



Minlaton District School

'By Deeds Not Words'

Celebrating 30 Years 1992-2022

Ph: (08)8853 2346 Fax: (08) 8853 2531 <http://www.minlatonds.sa.edu.au/>

DIARY DATES

JULY 2022

July

- 6th - Learning Expo - 2pm
- 8th - Term 2 Ends - 2pm Dismissal
- 25th - Term 3 Begins
- 29th - SYP Primary Basketball

[*see attached full term Calendar](#)



MINLATON DISTRICT SCHOOL CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

'Where are they now?'

Hannah Agnew: MDS 2012 - 2016

Hannah Agnew was a student at Minlaton District School from 2012 until 2016 when she completed Year 12 and was one of our Senior School Captains. In her final year Hannah undertook studies in Biology, Chemistry, English, Mathematical Studies and Research Project and at the end of Year 12 received the Chairperson's Prize for Leadership, Service and Academics.

Initially Hannah began a Bachelor of Mathematical & Computer Science degree at the University of Adelaide in 2017, with the intention to switch into an electronic/electrical engineering degree. After 1 semester of electronics, she realised she didn't want to continue with that so decided to focus just on Mathematics.

At the beginning of 2018, Hannah realised she wasn't enjoying maths anymore and decided to go into a general science degree. In her first year, she did chemistry, biology, geology, astronomy and physics. Deciding that she really liked biology, she then began majors in genetics and microbiology & immunology. In the summer of 2020 (Jan-Feb), Hannah did a paid summer research placement in the Paton lab at the University for 6-weeks. She "absolutely loved doing research" and decided that after she finished her bachelor degree she would embark on a PhD.

After finishing her bachelor at the end of 2020, Hannah started a Master of Philosophy (a type of research degree), in the lab where she had completed her placement. Hannah is still currently doing a master's degree, however has recently applied to transfer to a PhD and should become a doctor (not medical!) in 2024.

If you want to find out what Hannah does everyday, jump on to the uniofadelade instagram account and check out her "Day in the life..." video diary. (See photo left)





A MESSAGE FROM ALI

As we approach the mid year break I think we are all looking forward to some down time. Perhaps a good book and a roaring fire, or maybe a brisk walk in nature might be on your list of holiday activities? Whatever is on your agenda, I hope it revitalises you allows you to rest and recharge from another busy and 'interesting' term.

Our world is an uncertain place at the moment and we are all being stung by the inability to access items that we would normally take for granted. Our renovation of the school canteen is on hold until the October holidays due to lack of supply of benchtops. Digital equipment is also high on the list of things with a disrupted supply chain, and to this end we are encouraging anyone who will be looking for a device for their child for 2023 to check out the Device portal on our school website and get an order in sooner rather than later. We understand that some orders are taking many months for delivery. Parents of Year 5 students who will be entering the Middle School in 2023 will receive a letter outlining the purchase process early next week, but if your child is in another year level and you wish to upgrade or replace, please think about ordering in the next couple of weeks.

On June 17th our student leaders organised a 'sports team' casual day with students bringing a gold coin donation to come dressed in their team colours. I'm delighted to announce that a total of \$300 was raised and Zoe directed a donation to Motor Neurone Disease Australia on behalf of our students this week. Well done everyone.

At our last Governing Council meeting we discussed our school canteen. Cathy has done a fabulous job to turn around the finances, but is looking for some more suggestions about what she might offer on the menu and how she can maintain a positive financial position. If you have any suggestions please let her know.

Also discussed were our projected enrolments for the 2023 school year. It's about this time of each year that I ask any families for whom MDS will not be their school next year to let us know of movement so that we can plan accordingly.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all to our Learning Expo next Wednesday July 6th at 2pm. You are invited to visit classes and enjoy talking to the students about their learning. Thank you for your consideration in not visiting if you are ill.

Please remember that school is dismissed at 2pm next Friday for the final day of Term 2. Have a relaxing break.

See you all on July 25th when we begin Term 3.

Ali



'A good Education
Is a Foundation
For a better Future'

-Elizabeth Warren-



FROM THE DEPUTY'S DESK...

Disclaimer: from time to time, parents/caregivers seek advice or support from MDS staff regarding a range of issues. The intention of this article is to go some way to supporting parents/caregivers for the benefit of our young people and the community that surround them. This article is a stimulus for self-reflection on our attitudes and behaviours towards relevant issues. It is in no way targeted at a single individual or group within our school community but is shared to all in the interests of transparency and an avenue to promote dialogue and a deeper understanding of the issue at hand.

Your respectful and thoughtful feedback is welcome and encouraged.
dl.0781.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Occasionally events occur that warrant a considered, consistent approach across the entire R-12 cohort. Recently, our leadership team took the decision to share the 'Upstander' message with each class. Our prompt for this was a range of diverse incidents, each with a common thread - namely, that if a witness had spoken up sooner, intervened in some way, rather than being silently complicit, improved outcomes would have resulted. A fact in our business is that we often learn of issues well after it they have occurred. Subsequently much teacher/leader time is spent trying to gauge the accuracy and timeline of the events, sometimes leading to a blurring of facts and making it difficult to address with fairness.

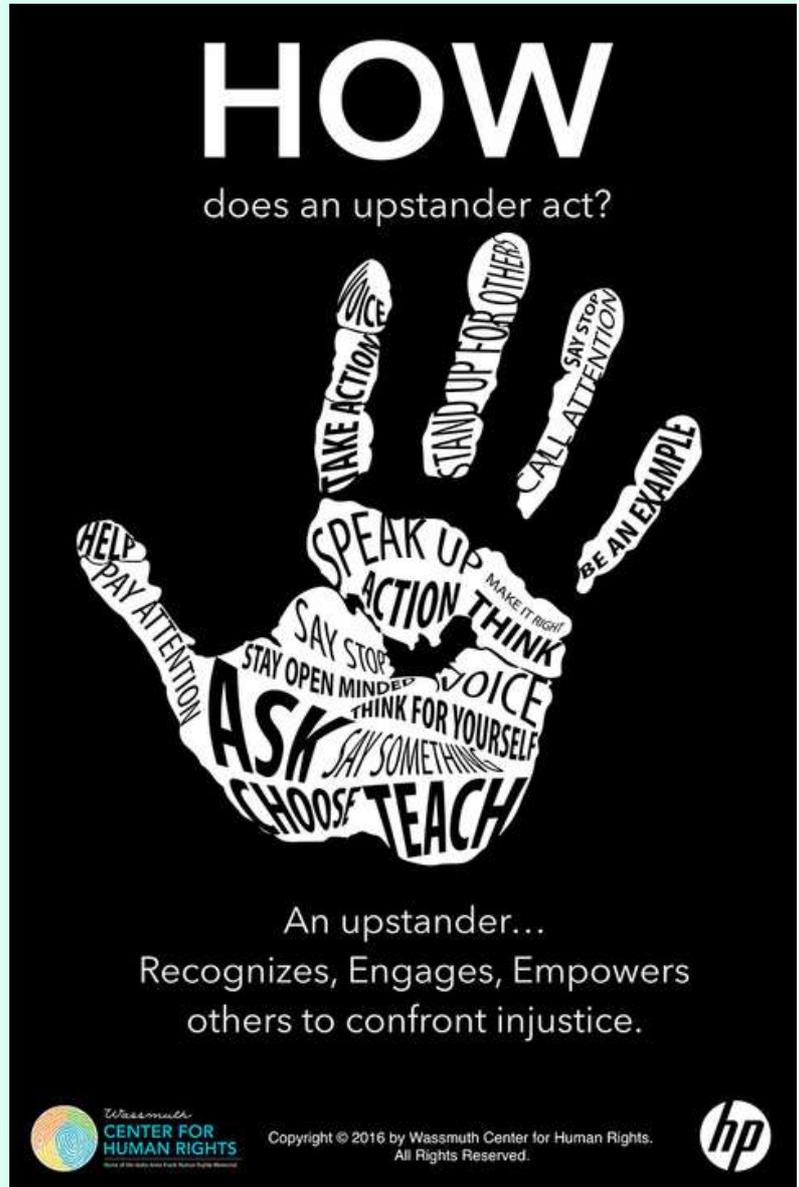
The message here is about 'doing the right thing' by everyone involved - specifically reflecting two of our school values; honesty and respect.

The following text and associated poster are a part of what was shared with and discussed with all students a few weeks ago. So far, it's been heartening that the message has been heard, and we have students 'stepping up and speaking up' about important issues, looking out for themselves and gaining the personal growth that comes with being a community member with integrity.

It would be great if you could also have a conversation with your child about this.

Again, we welcome your thoughts, comments, or questions in relation to this matter.

Greg Hackett
Deputy Principal



Are you a bystander?

A bystander is defined as a person who witnesses events, usually violent, tragic, medical, accidental, generally dangerous incidents, that require action to be taken, but do nothing, resulting in harm coming to another person.

- Being a 'bystander' is not a positive or admirable personal trait. Bystanders generally:
- Lack courage
- Lack confidence
- Lack language
- Lack obligation toward civic duty
- Lack perspective
- Lack consideration for others
- Lack some combination of these factors when they are most required

The 'Bystander Effect' is a term that refers to the phenomenon of human behaviour whereby the more people who witness a violent, tragic, medical, accidental, or generally harmful incident, the less likely anyone is to act and provide assistance to the victim or victims. Some extreme examples of this phenomenon have occurred in our society such as

- An elderly man had cardiac arrest and died in a busy shopping centre. Footage showed that an estimated 850-900 people passed close by within a few minutes and none of them stopped to assist until it was too late. Once one person stopped to help, approximately 20 others also then stopped almost immediately.

This topic raises many moral and ethical points of discussion, but I would like to suggest that in the first instance that we consider the following:

Being a bystander does not make you 'innocent', rather, if you are not part of the solution, you are likely to be part of the problem.

The opposite of being a bystander is being an 'Upstander'. An upstander is someone who:

- Demonstrates courage
- Takes action
- Demonstrates assertiveness (confidence)
- Demonstrates compassion
- Demonstrates leadership
-

Psychologists suggest that the best way to prevent 'The Bystander Effect' is simply to make people aware of what it is and what we are showing when we refuse to intervene to help someone when it is required.

As the example above shows, it only takes one person to be an Upstander to inspire others to also do the right thing and take action to support a fellow community member.

Any time you witness or are aware of any of the following, there is immediate action required to protect someone in need.

- Bullying/cyberbullying
- Harassment
- Abuse
- Intimidation
- Exclusion
- Vilification (racial, sexual, disability etc)
- Physical violence
- Self-harm
- Substance abuse
- General crime
- Medical episode

The action can be by you, or you are the person alerting an appropriate adult to deal with the situation.

Often the victims of 'bystanding' are our friends, family members or close associates

Everybody deserves help when they need it

'In the end we will not remember the words of our enemies, but silence of our friends'
Martin Luther King

Library News

Next term I'll be travelling around Western Australia with my five favourite people on long service leave and the very capable Tina Slaby will be filling my role at the Library. Tina will be a very familiar face to most of our students having worked extensively as a reliever and on contracts in our school over the last few years and also brings past experience in the role of Teacher Librarian so the Library will be in safe hands with Candy and Hannah holding the fort also.

Book Week will be celebrated during Week 5 of Term 3 and though I will not be here to witness it, I believe we will be holding our annual dress up day, so start putting on the thinking caps, get out the scissors, cardboard and glue and be ready! Being a parent as well as a teacher I know the kind of panic and sleep deprivation last minute costume organizing can induce. Watch this space for more details from Tina next term.

The Premier's Reading Challenge finishes at the end of Week 7 next term. Many of our students have already completed the challenge but if you haven't yet there is still plenty of time. See me in the Library if you need a form or to check if your book is on the list. You can also check here: <https://premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/>

The primary classes have been engaging in a lot of quality discussions around the books we are reading, particularly focusing on the key areas of summarising, predicting, questioning and clarifying. As part of clarifying we are getting into the habit of spotting new words and discovering what they mean. Many of our library books are rich with interesting vocabulary words. Here is a sample of words that we have uncovered in recent weeks:

Reception class: Vain, chandelier, astonished.

Year R/1: Fond, debut, dewlap, absurd, encore.

Year 2/3: despicable, flabbergasted, revolutionise, diabolical, loathsome, negligent, explicable, insisted, bloated, infuriating.

Year 3/4: superstition, cholesterol, immortal, mediocre, altitude, materialized, fatigue, monumental, disconcerted, garial.

Year 5: Dynasty, idle, anaphalactic, catafalque, adolescent, espionage, gruesome, guerilla, biology, delirious.



Try using some of these words in conversation with the family and see if they remember what they mean! If you're not sure about a word, ask the kids - they love being the experts. If all else fails look the word up in a dictionary or online. Why not start a word wall at home?

Keep turning pages.

Mr Cook

Senior School News

This week sees the start of a new semester in the senior school at MDS, and with that we see a real ramping up in many areas. As students begin new subjects, there will be a reinforcing of the expectations we have of our senior students around work output (both quantity and quality), attitude & application to task, and their self & time management. These are key focus areas for our senior students as we seek to build their individual capacity to manage the competing demands of being a 21st century citizen.

In addition in term 3 our year 10 students begin their journey into the SACE in earnest (and undertake some workplace learning and in depth careers explorations), our year 9 - 11 students undertake a variety of course counselling and subject selection activities to plan and prepare for 2023, and our year 12s really begin to focus on their post school transitions. There are learning conversations, industry visits, VET tasters, guest speakers and excursion opportunities. In between those things we also manage to fit in some classroom learning!

Flinders University Visit

On Tuesday 28th June, we were lucky enough to have a visit from Bex Johnson, an Access Project Officer from Flinders University. Bex took our year 8-9 students through a program called the River Journey which gets them to explore areas of interest and some of their personal traits which may be of benefit in the future before linking these to some potential career pathways. She then had a chat with our year 11 and 12 students about university life, entry pathways and what courses Flinders offers. The presentations were well received by all students.



Careers Trip 2022

Things are really starting to come together with the trip, with most visits confirmed, and there certainly are some fantastic places planned (without giving away any spoilers, the space industry is a great future pathway...). The trip is approaching pretty quickly, being in week 5 of term 3 (22-26 August), so it may pay to begin making arrangements for accommodation for the week, as students do not stay in a central supervised venue. This is a compulsory part of the Stage 1 Personal Learning Plan which all Year 10 students undertake in Semester 2, as well as being a significant highlight of the Year 10 curriculum. I will be emailing out some information on Friday this week to year 10 families, and we will have a student and parent/care giver information session on Wednesday 20th of July. This meeting is likely to be via Microsoft Teams, just like the term 2 Learning Conversations, allowing people to meet, get all the info and ask all the questions they might have while being in the comfort of their own homes!

As always, if you have any questions about Senior School related matters, don't hesitate to call me here at school or send an email to: glen.white872@schools.sa.edu.au

Glen White

Senior School Coordinator

Middle School News

A new semester is upon us, which means a range of key events have and will occur. Students have new timetables with Personal Interest subjects beginning. To conclude term 2, reflections on set goals still need to occur and there is still time for students to strive for Student Incentive Scheme points.

New timetables can be viewed on DayMap. Although room locations for most subjects have remained the same some subject teachers have changed. This allows students to experience a range of teaching styles, knowledge and expertise. Core subjects such as Mathematics and English will continue but the first few lessons of Personal Interest subjects have taken place. Students provided nominations for these subjects during the term with most obtaining their first preference.

The Personal Interest subjects on offer this term include:

- **AFL Fantasy:** A dive into the world of AFL Fantasy where students use statistical analysis to evaluate created teams. A practical component will get students physically active, developing their football skills through game simulation and drills.
- **Woodwork:** Practical woodworking skills will be developed by students to produce a product that they design. Time management, timber costing and safety are essential parts to the production of successful projects.
- **Face Painting and Tattoo Design:** Students will design patterns based on research from established artists. A portfolio of techniques, texts and materials will be created along with personalised art works.
- **Intensive Netball:** Students will develop specific skills of netball, including umpiring, before implementing them in game situations. Apart from the practical components students will also analysis key statistics of the game.
- **Mystery Box MasterChef:** As the name implies students will plan & cook a variety of dishes from the mystery ingredients. Food preparation skills and capabilities will be developed with presented dishes evaluated for future improvement. Key focal areas for the subject will also include food hygiene, nutrition and time management.

A look back on the term that was in the form of goal reflections ensures students gain the most from their purposeful actions. Before the end of term students will completed their Term 2 goal setting reflections, which can be viewed on Daymap. Staff also get to provide feedback to students on their school citizenship, involvement in co-curricula events and strive the for excellence through the awarding of Student Incentive Scheme points. Students have one more week to earn points before the counting ends. The highest scoring and most improved students on the incentive scheme will be rewarded with a canteen voucher.

Please get in contact with me if you have any questions/concerns/issues with anything throughout the year. My email address is Stephen.Talbot110@schools.sa.edu.au

Stephen Talbot

Middle School Coordinator

Primary School News

Learning Conversations

The Learning Conversations have been running smoothly in all the primary classes over the last two weeks. Thank you to all the parents who have come in with their child to have conversations about their learning and progress. Semester one reports were given out at these interviews. Any parent or caregiver who did not attend a Learning Conversation may still like to get in contact with their child's class teacher and arrange a time to meet either in the last week of term or early next term. Reports will be given out on the last day of school for those children who did not have a Learning Conversation.

Learning Expo

The Learning Expo is on once again! Next week on the 6th of July the classrooms will be opened for parents and caregivers to attend and view the students' learning. The children enjoy sharing their work with the significant people in their lives, and it's a great way to add meaning and purpose to their learning efforts. We understand that many people work, but feel free to ask a grandparent or significant person in your child's life to come and support their learning.

Maths at Home - Time

Telling the time and reading clocks are important skills for children to develop. The Reception students begin the process by labelling parts of a clock and reading the o'clock time. Each year the students add to their knowledge of how to tell the time, the significance of time, timetables, 24-hour time, time zones, elapsed time problems etc.

Many children struggle with telling the time using an analogue clock. At home parents can support the children by helping them work out the time by doing everyday activities using o'clock and half past... times first, followed by quarter to... and quarter past... times. Once they have mastered these they can begin using 'to and past' form, at 5-minute intervals. Transferring their knowledge to digital time is generally an easy task once they have mastered these.

Barb Agnew

Primary Coordinator

Spanish R-6

In R-3 Spanish this term our topic is En el Mar (Under the Sea).

We practised some sea creatures' names, listened to a jellyfish song and then made a medusa. We liked watching the medusas swim and their tentaculos waving around.



Primary School News



We made una bellena.

Did you know the ballena azul weighs as much as 33 elefantes?

The 2/3s read the story "El arco iris colores" and then made their own book about sea creatures.



We also made un calamar with dos tentaculos y ocho brazos.



Primary School News



The Year 3-5 topic is La Escuela.

The 3/4 class made una bolsa (school bag), filling it with items and a surprise.



The 5/6 class created maps of a school, labelling the different rooms and spaces.



Sport News

SAPSASA CROSS COUNTRY

Henley Dutschke, Lowan Coe and Sam Mahar represented SYP in the SAPSASA Cross Country State Championships last week. The students were selected to compete based on their performances in the District Cross Country event at Yorketown earlier in the term.

The competition was extremely tough with the best runners from forty SAPSASA metro and country districts competing. There were over 170 students in each event with an undulating course challenging the competitors around the famous Oakbank racecourse.

Henley finished 151st in the 10 year-old boys 2km event in a time of 9 mins 24 secs. Lowan completed his run in 150th place in the 12 year-old boys event in the time of 14:44, while Sam ended his race in the 12 year-old boys event in 166th position with a time of 15:07.

Well done to Henley, Lowan and Sam on their persistence and determination for this event. Thank you also to the parents who made the commitment to transport their children to and from the event.



YEAR 7/8 STATEWIDE SCHOOLS BASKETBALL COMPETITION

On Wednesday 29th June, Maggie Walsh, Gabrielle Hickman and Rose Pisani represented Yorke Peninsula in the Year 7/8 Statewide Schools Basketball Competition division 2 finals at the Lights and Community Sports Centre. The side were competing against 5 other schools from across the state and had progressed to the finals after winning the first round of the competition earlier in the term. Results from the day will be published in the next newsletter.

7/8 STATEWIDE SCHOOLS FOOTBALL COMPETITION



On Tuesday 21st June, Thomas Phillips, Oscar Macgowan, Tyson Bennett, Hamish Coombe, James Cook and Ethan McDonnell represented Yorke Peninsula in the Year 7/8 Statewide Schools Competition. The Yorke Peninsula side had won their first two matches and were playing Clare High School in the next round at Paskeville.

The side started well and played some good team footy. The match was tightly contested but some inaccurate kicking in front of goal was the difference on the day. The final scores were Clare High School 5.1 defeated Yorke Peninsula 4.4. Thanks to our parents and families who supported the team and transported the students to the games.

Term 3 Calendar

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
Week 1	25	26	27 July	28	29 SYP Basketball Carnival	30	31
Week 2	1	2	3	4 Balaklava Eisteddfod	5	6	7
Week 3	8	9	10 Red Cross Refugee Day	11	12 Mime-O-Rama – Primary performance	13	14
Week 4	15	16	17 August	18	19	20	21
Week 5	22 SYP Primary Aths – trial Yr 10 Careers Week	23	24	25	26	27	28
Week 6	29	30	31	1	2 Student Free Day	3	4
Week 7	5	6	7 September	8	9	10	11
Week 8	12	13 Year 8 Immunisations	14	15	16 Girls Cricket Gala Day	17	18
Week 9	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Week 10	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
	3	4	5 October	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16