CONGRATULATIONS

Rachel Dixon, a year 10 Student at Mitcham, has won the SpiRit of Science Maurice de Rohan Scholarship 2012.

Along with nine other South Australian students, Rachel will go to London in December and attend the young peoples’ Christmas Lectures at the Royal Institution of Great Britain. What an exciting opportunity! We congratulate Rachel and wish her all the very best.

Aurecon Bridge Building Competition

Three Groups of Year Nine students built “bridges” using string, cardboard, wood and glue.

Although none of the bridges were strong enough to withstand the pressure applied to them, one of the teams won the “Most Innovative Design” award. They were presented with a $500 cheque.

Congratulations to Eleanor Zeitz, Bridget Herrmann and Emilia Reuter on their win.

We also commend and thank Mila Knezovic, Makeisha Cole, Ashleigh Goode, Kat Boeck, Lauren Freer and Natasha Dicaterina for their efforts.

Zone Netball Competition 2012

Year 8/9/10 Teams have won the Zone Netball Competition 2012
Dear Families,
For the past three years we have worked hard to gain accreditation from the Council of International Schools.

As a school we completed a rigorous process of self studies addressing every aspect of our operations, namely:
- Philosophy and Objectives
- Curriculum
- Governance and Management
- Staff
- Student Support Services
- Resources
- Student and Community Life

A team of educators from various countries visited us last year and although the school was highly praised on many aspects, they felt that we needed to document our curriculum in a more consistent and uniform way. We have been working intensely on this issue and our work was once again scrutinised by the CIS Associate Director of International Accreditation. We have now been Awarded International Accreditation. These are some of the comments we have received:

It has been a long journey for us, but we can be very proud of the work done by whole school community and we can be proud of the fact that we are an internationally accredited school. The Board of Trustees of the Council of International Schools believe that, according to their strict criteria, our school meets world standards.

OUR ATTENDANCE RATE IS ABOVE STATE AVERAGE
There have been some articles in the media urging schools to increase attendance rates.
Mitcham Girls High School has been focusing on improving attendance rates since 2004 and it has managed to increase the rate from 84% to 91%, well above the state average of 86.5%. This is a an outstanding improvement and the school community is to be congratulated especially in view of the fact that many of our students travel long distances to come to Mitcham.
However, there is room for improvement and we will continue to create a safe, challenging and welcoming environment so that our students refrain from taking unnecessary time off.
Many of our families do go on a family holiday during school time. Unfortunately, whenever a student goes on a family holiday, such “absences” do have an impact on our attendance rates, despite the fact that a lot of different learning takes place while on holidays. I believe there has to be a debate about this issue. Should family holidays be treated as absences?

Regards,
Antoinette Jones
Subject Selection for 2013

Students are currently in the process of selecting subjects for 2013 using a program called ‘Web Preferences’. Accessed on-line, Web Preferences allows students to lodge their subject selections directly, doing away with much of the paperwork and data entry processes used in the past. This reduces incidents of lost paperwork and data entry errors.

Students have been given personalised log in, password and subject selection instructions for Web Preferences in their care groups. Due dates for lodgement have also been given by care group teachers. In many cases, opportunities to access Web Preferences have been given in care group time. Once subjects have been chosen and ‘locked in’ on Web Preferences, we ask that a confirmation be printed and returned, signed by a parent/guardian, to the care group teacher. This ensures the subjects selected are approved by parents/guardians.

We encourage you to discuss subject selection with your child/children in the light of school and post-school pathways.

Students in Years 10 and 11, and their parents, will have the opportunity to discuss their subject selections with trained staff members on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday 15 August or during Thursday 16 August. Appointment request forms have been distributed to students and are also available on the school’s web site.

Marcus Kerr
Assistant Principal
Middle School

Tony Sims
Deputy Principal
Senior School
SRC Profile

My name is Nicole Lahiff and I have been a member of the SRC during Years 10 and 11 and also for a semester in Year 8. I joined the SRC to increase my confidence and represent students across the school and put forward their great ideas. I have been a member of the Uniform Committee and have participated in SRC fundraising activities.

I have been actively involved in school activities such as sports days and swimming carnivals and represented the school in the inter-school swimming carnival in 2011 and 2012. In 2012, I was Years 10/11 runner up in the school Swimming Carnival.

My role as a Peer Leader this year has contributed to my personal development and I have found it an enjoyable and rewarding experience. I have achieved many academic excellence and endeavour certificates during my time at MGHS and the subjects I have enjoyed the most so far are Chemistry, Biology, Health, Art and PE.

Outside of school I enjoy sporting activities and fitness including running, swimming, boating activities and ice skating.

My career ambition is to study a degree at the Australian Defence Force Academy and become an Officer in the Army. I would also like to pursue my dream of travelling the world.

Nicole Lahiff (11.33)
How can you help your daughter to succeed?

Your daughter’s school diary is a very important tool to enable communication between parents, students and teachers. We often find that students who are the most successful, are those that are organised and use their diary effectively.

Not only can it be used to record homework, deadlines and study schedules, but is often used for movement around the school, notes between teacher and parent, explanation of absences or appointments and to record achievements.

The diary also contains vital information about MGHS Codes of Conduct, including the Dress Code and the Cybersafety Agreements.

In an effort to ensure more effective use of the diary, we ask that you encourage your daughter to use the diary on a regular basis for its intended purposes. In the future you may notice a bright fluoro sticker in your daughter’s diary as a reminder to both students and parents to use the dairy effectively as a time management tool.

Please help us to encourage your daughter to establish and maintain this practice throughout her time at school.

Thank You

Fleeting Moments...

The major Dance presentation for the year will be held on Tuesday 4 September at 7:00 pm at the Odeon Theatre in Queen Street, Norwood.

The performance will feature the Stage 2 Dance students as they are assessed for their SACE grade, supported by other groups including our specialist Year 8 and 9 performance teams, Velocity and Momentum, a specialist ballet troupe and the Year 10/11 class.

Tickets for the performance are available at the Finance Office: Adults $12.00, Concession $8.00. Please come along and support our dancers, enjoy the Fleeting Moments, and help in celebrating their success.

Judy Swan, Dance Teacher
It was a great end to House Sport in Week 10, Term 2 with a Netball final between Year 12 and Staff. The enthusiasm and involvement was great! A big thankyou to all the girls and staff who came along.

It was neck and neck the whole time with the lead changing 2-3 times throughout the game. With only 3 seconds to go the staff went for the goal that would’ve called it a draw - and missed! The girls won 11-10 and what a great match it was! Thanks to Ms.Alston for umpiring and to the staff and girls listed below for their participation.

Students
- Georgina Sulley-Beales
- Sophie Evans
- Danielle Debenham
- Rebecca Drescher
- Jye-Roe Banks
- Charlotte Holland
- Taleah Thomas
- Kiara Wanner

Staff
- Ms. Paterson
- Mr. De Angelis
- Mr. Dodd
- Mr. Finos
- Ms. Parsons
- Mr. Huckstepp
- Ms. Dodd
- Mr. Almond
- Ms. Clarke
Young Endeavour Applications Now Open!

Australia’s national sail training ship Young Endeavour is now accepting applications for youth to join eleven day voyages departing between January and June 2013. Young Australians aged 16 to 23 can apply for the ballot at www.youngendeavour.gov.au until 31 August 2012. No sailing experience is required.

A voyage in Young Endeavour is a challenging adventure at sea, and an exciting opportunity for youth to develop teamwork and leadership skills through a world recognised organisation. The current ballot includes voyages departing from Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, which will be crewed by youth from around the country.

During each voyage, youth crew learn the skills to successfully sail a square rigged ship. They climb the 30 metre mast, set and furl sails, and maintain a 24 hour watch on the bridge. They also learn to navigate, take the helm, keep lookout and help the chef in the ship’s galley. At the end of the voyage, youth crew will take command of Young Endeavour for 24 hours, sailing the ship along the Australian coast. On their last day at sea they will host a local group of youth with special needs, sharing their new found knowledge and experience.

Since 1988 the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, in partnership with the Royal Australian Navy, has provided challenging training voyages for over 11,000 young Australians in the tall ship Young Endeavour. The specially designed program delivered aboard the ship increases the youth crew’s self awareness, develops teamwork and leadership skills, and fosters a strong sense of community spirit.

Apply now for the voyage of a lifetime in Young Endeavour. For more information, including voyage dates and fees, please visit www.youngendeavour.gov.au or contact our office on 1800 020 444.

Samantha Rufnak (11.38)

This was the experience of a life time. From 10 to 20 June on the Young Endeavour. Leaving from Cairns I spent the next 11 days living on one of the only square rigged sailing ships left, amongst 26 other Youth Crew members ranging in age from 16-23. The trip was very challenging but also a lot of fun. None of the youth crew had sailed before so we were all taught from scratch how to set and furl sails, when they were needed and why. We were required to climb the main sail and climb up to the square sails while the ship was moving. During the first three days a lot of people also got seasickness, with me getting it first with one of the worst cases. My trip also included a lot of island hopping visiting Hinchinbrook, Dunk, Kent, Orpheus and Fitzroy islands all located along the Great Barrier Reef.

At each island we had opportunities to swim, snorkel and hike to the island summits, this allowed us to see the coral reefs and hike up challenging track to see amazing views. This was a unique opportunity with perfect weather. Although each trip is different, with mine there was no set course, as we were arriving back in Cairns this allowed for a lot of flexibility and the island visiting opportunities.

Young Endeavour Youth Scheme
1800 020 444
mail@youngendeavour.gov.au
**Tertiary Information**

*MyUniversity.gov.au* is a student centred and searchable website that allows students to determine their own areas of interest and search for results according to those interests. It features a range of information to help potential students, including location of universities, course information, student services, campus facilities and results of student surveys.

**MacLeay College (Melbourne)**, offers a Diploma of Journalism (12 month course). Entry to the course is by interview, not an ATAR score. For further information www.macleay.edu.au.

**The Australian Youth Forum (AYF)** is a key communication channel between the Australian Government, young people (aged 15 -24) and the youth sector. The AYF is run by the Office for Youth within the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

AYF employs a variety of approaches to ensure that the opinions and views of young people are considered in the development of Australian Government policy and programs.

Young people can engage with the AYF in a variety of ways, including:

- contacting our AYF Steering Committee – the ten young people who represent the voice of young people in Government
- getting involved in activities – youth forums (young people can host their own forum), our partnership activities and community events
- contributing ideas and comments online in discussion topics and surveys on issues that interest young people on the AYF website www.youth.gov.au/ayf
- liking and following us on Facebook
- following us on Twitter at @AYForum
- posting a video on the AYF YouTube channel
- participating in AYF sponsored activities
- subscribing to our newsletter through the AYF website www.youth.gov.au/ayf

Our discussion topics are based on formal government enquiries of relevance to young people. We have asked young people for their opinions on a number of important issues including mental health and workplace participation, proposed changes to the marriage equality act and proposed changes to the schools curriculum.

An example of one of the AYF submissions is available at this link AYFSubmissionSchoolsCurriculum.

**Tertiary Open Days 2012**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>TafeSA</td>
<td>Sunday August 19</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tafesa.edu.au">www.tafesa.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>University of South Australia</td>
<td>Sunday August 19</td>
<td><a href="http://www.unisa.edu.au">www.unisa.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Adelaide</td>
<td>Sunday August 19</td>
<td><a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au">www.adelaide.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flinders University</td>
<td>Friday 17 August &amp; Saturday 18 August</td>
<td><a href="http://www.flinders.edu.au">www.flinders.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tabor Adelaide</td>
<td>Saturday 18 August</td>
<td><a href="http://www.taboradelaide.edu.au">www.taboradelaide.edu.au</a></td>
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</tbody>
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SCIENCE NEWS

IT IS NATIONAL SCIENCE MONTH
HERE ARE SOME ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL, THAT
MAY BE INTERESTING TO ATTEND

HANDS-ON SCIENCE MANIA!
Hands-on science experiments for young people age 7 to
14. There’ll be lasers, test tubes, chemistry, physics,
microscopes and more!
When: Saturday, 18
August till Sunday, 19
August
Choice of 90 minute
sessions at 10:00am,
12:30pm & 3:00pm
Where: Education Devel-
opment Centre, Cr Port Rd
& Milner St, Hindmarsh.
Cost: $15 per child; for
children age 7 to 14. No
charge for accompanying
adults
Bookings essential - rona.
sakko@csiro.au
Phone: 08 8463 5937
Mobile: 0419 827 723

ADELAIDE
PLANETARIUM
Take a journey into the
night sky at Adelaide’s
Planetarium.
When: Saturday, 18
August 2012, 2:30pm to
4:00pm
Where: Adelaide Planetari-
um, Uni SA Mawson Lakes
Campus, Mawson Lakes
Cost: $8 adults; $6 concession
Take a journey into the night sky at Adelaide’s Planetarium. See some 5000 stars along with planets and constellations as you delve into what lies in our universe.
Public sessions are held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month.
Contact details: Martin Lewicki, Adelaide Planetarium
Email: adelaide.planetarium@unisa.edu.au
Phone: 08 8302 3138

OLIPHANT SCIENCE AWARDS OPEN DAY
The Open Day of the Oliphant Science Awards, South Aus-
tralia’s largest science competition for school students.
When: Sunday, 19 August 2012, 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Where: Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide
Cost: Free

Be inspired! Visit the Open Day of the Oliphant Science Awards, South Australia’s largest science competition for school students, and see the incredible projects that students have worked on.

MOON IN THE MALL
Check out the Moon through a variety of telescopes with
members of the Astronomical Society of SA, Adelaide
When: Friday, 21 September 2012, 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Where: Rundle Mall, Ad-
elaide
Cost: Free
Take a break from Friday night shopping and look
at the Moon! Members from the Astronomical So-
ciety of SA will be setting up telescopes in Rundle
Mall to find out about our solar system and the
universe.
Event website: www.assa.org.au
Contact details: Robert Jenkins, Astronomical So-
ciety of South Australia

STOCKPORT OBSERVATORY STAR PARTY
View the Moon, stars and planets through a variety of telescopes at this Star Party away from city lights.
When: Saturday, 25 Au-
gust 25 2012, 8:00pm to
10:00pm
Where: Stockport Obser-
vatory, Observatory Road,
Stockport, SA, 5401
See the Moon, stars, planets and much more through a variety of telescopes (weather permitting).
A slide show, sausage sizzle and refreshments will be available throughout the evening. A free bus (bookings required) will pick up passengers at a number of locations along the way.
Event website: www.assa.org.au
Contact details: Robert Jenkins, Astronomical Society of South Australia
Email: president@assa.org.au
Phone: 08 8270 3631
Nine intrepid Year 9 students competed in the competition at the Art Gallery. They were nervous that their bridges were not strong enough to withstand the tension to be applied to them. They were right, but then everyone’s bridges had to be pushed past their limit. With about 20 or more bridges being entered the competition was high. The very last award was $500 given to the most innovative design, which Mitcham Girls High, group 2 won. Eleanor, Bridget and Emilia were thrilled, as were the rest of us.

Congratulations to all the girls, also including – Mila, Makeisha, Ashleigh of group 1, and Kat, Lauren, Natasha of group 3.

Anna Cullen
Science Teacher
Stage 2 Retreat

In week 8 of Term 2 we held our annual Retreat for the Stage 2 students. It provides some reflection time about the year to date, an opportunity to relax and recharge in time for the sprint to the end of the year.

This year we undertook a slightly different program, where the students worked together on a strict budget to cook the evening meal for their room-mates. The meals produced were all very different and showed an enormous range of tastes and originality. Teachers awarded points and prizes for the winning group after the Retreat.

The girls did exercise classes first with gusto at Fernwood and later participated very positively in all activities at the Salvation Army Centre. It was great to see our students volunteer and help to organise items to support the work of the Salvation Army.

During the afternoon of day two, they were able to reflect on their journey so far in the senior school by reviewing the letters they had written to themselves in Year 10 and at the start of Stage 2. They created some lasting memories and mantras on canvas which they explained to family members at the late afternoon tea to complete the two day Retreat.

The whole period was really positive, for the students and for the attending staff and we really appreciate the support given by our girls and their families as well as the instructors and personnel at all venues. We thank all teachers involved, Sheena and her crew for a wonderful afternoon tea, Bek for all her work in every aspect and Kaye Naughton and the Art helpers for preparing the canvases and for their role during the Retreat.

Sue Howlett
Stage 2 Coordinator
Meeting the Writers

On Friday 27 July Ms Ozolins’ Year 8 and Ms Clarke’s Year 9 English classes walked to Unley High School for a writer’s afternoon featuring Garth Nix and Sean Williams as part of the National Year of Reading celebrations. Garth Nix and Sean Williams are two Australian writers of literature for young adults. The two have worked hard to create a staggering amount of books independently as well as working on a fantasy series called ‘Trouble Twisters’ together.

Upon arriving at the event a short speech was made by a local librarian before Garth and Sean took over the stage to tell us about their books and writing careers. The two started by opening large concertinas made from the covers of the books they’ve written and stretching them across the stage to show us. They then spoke about how they got to where they are now with their writing. Garth brought out a little book he had written when he was much younger which contained a three sentence story which showed narrative structure, a beginning or opening, a complication and an end and challenged us to give writing very short stories a try in our own time.

The pair also spoke about how their surroundings had given them inspiration when travelling. A story was also told about having driven to a certain tourist spot many times and getting a flat tyre in the exact same spot, but the tale was tweaked so that a magical coin was involved. Surprise! All of a sudden it was pulled from a pocket and given to the first person to raise their hand. When the speeches were finished questions were asked by the audience of students, we returned to school and an insightful and interesting excursion drew to a close.

Mila Knezovic (9.21)
40 Hour Famine
2012: 17 - 19 August

It’s that time of year again when approximately 300,000 Australians turn their focus to a part of the world in need and choose to give something up (food, technology, furniture, even talking!) in order to raise much need funds for the world’s poor.

The funds raised every year by the 40 Hour Famine continue to support World Vision’s work tackling the causes of poverty, through both short-term solutions and long-term development projects. Last year World Vision raised a record $4.9m in Australia and a whopping $517,000 in South Australia! Here at Mitcham we also smashed our target of $4,000 by raising just over $6,000! A wonderful effort from our girls and an amount of money that will go a long way in a country like East Timor where $40 feeds a family of 5 for a month!

This year the focus country for the funds raised through the 40 Hour Famine is Ethiopia. A country where children have a 50% chance of stunted growth because of hunger; where most Ethiopians live on less than $1.25 a day and where children are around 20 times more likely to die before they turn five.

We are aiming to raise $8,000 this year… which may seem like a lot but with 200 students signed up to do it that’s only $40 each which is absolutely possible! Together we can do it!!!

If you have a daughter who is taking part in the 40 Hour Famine this year, I encourage you to support her in taking the initiative to think beyond herself and do something to help others. You might even want to join them in doing it yourself! (You can sign up at www.40hourfamine.com)

Also if your daughter has signed up you will be receiving a letter in the coming week inviting them to participate in a 40 Hour Famine Launch Party which will take place on Friday 17 August from 3:15-6:30pm.

If you have any questions regarding the event or the 40 Hour Famine then please don’t hesitate to contact me. My days at school this term are Mondays (8:30am -3pm), Wednesdays (10am -3pm) and Thursdays (9am-3pm).

Bek Brown
Christian Pastoral Support Worker

Environment Group

The Environment Group has continued to be active this year. Our voice in the school has been heard through the Physical Resources Committee and we have also been involved in a number of plantings around the grounds. Our succulent garden which was planted in 2011 is doing well. We have also undertaken replanting near the oval under the oak tree, planting some shade tolerant species such as clivias and correas which are now flowering. Recently one of the massive succulents was moved from the new quadrangle area and relocated in a planter box. Our big initiative this year has been to sponsor “Hector” the green turtle. By doing this we are playing an important part in helping to protect the future of marine turtles whose environment is under threat. Money for the turtle was raised through a soup and bread stall in Term 2.

Sharyn Clarke
SOSE Teacher
SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

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

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

All preschool, primary and secondary students aged 18 years and under, are eligible for care with the School Dental Service. Fees and conditions apply.

From 1 July 2009 there have been some changes to School Dental Service fees.

• All School Dental Service care is free for pre-school children (general and emergency).

• Children who are dependents of / holders of Centrelink Concession Cards, Veterans Affairs Pension Concession Cards or School Cards are eligible to receive free dental care (general and emergency).

• For primary and secondary school children who are not dependents of / holders of the above concessions, a fee will apply for each course of general dental care provided.

• Students with a Commonwealth Government Teen Dental Voucher are welcome to use it at the School Dental Service. If presented at a School Dental clinic it will entitle them to a full course of dental treatment including preventive care and any treatment if required.

• Dental emergencies treated at a School Dental Clinic between check ups will be covered by the fee paid at your child’s most recent check up.

For information about appointments and fees, contact your local School Dental Clinic on: 8271 0371.

FREE COMMUNITY SEMINAR

Navigating Teenage Depression from the Black Dog Institute

Drawn from the Black Dog Institute’s publication ‘Navigating Teenage Depression: A Guide for Parents and Professionals’ the session covers:

- Identifying Early Warning Signs
- Risk Factors
- Brain Development
- Help Seeking
- Resilience
- How to Communicate
- How to Reduce Stress

Date: Wednesday 22 August 2012
Venue: Fennescey House
33 Wakefield Street, Adelaide

Time: 7-8pm with supper following

RSVP: Friday 17 August 2012

Bookings Essential: Please contact Centacare on 1800 809 304

This workshop is run by Centacare’s Navigate program which is funded by Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA)

Does your teenager have a sleep problem?

The Child and Adolescent Sleep Clinic in the School of Psychology at Flinders University is currently providing treatment for adolescents (aged 11 to 18 years) who are experiencing at least one of the following:

• Having trouble falling asleep
• Not feeling tired until late at night
• Having trouble waking up or getting out of bed in the morning

Places are limited.
For more information, please call 8201 7587.

Unsure if your daughter is addicted to the internet?

Go to http://www.generationnext.com.au/2012/07/the-stats-on-internet-addiction/to get some interesting information

What, When and Why No 7, Term 3 2012 page 15
Diary Dates

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<td>Sept</td>
<td>Monday 3</td>
<td>MMAD Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 4</td>
<td>Governing Council 7:00pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thursday 5 - Monday 10</td>
<td>Dance Night 7:00</td>
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<td>Friday 7</td>
<td>Odeon Theatre, Norwood</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Monday 10</td>
<td>Ski Trip</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Friday 14</td>
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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.

Students with Special Needs - particularly those students going into YR10 or Yr11

Daws Road Centre assists with the transition from school to employment for students with a disability. They are offering an information session on Tuesday 21 August 2012 at the Centre, 141 Daws Road St Mary from 6 to 7 pm.
This will include information on Certificate I Hospitality, Cert.1I Horticulture and Cert. I & II retail and Cert I & II Business.
Students can remain at Mitcham for the majority of their subjects while participating in certificate courses at Daws Road under supportive supervision.

Please contact Kaye Naughton 82728233 if you are interested in this option for your student.

Regional VET Open Night
Thebarton Senior College
Tuesday 28 August 6pm
Ring 83525811 to book

Lattitude Global Volunteering
Gap year placements are still available for 2013. Funding optins may be available to assist with costs. If interested please visit www.lattitude.org.au