



DIARY DATES

NOV / DEC 2021

Fortnightly Feature

'Pirates of the Curry Bean' Musical

November

25th - Presentation Night

26th - Student Free Day

30th - Governing Council Meeting

December

1st-3rd - Middle School Camp

9th - School FUN RUN

10th - Last day of School (early dismissal - 2pm)



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



A MESSAGE FROM ALI

Goodness, as you read this, we will be finalising details for the 2021 Presentation Night. What a different event it will be from last year's virtual event, and then 2019's singing and dancing sensation in the Town Hall. Things have certainly changed! While we won't be seeing each of the primary classes performing tonight, we will still be acknowledging and celebrating the fabulous achievements of a range of students from Years 3 to 12. For our Year 12 cohort (all ten of them) it will be their penultimate formal school occasion, with a celebration dinner to be held this coming weekend with parents and staff to say our final farewells. To each of them we extend our very best wishes for a wonderful future, and look forward to return visits and frequent contact to let us know what they are all doing. One of the very great joys of being a country Principal is that ex-students have a strong connection to their schools and community and it is wonderful to catch up with them as they enter their adult lives.

You will all be very pleased to know that the swamp saga has had a positive resolution and I took delivery of a cargo of crocodiles to my office last week. Already many of them have found homes with primary children who have completed this term's fluency challenge. If you have any crocodiles at your home, cleverly disguised as pencils, they thrive on being read to, so please ensure your child reads to them every day otherwise there could be some very cranky crocs!



'They may forget what you said
But they will never forget
how you made them feel'



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



A MESSAGE FROM ALI

As we work our way toward the end of the year, I remind everyone that while there are many things happening for students at various year levels, it is still business as usual here at MDS. In the canteen we will need to reduce stock over the coming weeks and there may be some items which will fall off the menu as we near the end of term. Please check the QKR! app to ensure that your order is still available. For any parents who are looking to purchase digital devices through the school for Middle or Senior school students, please get your orders in via the Purchasing Portal on the school website as soon as possible. If you delay, delivery may not be guaranteed in time for the 2022 school year.

There will be some staff changes at MDS next year, and a full run down will be a highlight of the final Holiday Edition newsletter in the last week of term. I can confirm that Geordie Cameron will continue with us in the primary team in 2022, and will be joined by Zoe Gerasimopoulos, both will fill contract positions for the year. Erin Cock and Al Murdock have both been appointed permanently to MDS and we are delighted to have secured them as part of our team. At this stage we hope to provide families with details of classes for next year with the final newsletter, but changes to student numbers at some year levels may cause classes to change configuration, so we will hold off as long as possible to avoid having to make changes once information has been provided to students and parents. Once again, I urge anyone who has a child moving on from MDS in 2022 to contact the school as soon as possible.

I'd best get on and finish my speech before the day gets too much older. For those who have children receiving awards at tonight's presentations, see you soon!

Ali

Library News

Well done to all of our students who completed the Premier's Reading Challenge. A total of 141 students between Reception and Year 10 completed the Challenge this year. The challenge involves reading a set amount of books across the year, some of which must be on the PRC list of books approved for the age level. Our R-1s do this as a class. All other students are responsible for keeping track of their own reading to complete the Challenge. Our Primary classes are pictured here with their certificates and medallions. Hearty congratulations to everyone who did the Challenge this year and big thanks to all of the parents and staff who helped them along the way. It's time to start working towards having all of your library items returned ready for the end of the year. Students can continue to borrow but it's important that if you have a list of books no longer required you need to return them to avoid any late fees. As a parent myself I know how easily things go missing over the summer holidays. For our Middle/Senior School students it's particularly important to return your textbooks so that they are ready for next year's cohorts; these items are very expensive to replace if lost. Parents, please remind your students to bring their items back and if you are not sure what they have, we are happy to print a list for you!

Just contact us on 88 532 339 or rick.cook888@schools.sa.edu.au. Keep turning pages everyone,
Mr Cook.



A note from the Business Manager, Zoe



Dear Families

I have an Apple MacBook Pro available to purchase.

The school purchased a number of devices at the start of the year for any late enrolments.

We are selling this at a discounted price of \$1400.00

First in best dressed!

2022 Winter Jackets Reminder

I'm going to place the 2022 jackets order in as early as I can next year.

Please email me if you would like to order your child's jacket for winter 2022.

Payment is not required until collection, usually around \$65, depending on the number of orders I receive.

I now have some jackets to try on, so we can get the size correct this time round, so please feel free to send your children in and then I can add their order to my list.

Thanks Zoe

zoe.weir991@schools.sa.edu.au



SCHOOL FUN RUN

Thursday December 9th, last Thursday of Term 4.

This year we will be raising funds to refurbish the Canteen, this will mean Terri will be able to have food out faster, keep your orders hot and possibly the menu might grow larger. So let's have some fun and raise as much as we can!

Primary School News

'Pirates of the Curry Bean' Musical

The students performed magnificently in the musical last Thursday evening. They were all super stars and enjoyed it immensely. Being a part of the musical allowed them to experience a sense of belonging, as well as being a part of a community. The primary staff worked hard with the students on the songs, the dances, the props and the sound and they are all to be congratulated on all the extra time spent on this endeavour. It was a massive effort that paid off with the smiles of the children as they performed. Thanks to everyone who attended and for your understanding of the COVID restrictions on the night.

Footlight Dance

The primary students will be engaging in dance lessons for one lesson each day for three days next week. We are very thankful to have an instructor from Footlight Dance to teach the children a variety of dances.

Bookmaking Day

On Friday the 2nd of December the Yr 2 class will have their Bookmaking Open Day for other classes and the parents and caregivers of the Yr 2 children. The students have been working on their bookmaking all year and have some great books to share with others.

Barb Agnew
Primary Coordinator



Middle School News

With only three weeks left in the year, there is still plenty of action in the Middle School. Transition lessons have taken place this week for our current Year 9 students moving into Senior School. We have the Presentation Night on Thursday, providing a fantastic opportunity to acknowledge our students in the Middle School for their outstanding achievements and efforts throughout the year. Monday to Wednesday of Week 8, we are heading to Corny Point and Berry Bay for our Middle School Camp (notes were sent home last week detailing the itinerary and equipment check list). On Friday of Week 8, our current Year 5 students will be undertaking a transition day to find out more about the Middle School in preparation for 2022. In Week 9, we have our Incentive Scheme Reward Day on Monday and then on Tuesday-Friday we have Challenge Week. Staff have once again been immersed in creating engaging and thought-provoking challenges for the week, so we look forward to seeing all students actively involved.

Students have also completed their reflections for the Term 4 goals that they set. This is a valuable opportunity for students to assess their progress over the course of the term and year, thinking ahead to what their goals will focus on next year. There are no formal learning conversations this term with students receiving a written report on the final day of term.

We have another Term 4 Personal Interest subject update, this time from Toys 'R' Us. Under the fine tutelage of Mrs Champion, the class have learnt about sewing skills, making a variety of toys from paper, learnt about mechanical cam toys and fabric toys. Examples of student work during the subject are seen on the following page:

Please get in contact with us if you have any questions/concerns/issues. 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



Middle School News





Hi! Hope you are all well and have had a great week! It's hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the year and, for me, harder to believe that I've nearly finished my first year at MDS. I just want to take this opportunity to say a huge Thank You to the whole MDS community. You have all made me feel so welcome and your help and support have been very much appreciated.

World Teachers Day

On the 29th October, our wonderful staff here at MDS were treated to a very special lunch to help them celebrate World Teachers Day. A huge thank you to the Minlaton & Districts Inter-Church Association for providing a scrumptious lunch which was enjoyed and very much appreciated by all staff!



Red Cross - Pillowcase Program

Recently, our Yr. 3 & 4 students were lucky to have Linda and Jaqui from the Red Cross visit. The Pillowcase Program, which the students participated in, is an educational program designed to help children prepare psychologically and practically for an emergency. During the program the students learned to ...

- Understand and discuss the importance of being prepared.
- Prepare their mind for the thoughts and feelings that may arise before, during and after an emergency.
- Know the difference between need and want items and what to pack in an emergency kit.



After thinking about what they would take in the event of an emergency, each student was given a pillowcase to decorate.



Hope you all have a great week! Di



Sport News

SAPSASA Tennis State Carnival

In Week 5, we had five MDS students represent the region in the SAPSASA State Tennis Carnival. Maggie Walsh, Kitty Wilson, Noah McDonnell and Hamish Coombe were in the SYP team that competed in the Division 3 event at Seacliff. Hamish and Maggie were the number 1 players for the boys and girls respectively - an exemplary achievement for Year 6s in a Year 6-7 event. Maggie won most of her singles while Hamish won three of his singles matches. They both performed strongly in their doubles matches against formidable opponents. Noah was a valuable contributor, winning most of his doubles and singles in the number 3 position. Kitty played consistent tennis all week in the number 6 position and visibly enjoyed the experience. The team excelled, securing victories in five matches out of the seven played to finish in outright third position for the week behind the winners Southern Fleurieu and runners-up Barker. The team were in the mix to win the event going into the final match, but a narrow defeat to Barker prevented that from occurring. Nevertheless, it was a splendid week for our MDS tennis crew.

Lara Jansons was a member of the YP team competing in Division 5 at Millswood. The team, comprising players from both the NYP and SYP districts, was formed to fill the void in the division after another district withdrew. Lara benefited from the experience by testing her skills out against different opponents. The team finished the week in 6th position with two wins and five losses.

Josh Coombe
SAPSASA Coordinator



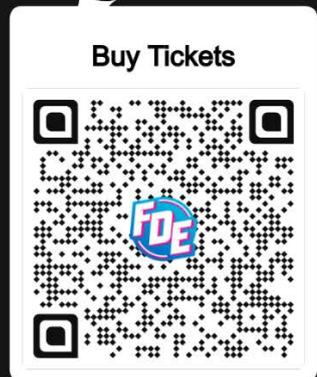
Year 10 Outdoor Education High Ropes Course

On Monday 15th November, the Year 10 Outdoor Education class travelled to Woodhouse Activity Centre at Piccadilly to participate in the High Ropes Course. This was the final excursion for the semester, as part of the practical component of the course. The students were involved in rock climbing up a 15m wall and various high ropes obstacles in amongst the trees. The group learnt the safety aspects of climbing including efficient belaying techniques. The group actively participated in all activities and worked well together as a team to overcome challenges throughout the day.



FOOTLIGHT DANCE EXPERIENCE

Proudly
Presents



Lights, Camera, Action!!

Come and see our dancers perform to music from movies we love

\$20 for adults \$10 for children
Saturday November 27th 7pm
Sunday November 28th 2pm

Maitland Town Hall

