00am
	Monday 5	Student Free Day (Professional Learning Day)
	Thursday 8	Year 12 Solo Performance
	Monday 12	MMAD Day
	Monday 12	Governing Council 7:00pm
	Tuesday 13	Year 8 Immunisations
	Friday 23	Year 12 Music Moderation Final
	Friday 23	What, When & Why No. 9 published
	Friday 30	Year 12 Formal 7:00pm
	Friday 30	End of Term 3 Reports distributed 3:10pm



Printers



Exercise Books

Education Tax Refund

Now includes school uniforms purchased from 1 July 2011



School Shoes



Text Books



Laptops



Sports Uniforms



Stationery



Summer Uniforms



Educational Software



Stationery



Paper-based Learning Materials



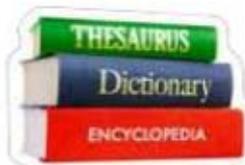
Internet Connection



Desktop Computers



Winter Uniforms



Reference Books



School Shirts



USB Flash Drives

School uniforms purchased from 1 July 2011

The Australian Government is helping with the cost of educating your kids.

The Education Tax Refund provides up to 50% back on a range of educational expenses. And now, school-approved uniforms, purchased from 1 July 2011, are included.

Items of clothing including hats, footwear and sports uniforms approved by your child's school as its uniform may be claimed in next year's refund.

To check your eligibility and see what may be claimed, visit the website.

And remember to keep all your receipts for tax time.

australia.gov.au/educationtaxrefund

Education Tax Refund
Claim everything you are entitled to



Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra