



Diary Dates

March

1 st	Youth Leadership Conference
2 nd	9am - 1500m & 11am Javelin events
3 rd	9am - 800m event
5 th	Athletics Carnival
8 th	Public Holiday
15 th	Adelaide Uni Visit
16 th	Southern Yorke Industry Network Event

Well that was certainly an interesting fortnight wasn't it? A very nasty bout of gastro hit our local kindy on Wednesday of last week and it managed to spill into MDS. Thank you to all our parents for your swift action in keeping vulnerable or ill children at home, and coming to collect children who became symptomatic during the school day. We had one third of our school population absent on Thursday 18th and jumped into triple figures on the Friday! It certainly hasn't helped our attendance rates. Apologies for the bombardment using our communication channels, but ensuring that all families were aware of what was happening was really important. Email, Class Dojo and Facebook really are fabulous tools when we need to get to you in a hurry.

The good news is that things are almost back to normal and just as well because the Don Snook oval will be calling us all next Friday, March 5th, for our annual Athletics Carnival. While Craig Fitzgerald has provided more detail later in this newsletter, I would like to stress our Covid-safe plan for the day. Parents and family members are welcome to attend the day, but we ask that you observe the following:

- use the QR codes on the gates and side of the athletics shed to sign in
- bring your own shelter and seating and set up in the reserved 'family area' on the inside of the track.
- only students and staff will be able to sit in the House Shelters
- maintain 1.5m distance between adults who are not within your family group
- parents will need to use the Middle School toilets as those in the gymnasium are not available to us

We are looking forward to a fabulous day, but we have had to comply with SA Public Health requirements as part of our Covid-safe status and seek your support. There will be lots of reminders from me at the microphone – especially when those little people are running and you are all trying to get behind the finish line to greet them!

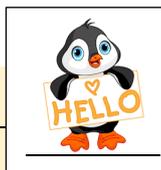
On Tuesday of this week we held our Governing Council Annual General Meeting. The GC are charged with the governance of our school and steering our ship in the right direction. While we have 11 enthusiastic members, there are still places vacant, so if you are interested, please let me know or contact any one of our representatives. Please remember that our GC members are charged with representing the parent body and will welcome communication with you about our school direction. Thank you to our 2021 Governing Council parent members: Chair: Kristen Wilson, Treasurer: Kimberley Hamilton, Secretary: Lee Blyth, Minute Secretary: Rachel Cook, Committee members: Carolyn Bennett, Rebecca Brown, Carolyn

Jansons, Megan Mahar, Rhani Newbold, Sarah Preedy, Nadia Slade, Stephanie Stubberfield. Governing council meetings are open meetings meaning that anyone can attend and we publish upcoming meeting dates in our newsletter. We would love to see some new faces, even if only for a visit!

At MDS we deliberately have a school uniform that focuses on comfort and 'wear-ability' with a variety of options available to students, however those options appear to have been misinterpreted by a number of students and parents recently. Please ensure that children are wearing appropriate school attire; navy blue or grey shorts, skorts, trousers, the school checked dress or navy track pants with the school polo/jumper/jacket. If wearing shorts, these should be of a length which allows for the full range of movement without causing embarrassment - to the wearer or others. Items with logos, stripes, additional colours or variations on a theme are not considered part of our uniform and therefore should not be worn to school. Please check your child's uniform attire and ensure that they are adhering to our school uniform policy. First impressions count – students proudly wearing the correct uniform makes a great impression.

Looking forward to seeing you all next Friday. I'll be the one at the microphone reminding you to adhere to Covid restrictions and bopping along to the music!

Ali



Pastoral & School Care Worker

Di Nankivell

Hello! First of all to introduce myself. I'm Di Nankivell and I have been appointed as the new Pastoral and School Care Worker at MDS. I am extremely excited to join the wonderful team at MDS and to get to know students, staff and families. Thankyou so much to everyone for making me feel so welcome and helping me to find my feet. I have lived in Stansbury for about 30 years and was the PCW at Stansbury Primary School for 14 years. I am looking forward to both the challenges and the rewards of working in a bigger school...the biggest challenge at the moment is to remember everyone's names – there are a lot to remember!

I have obtained a Diploma of Youth Work and have done many trainings and workshops relating to mental health, the well-being of young people and social and emotional skills. I am looking forward to providing support, care and encouragement to the whole school community and am passionate about working hard to promote the best possible outcomes for all children and families. Please feel free to give me a call at school or contact me via DayMap or email. My office is located in the middle school building. Hope you all have a lovely week...Di



Aquatics

On Monday 22nd February, the Year 8/9 students travelled to Berry Bay for some aquatics under the guidance of Port Vincent Aquatics Centre. The day provided a fantastic opportunity for new students to the school to have fun and mix with other class members outside the normal classroom environment. Overcast conditions greeted the group with a large swell the order of the day. Students navigated the conditions well and developed their surf skills, whilst learning about the important aspects of sun and surf safety. The excursion was supported by RIF funding.



Sport

2021 MDS Athletics Carnival Update

Craig Fitzgerald

It is just over a week to go until the 2021 MDS Athletics Carnival, with a number of changes put in place for the event this year. The first change is due to the unavailability of the gym and surrounding areas for primary activities. These will now be on the tennis/netball courts and in the south-east corner of the Don Snook Oval, where the javelin is normally held. For this year only, the secondary javelin competition will be organised prior to the day on Tuesday 2nd March. These events will be held from 11am if you are interested in watching your child compete. As per usual, the 1500m and 800m will also be held prior to the day with the 1500m on Tuesday 2nd March and the 800m on Wednesday from 9am. We ask that parents please watch these events from outside the school boundary.

A number of schools are not allowing parents to attend their Athletics Carnival this year, but we have made the decision that we will invite our families to attend. We will have a number of COVID protocols in place including the use of QR codes to sign in around the venue, access to hand sanitiser at the venue, and 1.5m social distancing rules. We also ask that families do not sit inside the student shades set up around the venue, and instead bring their own shades and set them up inside the track in the designated family area. Vehicles will also not be able to park inside the school site as we need to keep the area clear for site workers. Students and families will also need to remain vigilant with vehicles as builders will still be accessing the gym. We are lucky to be able to allow parents and families to attend to see their children participate on the day, so it would be greatly appreciated if all of our guidelines can be followed.

We are also still looking for parent support with tasks including scoring and measuring, primary activities, canteen duties and canteen preparation. If you are available to help out at any stage throughout the day, can you please contact me via email, Craig.Fitzgerald239@schools.sa.edu.au or ring the school on 88532346. Dale can also be contacted via Dale.Harper81@schools.sa.edu.au for help in the canteen. Any support on the day is greatly appreciated.

The program has been sent to students and parents via Daymap and email earlier in the week. Thanks for your support of the day, we are looking forward to a great Athletics Carnival on Friday 5th March.

Craig Fitzgerald.

Primary News

Barb Agnew, Primary Coordinator

Read Write Inc Parent Meeting

Last night there was an information evening for the Reception - Year 2 parents new to the school. There was a presentation to explain the Read Write Inc program and the educational theory and research that supports the program. Parents were provided with information sheets at the conclusion of the meeting. If anyone has questions about the Read Write Inc program and how you can support your child with learning how to read, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher/s.

Volunteers

Schools have been given permission to have volunteers back in classrooms. There are some basic COVID safe guidelines that need to be adhered and if there is an outbreak, this permission is highly likely to be rescinded. Having said all that we are delighted to invite parents who are keen to support student learning, back into classes. Teachers will send out notes to parents asking for volunteers with a selection of options as to how you may work with children.

Road Safety

David Fairlie from the RAA presented a Road Safety program to each of the primary classes last Wednesday. His skilful and entertaining presentations were very engaging and tailored specifically for each age group. The students learnt valuable lessons about bike and scooter care and safety, how to share the road and footpaths with others and what to do at school and pedestrian crossings. Each of the students received supporting activity sheets and information.

MDS Athletic Carnival

There will be a lot of information coming out about the Athletic Carnival so this will be quite brief. The Reception to 8-year old children won't be able to use the gym this year or the area in front of the gym as they have done in previous years. Their activities will be split between the netball/tennis courts and the oval area near the corner of North Terrace and First Street. A note will be sent out this week requesting parent help on the day for the Junior Primary events. We have always appreciated the incredible support of parents to help make the day fun and enjoyable for our youngest students. (COVID social distancing will need to be maintained throughout the day.)

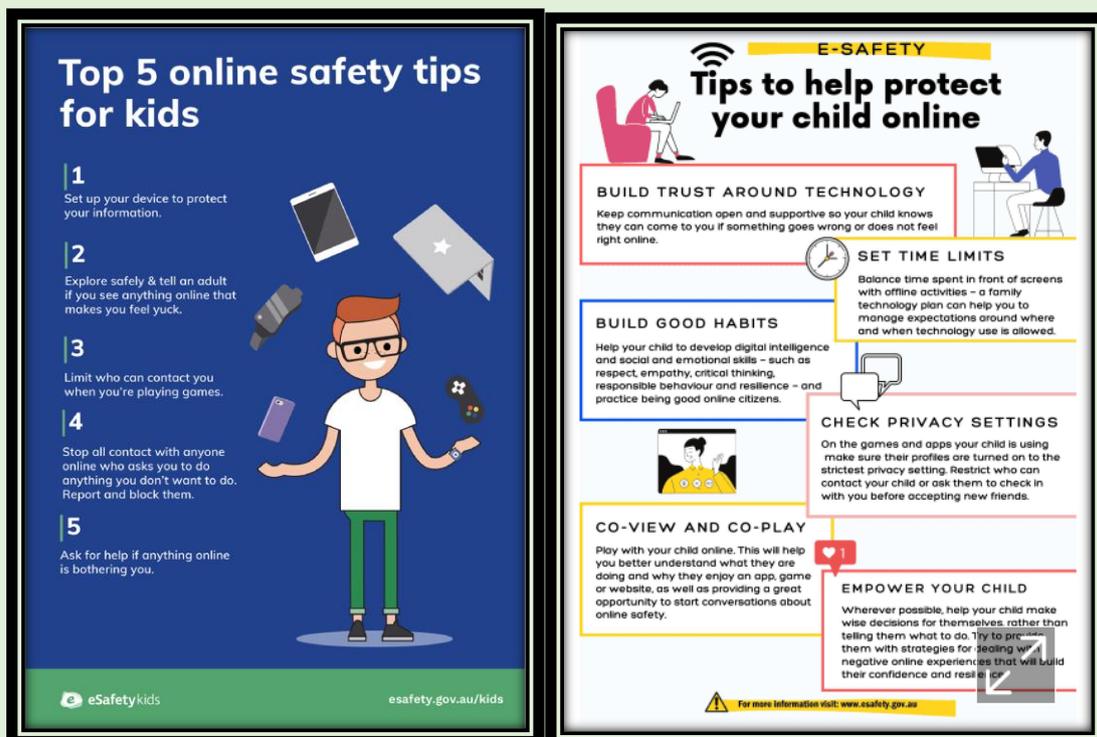
Middle School Report

Craig Fitzgerald/Josh Coombe, Middle School Coordinators

As mentioned in the last newsletter report, Middle School students have set some goals to achieve over the course of Term 1. We are now a few weeks in since the goals were set so it would be a great time for parents to check in with students regarding the goals they have set for the term. Continual reminders will hopefully reinforce the importance of setting goals and actively setting out to achieve them. These goals will be discussed at the MS Learning Conversations in Week 10 on Tuesday 30th March and Wednesday 31st March. More information will be sent out to parents later in the term.

It has been fantastic to see new computer devices arrive for a number of Middle School students spent over the last week. It is important for students to understand how to use their devices and while this may take time, it is extremely relevant for all students to have a good understanding of their device capability for use now and into the future. Students are supported here at school to learn the common and basic functions, but it is not always practicable to do this in lesson times or every day. Please encourage your child to safely and appropriately discover the features and capabilities of their new devices so that they can be best used in the school setting.

We have had some instances early in the year, where issues from outside of school are being brought into the school setting. Some of these issues are based around social media use and online activity. Social media is a great way to stay connected with family and friends but there are a number of possible dangers involved for students and their online usage. Being aware of what your child is doing online is important. As part of HPE classes this year, students will learn about online safety and the importance of doing the right thing online. The Australia Government eSafety website has some excellent information about online activities and the possible dangers involved. Information can be accessed at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/> for both parents and students.



Top 5 online safety tips for kids

- 1** Set up your device to protect your information.
- 2** Explore safely & tell an adult if you see anything online that makes you feel yuck.
- 3** Limit who can contact you when you're playing games.
- 4** Stop all contact with anyone online who asks you to do anything you don't want to do. Report and block them.
- 5** Ask for help if anything online is bothering you.

eSafetykids | [esafety.gov.au/kids](https://www.esafety.gov.au/kids)

E-SAFETY

Tips to help protect your child online

- BUILD TRUST AROUND TECHNOLOGY**
Keep communication open and supportive so your child knows they can come to you if something goes wrong or does not feel right online.
- SET TIME LIMITS**
Balance time spent in front of screens with offline activities – a family technology plan can help you to manage expectations around where and when technology use is allowed.
- BUILD GOOD HABITS**
Help your child to develop digital intelligence and social and emotional skills – such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience – and practice being good online citizens.
- CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS**
On the games and apps your child is using make sure their profiles are turned on to the strictest privacy setting. Restrict who can contact your child or ask them to check in with you before accepting new friends.
- CO-VIEW AND CO-PLAY**
Play with your child online. This will help you better understand what they are doing and why they enjoy an app, game or website, as well as providing a great opportunity to start conversations about online safety.
- EMPOWER YOUR CHILD**
Wherever possible, help your child make wise decisions for themselves, rather than telling them what to do. Try to provide them with strategies for dealing with negative online experiences that will build their confidence and resilience.

For more information visit: www.esafety.gov.au

Please get in contact with us if you have any questions/concerns/issues with anything throughout the year. Our email addresses are Josh.Coombe430@schools.sa.edu.au and Craig.Fitzgerald239@schools.sa.edu.au

Josh Coombe and Craig Fitzgerald - Middle School Coordinators

Senior School Report

Glen White, Senior School Coordinator

By the time that you are reading this it will be close to the end of week 5 of the first term of school for 2021, where has that time gone? At around about this time the first round of summative assessment tends to be due across years 10-12 (more below on how we monitor our student progress) and students will be facing their first main academic challenges of the year; so I thought it pertinent to discuss our expectations of senior students at MDS and why we have them. Students should have brought home by now copies of their senior school agreement for parents to read and sign before being returned. An excerpt from the document outlining student expectations is shown below:

“In the interest of education of ALL students, students seeking entry into Senior School should understand that the following conditions apply:

1. A cooperative, goal orientated attitude
2. A consistent determination to succeed
3. Regular, punctual attendance
4. A commitment to meet due dates and complete tasks to the best of their ability
5. A willingness to work within school expectations regarding dress and behaviour codes
6. A willingness to cooperate with negotiated classroom and study room behaviour
7. Behave in an appropriate manner at all school endorsed activities/functions and be an exemplary ambassador for Minlaton District School.

In essence we are asking that students strive to achieve their best, in all of their schooling endeavours.

Why? Two main reasons –

Firstly. As students move through senior school, they will be faced with aspects of their curriculum which will challenge their resilience and their academic boundaries. They will end up in the learning pit where they will feel frustrated, confused, annoyed, angry, wanting to quit or maybe all of the above. Overcoming challenge is how we grow, and growth happens outside of our comfort zone, whether that be at school, at work or in other elements of our lives. When students are faced with this challenge and are deep in the learning pit, the way forward is to simply do the work. Push themselves, ask questions, do homework, re-read notes and just push onwards. It isn't that you can't do it, you just can't do it yet. Making mistakes and failures are simply one step closer to working your way out of the learning pit. And your teachers will support you every step of the way.

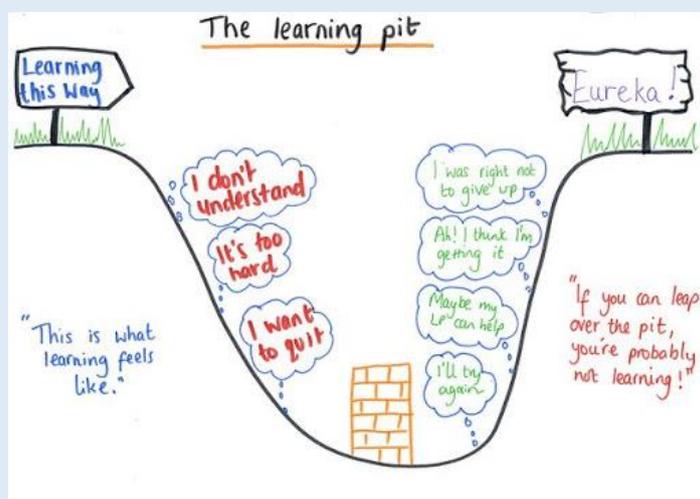


Figure1: <https://www.st-peters-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk/statutory/growth-mindset-posters-and-quotes/>

Secondly, if we view school, especially senior secondary as preparation for life post-school, our expectations of students align with employability skills such as punctuality, cooperation, initiative, critical & creative thinking, problem solving, accountability, collaboration, the ability to interpret & follow instructions and the willingness to accept, seek out and act on feedback. In many instances the course content of our subjects will develop the knowledge and understanding required in later life. However more significantly the general skills and capabilities required to be functional and successful post school are well served and developed by students regularly attending, following instructions, seeking and acting on feedback, striving to be their best and actively participating in all aspects of their education whilst at MDS.

Student monitoring within the Senior School

The academic progress of students within the Senior School is monitored through a variety of means; there is the school wide end of semester report, but in addition to this Year 10-12 students receive mid-term interim reports which outline student academic progress and attendance (which will be published this week) and there are student led learning conversations in both semesters for all students. Year 12 learning conversations will begin in week 8 of this term, whilst those for year 10 & 11 students will occur early in term2. More information will follow shortly.

Parents are notified via post or email should students fail to meet a due date, submit work which is not reflective of the student's ability or not at the required standard. In addition to this, student academic progress is monitored regularly at class room and leadership level. If there are continuing concerns around the student's progress parents are contacted and meetings requested so that as a group (student, parent and staff) we can ensure the best possible result for the student.

Our senior school interim progress reports are published via the Daymap Parent Portal, with hard copies sent out only at parent request. The first of these will be published next week. It is understandable that this may be a new and different process for many however has been decided that this is our most effective and efficient means of providing this information, as well as being far more environmentally sustainable. In line with this a copy of our Daymap Parent Portal tutorial or "cheat sheet" can also be accessed via the school's website. Our first interim report will ask that all parents please reply via email or Daymap message to acknowledge receipt of the document. Parents of students who have identified learning concerns are asked to make contact as soon as possible with the teacher of those subjects.

Alternatively, if a parent or student has their own concerns, we welcome contact with teachers. Either ring the school or email the staff member – all email addresses are available via the school website. Make an appointment and they will be happy to discuss your concerns.

Regular monitoring and follow up is directly correlated with improved student learning outcomes and SACE completion rates, which are both DfE and MDS priorities.

If you have any Senior School related questions – be it about SACE, VET, year 10 matters or anything really, or if you wish to receive a hard copy of your student's monitoring communications, please call me at school on 88532 346 or send me an email to glen.white872@schools.sa.edu.au to arrange this.

Glen White – Senior School Coordinator

Are you a business on the Yorke Peninsula interested in finding out about how school partnerships can assist you to grow your own local workforce?

We have several FREE events happening all over the Yorke Peninsula from the 15th to the 17th of March 2021 to connect you to schools.

Some of the information being provided will include:

- the employment of school based apprentices and trainees,
- work experience students
- vocational education and training and,
- other ways that school partnerships can benefit your business.

While these events will be targeting businesses from the hospitality, engineering, automotive, construction, food processing, agriculture and aged care industries we will be happy to speak to any business with an interest in school partnerships.

This is a list of scheduled events that can also be found with more information on the Forum Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/YP-Industry-Education-Partnership-Forum-105871281547445/events/?ref=page_internal

- **Industry & Education Partnership Expo** – for all businesses:
 1. Moonta Area School. Monday the 15th of March 17:30 to 19:00. Limited numbers booked through <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/industry-education-partnership-forum-tickets-140243236295?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>
 2. Watsacowie Minlaton. Tuesday the 16th of March 17:30 to 19:00. Limited numbers booked through <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/copy-of-industry-education-partnership-forum-tickets-142175754509?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>
- **Copper Coast Hospitality Business Group Information Sessions** – for hospitality businesses:
 1. Kadina. Monday the 15th of March 14:00 to 16:00. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 to register.
 2. Moonta. Tuesday the 16th of March 13:30 to 15:30. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 to register.
- **Individual Business Meetings** – One on one at your business or our offices:
 1. Kadina/Wallaroo/Port Broughton. Monday the 15th of March 11:30 to 14:00 AND Tuesday the 16th of March 11:30 to 13:00. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 for an appointment.
 2. Moonta/Maitland. Monday the 15th of March 14:30 to 16:30 AND Tuesday the 16th of March 11:00 to 13:30. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 for an appointment.
 3. Minlaton. Tuesday the 16th of March 12:00 to 16:30 AND Wednesday the 17th of March 9:00 to 13:00. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 for an appointment.
 4. Ardrossan. Tuesday the 16th of March 12:00 to 15:30 AND Wednesday the 17th of March 10:00 to 15:00. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 for an appointment.
 5. Yorketown. Tuesday the 16th of March 12:30 to 16:00 AND Wednesday the 17th of March 9:30 to 15:30. Contact reg.dennis@sa.gov.au or 0428011101 for an appointment.

Due to maximum covid numbers at forums and limited individually scheduled meetings please register ASAP. All enquiries can also be made to me.

Thank you

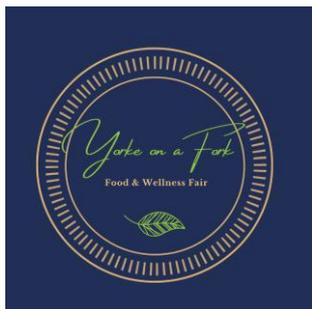
Reg Dennis

Vocational Pathways Consultant

Further Education and Pathways

Department for Education | Kadina Education Office – 45 Taylor St Kadina 5554 | **Narungga Country**

t (08) 8821 2555 m 0428 011 101 | e reg.dennis@sa.gov.au | w www.education.sa.gov.au



Yorke on a Fork – Food and Wellness Fairs

2021 we are plating up bigger and better Yorke on a Fork Food and Wellness Fairs!

The fairs will include demonstrations ranging from cooking to pilates; kids' activities including rainbow yoga, mindful art, sport, dance and Glenn the Junkman; as well as appearances from celebrity guests, including Callum Hann and Themis from Sprout, the Amazing Drumming Monkeys, Inspector Hector and more!

February 28	Ardrossan Community Club
March 7	Central Yorke Football Club and Oval–Maitland
March 12	Stansbury Golf Club (evening event)
March 14	Minlaton Bowling Club and Basketball Stadium
March 21	Yorke town RSL and Sports Club
March 28	Western United Sporting Club – Warooka

Daytimes events will be held from 10.30am to 3pm and the Stansbury event will be held from 4pm-8pm.

Follow the events on Yorke Peninsula Council's Facebook

MINLATON NETBALL CLUB

CALLING ALL SENIOR AND JUNIOR NETBALLERS

WE ARE LOOKING TO CONTINUE FRIDAY NIGHT NETBALL

IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD IS INTERESTED IN PLAYING NETBALL THIS SEASON

**PLEASE CONTACT
LYNDA FARROW 0488 188 526 OR
TRICIA HARRIS 0408 283 840**

BY THE 28TH FEBRUARY, 2021

'Play & The Joy of Pretending' Theatre Workshop with FRANK.

Established theatre professionals, Britt Plummer (Director of FRANK. Theatre, 'Chameleon', 'The Swell Mob') and Jules Mayer ('Chameleon', 'Nella') are presenting a workshop in the upcoming school holidays at Ballara Retreat in Warooka. Skills taught will include physical comedy, clown, slapstick and devising theatre. It's a great chance to learn from the experts and discover what is uniquely funny, quirky and heart-warming about yourself. This is a workshop aimed at young people with the thirst for performance; we believe all levels can work together and discover something beautiful with lots of fun.

Suitable for children aged 12 – 18.

Classes will run from Mon– Thurs 11am - 4pm
4.30pm Thursday there will be a performance for families

Cost: \$120.00.

Enquiries and bookings with Ballara 0400 283 015.

CMS CROWS FOOTBALL CLUB

JUNIOR COLTS TRAINING

COMMENCES TUESDAY 9TH MARCH & THURSDAY 11TH MARCH @ 4.30PM

MINLATON OVAL

**ALL QUERIES TO JULIAN BURKE
PH 0458542615**

CMS CROWS NETBALL CLUB

JUNIOR GRADE TRAINING

COMMENCES THURSDAY 25TH MARCH @ CURRY COURTS

PRESEASON FOR SENIORS HAS BEGUN: COURT TRAINING

COMMENCES THURSDAY 11TH MARCH @ CURRY COURTS