

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 | May 2019 | Term 2



**MITCHAM GIRLS**  
HIGH SCHOOL

## DIARY DATES

### June

#### Tuesday 4

Dance Performance (PAC)  
6:00 & 7:30pm

#### Friday 7

Year 11 SAPOL Driver Ed

#### Tuesday 11

Student Free Day

#### Monday 17 – Friday 21

Year 10 and 11 Exam Week

#### Monday 17

Governing Council 7:00pm

#### Tuesday 18

Gift Dance Auditions  
(Year 8 Intake 2020) 9:15am

#### Friday 21

Semester 1 ends

#### Monday 24

Semester 2 begins

#### Wednesday 26

Stage 2 Drama Production (PAC)  
6:00pm

#### Friday 28

Music Showcase (PAC)  
6:00pm

### July

#### Tuesday 2

Year 10 Immunisations

#### Friday 5

Year 11 Reflection Day  
End Term 2 – reports distributed  
3:10pm

## Dear Mitcham Families,

The beginning of this term has been extremely busy. In Week 2 we held Parent-Teacher Conferences and in Week 3 NAPLAN testing took place. Despite a glitch in the system, as was reported in the news, the girls remained calm and performed to the best of their ability.

Our school Open Day at the end of last term was a resounding success with around twelve hundred people attending throughout the course of the day. I was extremely proud of our young student leaders who were outstanding advocates for Mitcham Girls and who helped market our school to prospective new families. We have received excellent feedback from those who attended and as a result we have had a large interest in enrolment for 2020 and beyond.

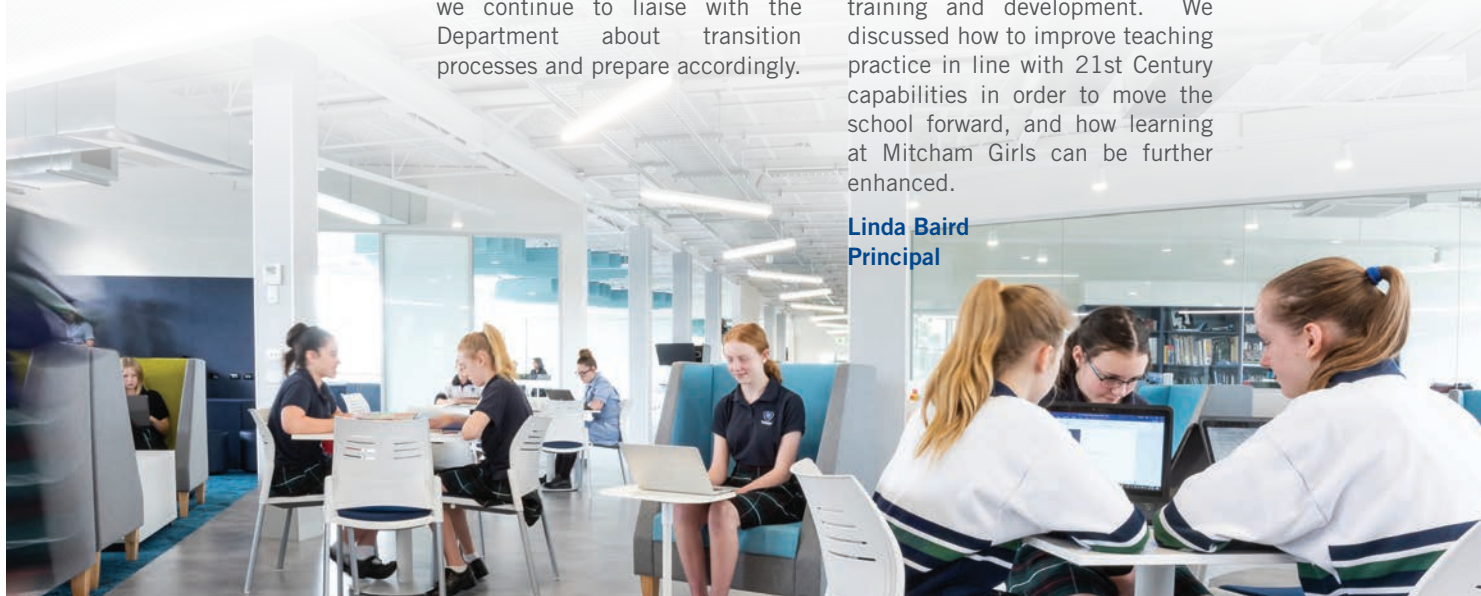
The Minister for Education will make an announcement this week as to whether the Year 7 to High School Pilot in 2020 will go ahead based on registrations of interest. This is indeed an exciting time for the school, and we are very much looking forward to receiving positive news. In the meantime, we continue to liaise with the Department about transition processes and prepare accordingly.

The STEM Works Project will officially be opened on Tuesday 28 May. For over 30 years the Hon Robin Millhouse QC and his family have supported Mitcham Girls High School by way of sponsoring the annual Dux of the School Award for high-achieving Year 12 students and will continue to do so through his ongoing legacy to the school. To recognise this continuous contribution and support beyond measure the school has named the top floor The Millhouse Centre.

The Government has given Mitcham Girls High School the sum of \$5m to carry out capital upgrades over the next 3 years. Departmental representatives are currently in the process of scoping work to be carried out. The funding will upgrade existing facilities in Home Economics, build new classrooms and create a second dance studio in the main building. A committee of interested staff members has worked through plans for creating 21st Century learning spaces for our future students.

Staff worked hard on our first Student Free Day last week. This time was used for professional training and development. We discussed how to improve teaching practice in line with 21st Century capabilities in order to move the school forward, and how learning at Mitcham Girls can be further enhanced.

**Linda Baird**  
Principal



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**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Education



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# Middle School

What a busy time we have had in the Middle School of late.

The Year 8 students have received their first progress report and completed Parent-Teacher Conferences as high school students. Many of these students have voiced their joy in the independence that comes with high school classes (i.e. different teachers/classrooms and learning experiences). Already we are seeing our Year 8 students step up into various leadership opportunities including SRC, Sustainability Group, Smith Family Buddy Reading Program and healthy NAPLAN breakfast cooking.

During the Year 9 NAPLAN testing the students demonstrated one of our core values, Excellence, as each girl strove to do her personal best. We had minimal disruptions to our online testing despite what was reported in the media. When teachers receive the results, they will carefully consider how they can stretch, challenge and support our students in the classroom.

We have been very impressed with our students' attitude towards their academic rigour and empathy exhibited towards others.

**Summer Bowles**  
Assistant Principal Middle School





# HASS

The Sustainability Group has been actively involved with the Year 8 Care Groups, delivering lessons about recycling and food waste.

This has been an excellent opportunity for older students to mentor their younger peers about important environmental issues. It also gives new students to the school a chance to be involved and have an opinion in what they care about.

Bees Wax Wraps were one of the initiatives taken on by the Sustainability Group. The wraps are made of pine resin, jojoba oil and beeswax pellets which were melted together in a saucepan, brushed onto cotton cloths and sealed in the oven. This will eliminate the use of foil and plastic wrap because they are reusable.

The Sustainability Group participated in the School Climate Strike on 15 March. We listened to speeches from students at other schools who were invested in many environmental issues in South Australia. The strike gathered a crowd of over 5,000.



This was a great opportunity to show the government that students care about the environment and that immediate action should be taken.

Being a part of the Sustainability Group is a great opportunity for students of all ages to take initiative. On Swimming Carnival and Sports Day, the group had the responsibility of placing and later emptying recycling bins in the quadrangle and other areas occupied by students throughout the day.

The team works collaboratively to share ideas about environmentally friendly products and initiatives in weekly meetings, and has been successful in replacing plastic and styrofoam in the canteen with bio-degradable containers and bamboo cutlery.

**Sharyn Clarke**  
Sustainability Group Coordinator

# Science

## Saving the Day in a Chemistry Escape Room

In Week 11 of Term 1, students in Year 10 Science attempted to save the world from nuclear meltdown in a Chemistry Escape Room activity.

Students were tasked with a series of activities they needed to solve, using their knowledge of chemistry theory and effective group work skills. The teams worked well in testing their problem-solving skills while also working under the pressure of a time limit.

Well done to the girls who managed to survive and remember to always stay curious!

**Emily Halls**  
Science Teacher



# Science

## Year 9 Gift Excursion

Students from the Year 9 Gift Science class wrote, practiced and then performed a chemistry show around the theme “Science Magic”.

They visited Mitcham Primary School and entertained four Year 3 and 4 classes. The primary students enjoyed the show and asked many questions about what they saw. To their credit, the girls could answer most of the questions. A special thank you to Liz Anderson who helped the students plan and practice their performance.



## Physics Olympiad

Adelaide hosted the best Physics students from around the world in an Olympiad competition during Week 2.

The Year 12 Physics class went to the Opening Ceremony, listening to some inspiring Physicists discuss

their research. Some of the delegates then visited our school and enjoyed activities with the Year 11 class. They worked in groups and applied their knowledge to bungy jumping toys from the fire escape without injuring the toy. This was followed by an Australian-themed afternoon tea. The day was enjoyed by all.

## Competitions

ASMR Medical Research is offering a free competition for all Year 8 to 12 students.

There are 20 multiple-choice questions that will both test your knowledge and inspire your imagination.

Win great prizes by entering before 1 July at <https://asmr.org.au/asmr-mrw/asmr-mrw-schools-quiz/>.

**Helen Marussinszky**  
Science Coordinator

## Woolies “Earn and Learn”

The Woolies “Earn and Learn” program is back this year - thank you to everyone for your fantastic response so far.

If you shop at any Woolworths, you can collect 1 sticker for every \$10 you spend in store.

In the past we have redeemed the stickers collected to purchase science equipment for the school, such as measuring cylinders, beakers, ball and ring apparatus, thermometers, and poster paper; all thanks to the partnership between Woolworths and Modern Teaching Aids.

Students can either bring their stickers to school, unstuck or on the sheets provided at Woolies, or stick them directly onto the fun microscope poster located outside Lab 3.

The campaign closes on 25 June.

Thanks again for your generous support.

**Liz Anderson**  
Science Assistant





# Performing Arts

## Year 9 Hoodie Production

The students of Year 9 Drama and their producers Charlotte Sarre and Taylah Brennan-Jones are excited to announce they will be performing *Hoodie*, a one act play for Middle School from Lindsay Price and Theatrefolk.

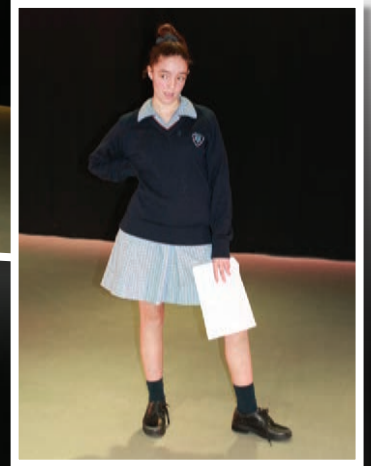
Middle schoolers face a barrage of questions every day. Some of these questions are explored in the play through a series of dramatic vignettes, including settings at home and in the school yard.

The girls have displayed great collaboration in the ensemble and impressive leadership and independence with their varied on and off-stage roles. Students have learnt how to make the themes come to life in *Hoodie* with new technical skills in sound and lighting, and it has been a wonderful opportunity for learning and creativity.

Student commitment to weekly lunch hour rehearsals and development of their roles is a testament to their willingness to create a show which deals with important teenage issues of identity, self-esteem, popularity and peer pressure.

We welcome you to our lesson and lunch time performances. Keep your eyes peeled for performance dates in the daily bulletin.

**Josie Klovekorn**  
Drama Teacher



# Performing Arts

## Year 12 Drama Production

### *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing*

Brought to you by the Year 12 Drama ensemble, and supported by the Stage 1 Design team, *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing* by Finegan Kruckemeyer follows the eccentric children's tale of Albienne, Beatrix and Carmen; "identical" triplets with polar personalities.

While two of the triplets cross the globe in search of their dreams, and themselves, the other stays right where she is in the forest - the same place their family was split apart.

Watch the play come to life as the talented ensemble create a bold and vibrant story as the sisters befriend villagers and animals, follow the sun to their place in the world, and battle life's challenges to learn what is important to them.

This family friendly show is sure to make you smile no matter your age, so come along, get swept up in the fantasy of this beautiful story and witness true storytelling magic in our own school.

**When:** Wednesday 26 June

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Place:** Performing Arts Centre

**Tickets:** \$10.00

(on sale from the Finance Office from Monday 27 May)

**Kate Ralph**  
Drama Teacher



# English

## "Voice of Youth" Public Speaking Competition

On Saturday 11 May, the Rostrum "Voice of Youth" Public Speaking Competition was held at Immanuel College. Two of our students, Zannatuj Jihan (Year 9) and Summer Bretherton (Year 8), participated in this challenging state-wide competition. The girls had to give a 6 minute prepared speech and a 3 minute speech on a previously unseen topic, with only 15 minutes of preparation time.

Both Zannatuj and Summer presented very thoughtfully prepared speeches; Zannatuj on the importance of ensuring that support for people and causes is shown in a constructive manner, and Summer on the topic "The Generosity of Strangers". Summer described the big effects that can be the outcome of small acts of generosity. Summer and Zannatuj also handled their short notice preparation speeches very well, both remaining on topic; something that is not easy to do in a rather pressured situation.

Congratulations to both girls for their achievement in taking part in this challenging event and to Summer for being one of two winners in her heat.

**Caroline Bamford**  
English Teacher





# Sport

## Individual Sporting Success

### Squash Champion: Rema Muniandy

Over the holidays, our very talented Year 11 student Rema Muniandy participated in two significant Squash competitions. The first was the Oceania Junior Championships held in New Zealand. Rema competed strongly finishing 5th in a field of very skilled junior players. Rema then competed in the Australian Junior Championships and again performed very strongly, achieving 3rd place. As a school, we are extremely proud of Rema's achievements and wish her all the success in her squash career!

### School Sport SA Softball:

#### Claire Collins and Michaela Collins

During Week 3 of this term, Claire and Michaela Collins represented South Australia in the School Sport Softball championships. This competition was held in Canberra with both girls competing in the 17-and-under team against other states. South Australia finished 4th after losing to New South Wales in the semi-final, who ended up winning overall. The girls had a fun and challenging week visiting the Australian Institute of Sport, speaking to the Australian coach and interacting with players from other states.

## Zone Sport



Sport - Term 1 Badminton premiers

Firstly, a big congratulations to our Year 8/9 Badminton team who won the Term 1 Zone Sport competition. This team was extremely committed to their badminton and trained on a daily basis. Congratulations to the following girls who were a part of the winning team; Portia Leggett, Nahyun Kim, Dakshyani Muniandy and Ayane Iga.

Mitcham Girls will again be heavily involved in Zone Sport with the Term 2/3 Zone Sport competition which commenced in Week 4. This is an after-school competition which runs throughout Term 2 to Week 4 of Term 3. We will be fielding the following teams:

**Year 8/9 Soccer (Tuesday)**

**Open Badminton (Tuesday)**

**Year 8/9 Netball (Wednesday)**

**Open Netball (Wednesday)**

After School Zone Sport provides students with the opportunity to represent Mitcham Girls in various sports.

All netball will be played at Netball SA in Mile End on Wednesday afternoons. Soccer and Badminton will be played on Tuesdays as a home and away competition against competing schools in our area.

### Knock Out Sport

A number of sports have been nominated for the Term 2 Knockout Sport Competition. Trainings and games for these sports will be held at various times within the term and students should keep an eye on Daymap for any updates as well as on the gym board. MGHS has nominated to play in the following sports during Term 2:

**Open AFL**

**8/9 & Open Netball**

**8/9 5-A-Side Soccer**

**Open Indoor and Outdoor Soccer**

The Term 2 Knockout season has already begun with a team from Mitcham Girls competing in the Open Touch Football competition held on Friday of Week 2. The girls involved in this team did themselves proud and were very competitive against some tough competition, including the State champions. Thank you to Mr Finos for taking the team on what was a very cold and wet day.

**Stephanie Henson**  
**PE Coordinator**

**Lizzie Anderson**  
**Sports Assistant**



# Sports Day

On Friday 22 March, the annual school Sports Day was held on what was a very warm Autumn day.

We began with individual novelty events and team sports. Students lined up to take part in the popular individual novelty events including the footy kick, softball throw, netball goal shooting and cricket throw, while the Year 8s and 9s took the field to play soccer and frisbee and the Year 10/11s and Year 12s competed in netball and volleyball. This was followed by lunch time theatre sports.

The afternoon saw things heat up (both the weather and on the school oval!) as this year we added extra athletic events, which proved to be popular with the girls. While there were shot put and high jump happening in the centre of the oval, the 200-meter track around the outside had a continual flow of runners - the atmosphere on the oval was exciting. While these athletic events were happening the girls still had an opportunity to accumulate points for their house as we extended the individual novelties to the Kingswood Oval.

Later in the afternoon each House competed for points in the team novelty events – tug of war, geeta boards, sack race, tunnel ball, 3-legged race and balloon relays. The most competitive events of the day were the running races – sprint relays and Fastest Girl at Mitcham, as competitors from each House strived to get every point they could for their House before the day ended.

Fraser triumphed at the end of the day, winning the Junior Cup, the Senior Cup and the Overall Championship.

A big thank you to all staff who assisted with the running of events on the day, to the students for being involved and making it a fun and competitive day, to all House Captains for organising their Houses and year levels, and to all family members who attended to support their daughter.

**Liz Anderson**  
Sports Assistant



## Fastest Girl at Mitcham

Congratulations to the Fastest Girl at Mitcham winners:

Year 8 Champion Ashleigh Smith  
Year 8 Runner Up Zara Bowles

Year 9 Champion Kala Melegh-Higginson  
Year 9 Runner Up Mia Ensten

Year 10/11 Champion Maddy Wallace  
Year 10/11 Runner Up Izzy Haines

Year 12 Champion Hollie Wright  
Year 12 Runner Up Hayley Meyer

Overall winner - Maddy Wallace



	Junior Cup	Senior Cup	Overall Championship
1st	Fraser 746 points	Fraser 779 points	Fraser 1525 points
2nd	Spence 598 points	Spence 665 points	Spence 1263 points
3rd	Spence 587 points	Spence 627 points	Spence 1214 points



# Whole School

## School Fair: Community Fundraiser

Care Group SSF:11 along with other members from the Senior School, including SSF:12 and SSM:01, organised and participated in a lunch time School Fair to help raise awareness and money for their charity of choice.

Due to the efforts on the day, the chosen charities Australian Marine Conservation Society, Carers SA and Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation will receive a share of over \$700 in generous donations from staff and students. A fantastic outcome along with the various fundraising events leading up to the day.

The fair was a huge success with events like Sponge Throw, 3-Legged Race, a Photobooth, Can Toss, Raffles, a Scrunchy Stall and more!! With multiple charities being represented, this event amplified the sense of fun, excitement and community spirit of Mitcham Girls High School.

The hard work, energy and support of all student organisers made the day one to remember! Well done to all students involved; and thank you once again to all staff that participated in the sponge throw! It was a sight to behold and a true crowd pleaser!

Congratulations to our Raffle Prize winners:

**1st Prize:** Kayla Nelson

**2nd Prize:** Marlo Macaulay

**Jellybean Guessing Competition:** Olivia Dairos

We look forward to the next charity fundraiser event at Mitcham Girls High School - maybe the Senior School will bring the School Fair back to Mitcham in 2020, bigger and bolder than ever!!

**Kate Ralph**  
**SSF:11 Care Group Teacher**



# Whole School

## Kyoto Study Tour

We will be hosting 15 students from Kyoto, Japan, in Term 3 from 28 July to 9 August.

To welcome these students to our school, we are looking for 15 families to host one student each. Please note, it is a requirement from the Kyoto Board of Education that each student has her own bedroom.

Hosting an International student is a wonderful way of getting to know, understand and appreciate other cultures, customs and traditions and forging lifelong friendships with your student and her family.

Families are required to have homestay accreditation. This involves a home visit by one of our staff and all family members residing in the house (18 years and over) having a DCSI Clearance. Each family will receive \$514.32 for hosting their student.

If you would like to engage in this experience please contact Jenni on 8272 8233 or email [jennifer.stewart490@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.stewart490@schools.sa.edu.au), register your interest and we will commence the accreditation process as soon as possible.

**Dana Thomas**  
International/Exchange Program Coordinator

## SRC

The Mitcham Girls High School Student Representative Council (SRC) provides students with the opportunity to have a shared voice and representation on a range of matters at meetings and significant events.

Members of the SRC Executive attended the International Women's Day Breakfast on 8 March and later hosted a whole school assembly to honour all women around the world. Later in March, the SRC held a lunch time event for Harmony Day during which they shared orange coloured treats, stickers and stamps as a way of spreading the goodwill message within the school. Many thanks must also go to Deeti Arora, Maryam Mushtaque and staff member Liat D'Ambrosio, for representing the school at the ANZAC Day Unley Dawn Service at Unley during the school holidays.

The SRC team meets every Friday and is busily planning activities for the remainder of the year – please speak with your representatives if you have something that you would like to have addressed.

**Dana Thomas**  
SRC Coordinator

# Notices

## Entertainment Book

Order your NEW 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Book or Entertainment Digital Membership now.

You'll receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do and help our fundraising at the same time.

<http://www.entbook.com.au/161m056>



## Year Book

The Year Book is a collection of experiences, insights and history; something that will provide opportunities to re-visit memories in years to come.

If you would like to purchase the 2019 Year Book, and your daughter is in Years 8 to 11, you can pay \$25.00 to the Finance Office, EFT online or give the school a call and speak to Sue King.

**Jenni Stewart**  
Year Book Committee

