

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 | March 2018 | Term 1



MITCHAM GIRLS  
HIGH SCHOOL

## DIARY DATES

### March

**Monday 26**

Governing Council 7:00pm

### April

**Friday 6**

Sports Day

**Tuesday 10**

Dance Performances

6:00pm and 7:30pm

**Friday 13**

Term 1 ends

Reports distributed 3:10pm

**Monday 30**

Term 2 commences

### May

**Wednesday 2**

Open Day/Night

Morning 9:00-11:00am

Evening 5:00-8:00pm

**Wednesday 9**

Parent/Teacher Conferences

3:00-7:00pm

**Thursday 10**

Principal's Tour 9:15am

Parent/Teacher Conferences

3:40-7:00pm

**Monday 14**

Governing Council 7:00pm

**Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17**

NAPLAN Testing (Year 9)

**Wednesday 23**

HAST (Year 8 intake 2019)

9:15am

**Friday 25**

Student Free Day

Year 12 Formal 7:00pm

**Thursday 31**

Year 11 and 12 Meningococcal

Immunisations

### June

**Friday 8**

Student Free Day

**Wednesday 13**

Principal's Tour 9:15am

## From The Principal

First and foremost, the school community congratulates Hibra Shujaat for winning the "2017 Millhouse Award, Dux of the Year".

This award had been donated by the Honourable Justice Robin Millhouse QC for more than 35 years to the Year 12 student with the highest Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank (ATAR).

Hibra achieved an ATAR of 99.03% from a possible 99.5%.

Although the Hon Robin Millhouse passed away in 2017, the school was very excited to learn that this award will continue to be awarded in perpetuity and the legacy of Robin Millhouse will live on at Mitcham Girls High School.

This year, Gay Gardner, the sister of the Hon Robin Millhouse, was keen to present the award to Hibra personally and will continue to do so with future students for as long as she is able.

You may be interested to know that the Hon Robin Millhouse began his career as a practising barrister and was the State Member for Mitcham from 1955 until 1982, hence his interest in Mitcham Girls High School.

He then went on to become Attorney General of South Australia and Justice of the Supreme Court of Australia from 1982 to 1999.

He was widely and publicly recognised as a crusader for progressive social change as he sought to position South Australia as a national leader in social justice.

## Other News

Work on the STEM Centre and the Library is progressing well. We are hoping that the refurbished Library will be ready for use at the beginning of Term 2, however, it will probably take until the end of May for the STEM Centre and the Visual Arts Centre, situated on the top floor, to become operational.

As soon as these two spaces are finished, work on the Year 11 Study and the Quadrangle will commence. These are exciting times for all of us and in particular for the students who will have access to flexible and collaborative learning spaces with comfortable furniture, touch\ interactive TV screens, laser cutters and 3D printers.

Once it's all finished, we will organise tours for the Mitcham families to come along and see these developments.

The end of Term 1 is fast approaching, and this year Easter falls during Term 1. As usual, we do not dismiss students early on any day, be it the Thursday before Easter or the last day of term. Our stance is that every lesson counts, and students are expected to attend every lesson. Reports will be issued to students on Friday 13 April at 3:10pm (no earlier); if your daughter is not at school on this Friday, she may collect her report during the holidays or at the beginning of Term 2.

**Antoinette Jones**  
Principal



Hibra Shujaat and Gay Gardner

Kyre Avenue, Kingswood, South Australia 5062  
Phone: +61 8 8272 8233 Fax: +61 8 8373 3013  
Email: dl.0903.info@schools.sa.edu.au

[www.mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au](http://www.mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au)



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education and  
Child Development

CRICOS Provider number: 00018A



WE ARE AN  
ACCREDITED  
SCHOOL

# Middle School News

## Middle School Report

As Term 1 comes to an almost unexpected end, it is pleasing to observe that students in the Middle School have been successful in their endeavours: Year 8s have transitioned and settled into the routines of secondary school, whilst Year 9s have continued to grow in their own skill sets and self-management.

Many of the students were actively involved in the Swimming Carnival and contributed to their House points. Other notable events include the Leadership Induction/International Women's Day Assembly, The Hurting Game, a production aimed at raising awareness of the impact of aggressive behaviours, and a number of excursions and guest speakers. We acknowledge and thank the students in Year 9, who supported the school by undertaking Primary School Visits. These visits play an important role in ensuring the continued growth and vibrancy of the school.

Term 2 will continue to be busy; important for Year 9 students is the NAPLAN testing. These tests are administered nationally and are used to identify areas of weakness in students' learning. If parents believe that their daughter should be either exempt or withdrawn from the tests for philosophical reasons or religious beliefs, they should contact the school and complete the appropriate forms by 11 May 2018.

The school has also continued its relationship with The University of Adelaide through the Children's University program. A very pleasing number of students have signed up to have their extra-curricular learning and volunteering hours recorded and credited. We look forward to a large contingent of graduates this year. It is not too late for students to become involved, forms and information are available from Ms Ozolins.

**Zinta Ozolins**  
Assistant Principal Middle School

## Year 8 Parent Evening

We have been very fortunate to have had such pleasant weather conditions for the many events held so far this term and the Year 8 Parent Evening on 28 February was no exception. It was a perfect evening to enjoy a relaxed meal under the Pavilion in the grounds of Mitcham Girls and thanks must go to the many staff and parents who attended and helped make the evening such a success. This was a great opportunity for parents to meet each other, as well as having the opportunity to meet teachers in a less formal context.

Special thanks must also go to Year 11 Peer Leaders, Rebecca Cid and Millie Thompson who gave their own time to help set up and serve the wonderful platters on offer.

**Dana Thomas**  
Year 8 Leader

# Whole School

## SRC Training Day

The SRC members at Mitcham Girls High School have a true and authentic voice, clearly demonstrated during the SRC Training Day held recently. The SRC Executive (Year 12 students) planned, prepared materials and orchestrated the entire training session. SRC members enjoyed the ice breaker games, were informed about the responsibilities and structures of the Council and busily worked in their action groups to: form a vision; plan events, actions and strategies to make our local and global world a better place. I am excited to support this dynamic group of girls who are committed to making a difference.

**Summer Bowles**  
SRC Coordinator



## Social Media: Cybersafety Reminders to Students and Parents

- Nothing is private
- Nothing can be totally deleted
- You are never anonymous
- You always leave a digital footprint
- Postings can be found years later
- Passwords should never be shared

Parents – please be aware if your children are using the following sites: NQ Vault Hide It Pro, Kik, Snapchat, Omegle, musical.ly, Yubo, Spotafriend, Happn, Meetme, Sarahah and Melon. Many of these sites are used by online predators.

For further information [www.esafety.gov.au](http://www.esafety.gov.au).

**Jill Olifent**  
Student Wellbeing Leader



# Whole School

## International Women's Day Celebrations

International Women's Day is a significant time for students, staff and the community of our school. It is a time for us to celebrate and acknowledge the outstanding achievements of women in all fields and to pay tribute to the women who have earned our respect, be they world leaders, mothers, community leaders or teachers.

The week of celebrations began with a dedicated International Women's Day Assembly on Monday 5 March with guest speaker, Manal Younus. Manal is a young writer, actor and spoken word poet of East African descent. Manal used examples of her own work to explore the impact of spoken word poetry. She described how she discovered and strengthened her identity through spoken word and she invited student interactivity during the performance. Later in the week, Manal inspired students to find their unique voice through poetry, hosting small workshops with different year level students and introducing the concept of Slam Poetry.

The SRC Executive attended the International Women's Day Breakfast held at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Students enjoyed listening to progressive women such as Senator Penny Wong and General Manager of Inclusion and Social Policy for the AFL, Tanya Hosch. It was truly a special time to be part of our community.

**Summer Bowles**  
**SRC Coordinator**





# Whole School

## Manal Younus Poetry Slam and Spoken Word Workshop

*"Dear Stranger, take my hand"* - **Manal Younus**

To celebrate the beginning of our International Women's Day celebrations, Mitcham Girls students were very fortunate to have accomplished poet Manal Younus visit us. Manal has become renowned for both her spoken word poetry and work as an inspirational guest speaker. In 2016, she was a finalist for the Young Australian of the Year. She has written a book called *Reap* and was a special guest on an episode of *Q&A* on the ABC.

Manal was our guest speaker at the International Women's Day Assembly. She delivered a moving speech and even read some of her poems to us. She inspired us, as girls, to always look on the positive side of life even when it seems tough.



Here are some inspirational lines from Manal's poem, *Woman*, which she delivered at our assembly:

*"She cannot possibly fall, instead she grows ..."*

*"Woman, your power is more powerful than can ever be known ..."*

*"Woman, just be ..."*

A few days later, some Year 8 and Year 11 students were fortunate enough to participate in a spoken word workshop run by Manal herself! She played interactive games with us and shared a few stories about situations she has experienced in her life and how she turned them into positive scenarios. We learnt that with a positive mindset, you can turn anything into a positive experience! We then gave it a go, writing down positive things about ourselves and creating a poem using the points we had written. Overall, Manal inspired us to follow our dreams, to persevere and to try and look on the bright side of life.

We would all like to thank Manal for the time she spent with us; we were so privileged to have such an inspirational woman attend our school and celebrate such an important week in our company.

**Helena Dandy and Charlotte Sarre**  
Year 8 students





# Sport

## Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday 21 February, Mitcham Girls Annual Swimming Carnival was held with all three Houses: Fraser, Mitchell and Spence, going head to head to claim glory in the pool. It was a warm and humid day making conditions tough, but nonetheless it was a great event. All competitors, whether in the championship swimming, relay or novelty events gave it their all to win their House as many points as possible. The stands got louder as the day went on as those watching and supporting their team mates did their bit to push them over the line, creating a great atmosphere pool-side. It proved to be one of the closest Swimming Carnivals in Mitcham Girls history with each team winning one shield each.

Fraser won the Junior Championship, Mitchell won the Senior Championship and Spence was crowned overall Swimming Carnival Champions for the second year in a row, with just a three-point margin over Fraser. Well done to all competitors who made it an exciting day. Thank you to all staff who assisted with the running of the event, to all House Captains who organised their teams and finally to all parents and families who attended to support on the day.

### Championship Points

#### Junior

Fraser – 268 points  
Spence – 243 points  
Mitchell – 213 points

#### Senior

Mitchell – 272 points  
Spence – 268 points  
Fraser – 236 points

#### Overall

Spence – 514 points  
Fraser – 511 points  
Mitchell – 491 points



### Age Group Champions

Congratulations to the following students who were winners and runners-up in their age group, based on points they won for their House in Swimming Championship events (Freestyle, Breaststroke, Backstroke and Butterfly).

#### Year 8

Winner – Rosie Thompson, Fraser  
Runner Up – Alice Joyce, Fraser

#### Year 9

Winner – Asha Foster, Spence  
Runners Up – Amy Redjepi and Brooke Burns, Fraser

#### Year 10/11

Winner – Nicola Lieff, Mitchell  
Runner Up – Jacinta Sydenham-Carter, Spence

#### Year 12

Winner – Skye Hartman-Kearns, Mitchell  
Runner Up – Caitlin Hayes, Spence

### House Captains

#### FRASER

Year 8 – Taylah Brennan-Jones and Soleil Veitch  
Year 9 – Jessica Wildy  
Year 10 – Tamrah Steer  
Year 11 – Millie Thompson  
Year 12 – Sydnie Schultz

#### MITCHELL

Year 8 – Dakota Manning and Christina Mower  
Year 9 – Madeline Walpole  
Year 10 – Vidhi Jani  
Year 11 – Hayley Meyer  
Year 12 – Cecilia Ronson

#### SPENCE

Year 8 – Lucabelle Nou and Emilie Goedecke  
Year 9 – Michaela Collins  
Year 10 – Deeti Arora  
Year 11 – Claire Collins  
Year 12 – Martina Giurelli

**Dimi Sianis**  
Sports Assistant





# Sport

## Zone Sports

Term 1 Southern Zone After School Sport commenced in Week 4, with MGHS fielding the following teams: Year 8/9 Volleyball – two teams; Open Volleyball – two teams; Open Indoor Soccer – one team. We are at the halfway mark of the competitions, which will conclude in Week 11 of this term.

Mitcham Girls will be heavily involved in Zone Sport this year as we aim to enter as many teams as we can into the Term 2/3 and Term 3/4 After School Sport programs, giving our students the chance to compete in Netball, Soccer, Footy, Badminton, Volleyball and Indoor Soccer. We also hope to enter some of the Southern Zone Lightning Carnivals to

provide students with opportunities to represent Mitcham Girls in various sports.

Finally, we will be nominating several teams in various State-Wide Knockout Sport Championships and this will include Year 8/9 and Open teams in Soccer, Footy, Netball and Indoor Soccer (teams entered will be based on how many students nominate for these sports). We are looking forward to another big year in school sport!

**Dimi Sianis**  
Sports Assistant

## Interschool Swimming Carnival

We congratulate our Interschool Swimming Team who competed at the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre in February. We were represented in every event (except one) and WON the Carnival in our grade. Much of this was due to the excellent team spirit and cooperation on the day where our Mitcham students, as always, were great ambassadors for our school. We congratulate all place getters in events and recognise that all swimmers scored points for the school on the day contributing to our overall result. We thank the parents who came to support their daughters, as well as the students who filled in for official tasks required on the day.

Thanks also to Stephanie Henson for her overall organisation of the day.

### Results

Kate Frith	3rd 50m Breaststroke; 3rd 50m Freestyle
Asha Foster	1st U15 50m Backstroke; 1st U15 50m Breaststroke; 3rd 100m Freestyle
Izzy Haines	3rd 50m Freestyle; 2nd 50m Freestyle Relay
Skye Hartman-Kearns	2nd 50m Breaststroke; 3rd 50m Freestyle Relay
Caitlin Hayes	2nd 50m Freestyle; 3rd 50m Freestyle Relay
Elle Hilder	1st U15 50m Breaststroke; U16 Freestyle Relay
Emily Hutchinson	1st Open 50m Freestyle; 3rd 50m Freestyle Relay
Alice Joyce	3rd 50m Freestyle
Nicola Lieff	1st U16 Freestyle Relay; 3rd 50m Backstroke
Ruby Maur	1st U16 50m Freestyle; 2nd 50m Freestyle Relay
Ella Nixon-Dores	1st Open 50m Freestyle; 2nd 50m Breaststroke; 3rd 50m Freestyle Relay
Amy Redjepi	1st U15 50m Freestyle
Odette Sim	1st U16 Freestyle Relay
Jacinta Sydenham-Carter	3rd 50m Breaststroke; 2nd 50m Freestyle Relay
Millie Thompson	1st U16 Freestyle Relay; 3rd 50m Backstroke; 2nd 50m Backstroke
Rosie Thompson	3rd 50m Freestyle
Violette Walker	2nd 50m Freestyle Relay
Lili Welzel	2nd 50m Breaststroke
Brooke Burns	
Yezha Garcia	
Chrissie Mower	
Ashlee Parrott	

**Sue Howlett**  
Team Manager





# Mathematics

## Forging Links with Primary Schools

This term, Maths Leaders from Years 10 and 11 participated in visits to two partnership primary schools, Edwardstown and Clapham. They worked with students from Years 5 and 6 to solve some challenging problems which required skills from the Critical and Creative Thinking Continuum.

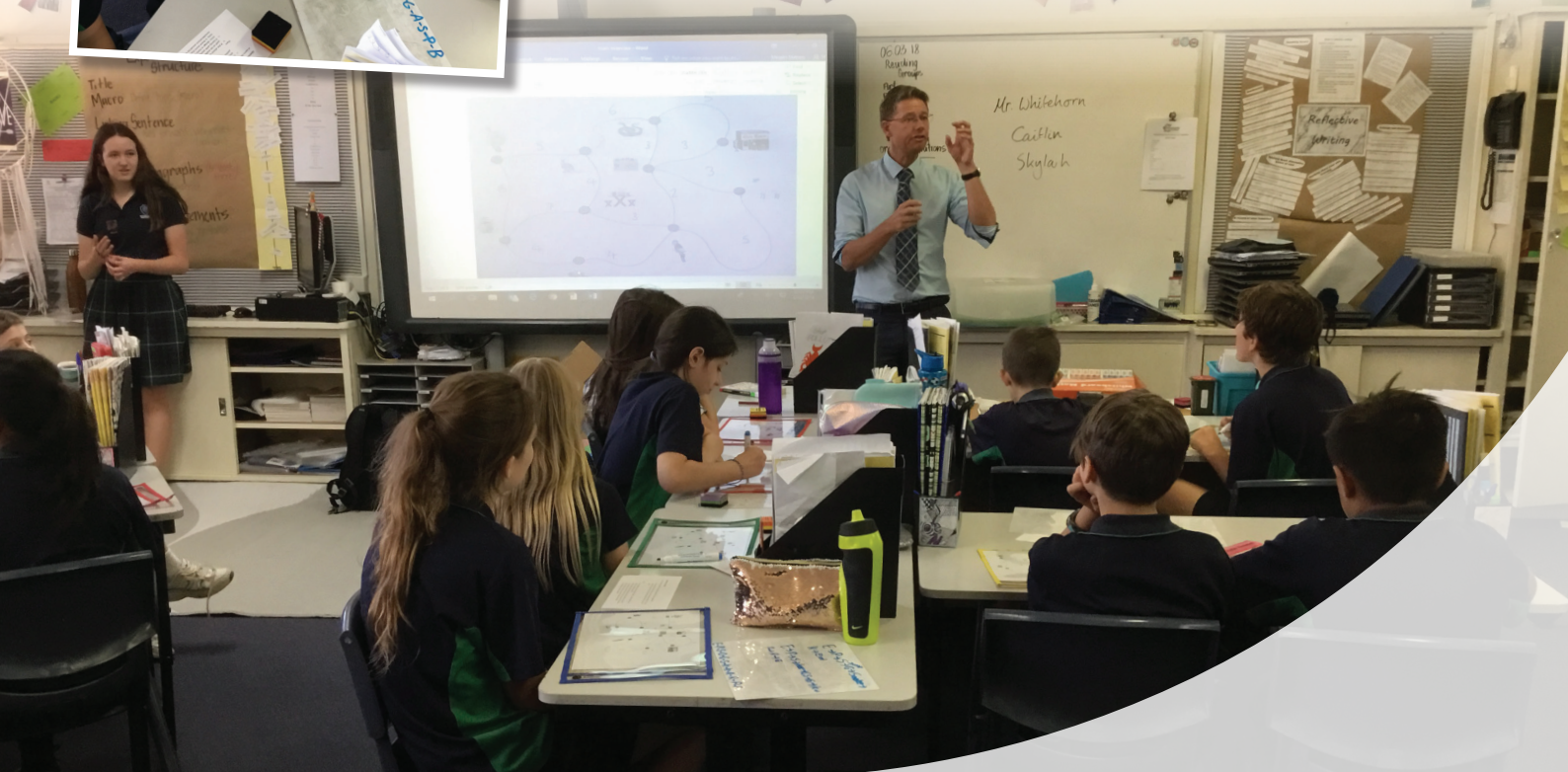
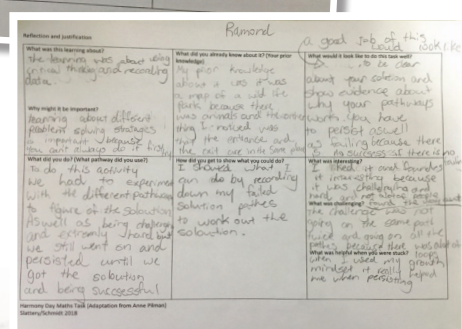
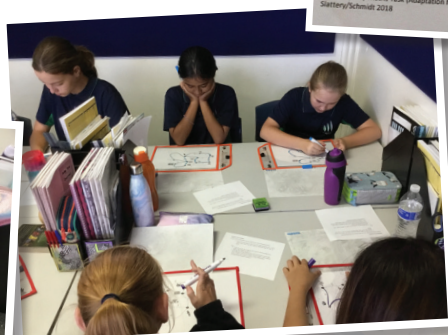
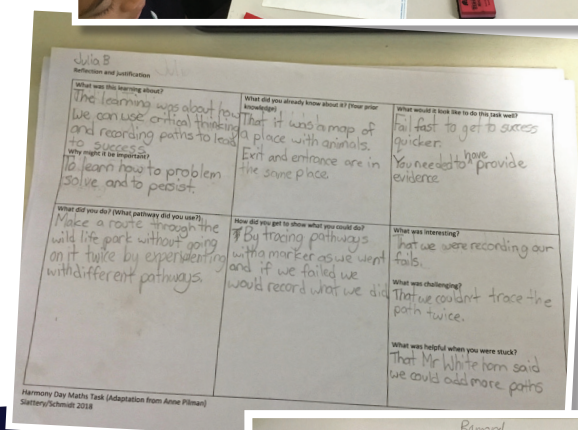
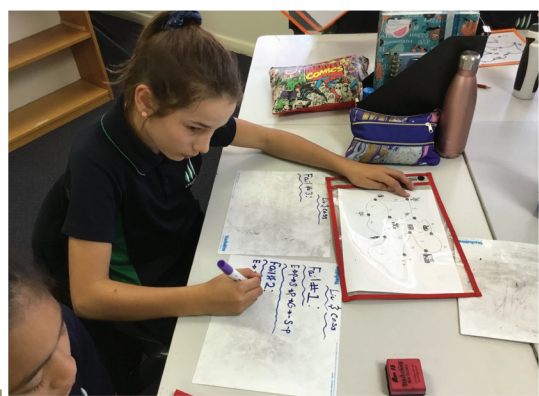
The engagement level of the students was astounding. A Growth Mindset approach was definitely required when finding a path through an imaginary animal park and it was clear that the students were used to solving complex problems. They were not at all daunted by the challenge either!

The visits are aimed at forging stronger links between high schools and primary schools and starting conversations between teachers, as sharing practice and learning from each other is so valuable.

Thank you to the Megan and Helena (the teachers), the schools and students involved, and especially Lauren, Caitlin and Skylah (Maths Leaders) for their involvement in the learning journey – and to Skylah for stepping in with some teaching, too!

We look forward to a continuation of partnership collaboration and learning with the Year 5 and 6 children this semester.

**Mark Whitehorn**  
Maths Coordinator





# Science

## Palaeontology

This is a great opportunity for Years 10, 11 or 12 Science students.

Prize: Senior School students with an interest in actively participating in scientific research, especially palaeontology, are encouraged to apply. It consists of an opportunity to participate in a one-week expedition with Flinders University palaeontologists during the October or Summer school holidays, and to undertake work experience in the Flinders Palaeontology Laboratory during the Summer school holidays plus \$400 cash.

Task: In 200 words or less, explain why you think palaeontology is interesting and important, and why you would like to participate in a scientific expedition with real palaeontologists.

Applications can be made [online](#) and close on 1 June 2018.

## Big Science Competition

Open to Year 8 to 10 students, this competition takes 50 minutes and has 30 multiple choice questions linked to Australian Curriculum at each year level. The competition will be in May 2018.

The Big Science Competition can lead to mind-blowing opportunities for students like Curious Minds, the Australian Science Olympiads and the Asian Science Camp.

This extra science also counts towards your Ambassadors Badge!

Cost: \$7.70 per student (incl. GST).

## Science Alive

**When:** Sunday 25 March

**Where:** Tonsley Precinct, 1284 South Road, Clovelly Park

**Time:** 10:00am-4:00pm

See the Spectacular SciWorld Science Shows, the Amazing Scientific Bubble Show, Native Animal Show from Animals Anonymous, Robotics workshop, Questacon interactive exhibits, Bugs and Slugs, slime making and so much more.

See you there! IT'S FREE!!!

# Notices

## School App

Five years ago, before Daymap was introduced, we felt there was a need to be able to communicate with parents quickly should there be a crisis in the school. Since then we have introduced Daymap and nearly all families have given us their email address. Most of our communication now happens through the Daymap Portal, which every family has access to, as well as via email.

Looking at the statistics, it is very clear to us that not many families use the school app. We are therefore thinking of discontinuing the Mitcham Girls High School App. If you are adversely affected by this decision, please let us know so that we can discuss alternative ways of communicating with you.

**Antoinette Jones**  
Principal

## Oliphant Science 2018

All Year 8 and 9 students will complete a project of their choice to display their science understanding. Information about each topic can be found at [Computer Programming & Robotics](#), [Crystal Investigation](#), [Games](#), [Models & Inventions](#), [Multimedia](#), [Scientific Inquiry](#), [Photography](#), [Posters](#), [Science Writing](#).

The best school entries will be entered into the state competition. Other year levels may also participate and compete.

## STEM Ambassadors

The Year 8 and 9 Ambassadors met with students across the state at the Hahndorf Convention Centre to plan their focus this year.

A new STEM Action Team will soon be organised to increase students' involvement in this area and all interested Year 8 and 9 students are welcome.

**Helen Marussinszky**  
Science Coordinator



## Entertainment Book

We want to give a BIG thank you to all families who purchased an Entertainment Membership last year raising an amazing \$980 for the school!

Due to the success we are raising funds again this year and we would like your help. Order your NEW 2018 | 2019 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. Hurry to get the bonus Early Bird Offers before they're gone...

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