This edition of MAS Media has been edited to reduce the size due to website restrictions. Please contact the school if you would like an original copy sent.
Melbourne camps, aquatic camps, beach week, business week, formals, graduations, family night, presentation assembly all mean that we are near the end of the year. Some one said to me the other day, “I suppose you are winding down for the year” I had to tell them that, no, in fact the end of the year is one of the busiest times of the year.

There have been many great school events over the last two weeks, culminating in today's Presentation Assembly and Christmas family night. I would like to acknowledge the work of Moonta Staff in facilitating the many camps, excursions and activities that make up the end of the school year. Also a big thank you to the many parents, students and local businesses that have put in time and effort to support these events.

We hope the weather is kind and I am very much looking forward to my first family night at Moonta Area School. I hope to see a lot of parents, family and friends there to support the students as they perform.

Moonta Area School is so fortunate to have such a caring local community which support us in many and varied ways. The school and most importantly the students, benefit significantly from this relationship and we appreciate it very much. Thank you

Staffing news
We are still working with DECS in finalising our staff for 2010; we hope to have all places filled by the end of this week. Whilst we have no permanent staff leaving, a number of teachers in contract positions have been reappointed to the school. Chelsea Balnaves, Hayley Spaans, Shirley Clark, Jane McCauley, Peta Eylward and John Savage have all accepted positions for 2010. All of these teachers have been with us for varying times this year which it is extremely beneficial for the school that we have such experienced and familiar staff returning to the school.

I look forward to working with these teachers again in 2010. Kristy Johnson will be retuning to Adelaide to take up a position teaching at Saint Peters’ Boys School and we wish her all the best and thank her for her time at Moonta Area School. We also thank Sarah Knight, who has been a fantastic Sport and Rec. trainee and wish her well as she starts her university study.

Congratulations to Margaret Pope who has won our Student Counsellor position for the next 5 years. Margaret is a very experienced teacher who will along with Vince Ivens, Rob Martin and Sonya Rankine make up our Well Being Team for 2010.

2010 school year
A reminder that the 2010 school year starts on Wednesday 27th January. First term will be shortened next year with term two being an 11 week term. Letters will be sent home on Friday with all the information regarding start of year, payment of fees, office hours etc.

Year 12 Formal
In days gone by, young people participated in Deb Balls and Coming Out ceremonies designed to be a ‘rite of passage’ from children to young adults. The school formal is now what has taken their place with our Year 11 & 12 Formal being held on Thursday night. The night was a spectacular affair with beautiful gowns and formal attire together with a transformation of the Seagate restaurant. Sincere thanks to the Formal Committee and Meredith Westbrook for the organisation of the event and to our young adults who looked absolutely fabulous.

School Magazine 2009
I must congratulate Nina Penna on the quality of this year’s school magazine. It is a great record of all the events, activities and learning that happens in an Area School.

Keeping learning alive during the holidays- let’s have a reading holiday
Holidays can be a great time for children - and teachers - to rest and for families to encourage different learning strategies within their homes. Summer holidays are a wonderful opportunity for families to enjoy activities together. Children return to school from the long holiday more mature and keen for the new year after weeks of close contact with the family and friends.

Without, however, some attention to learning, the summer weeks of down-time can bring problems later, when teachers have to spend time reteaching concepts students have forgotten.

The summer break can be especially difficult for younger children who have only recently become used to the daily school routine. They are new learners, and the new skills and routines take a lot of reinforcement. So it’s harder for them to come back after the break and start up again where they left off.

Parents may like to spend a short time each day going over some of the things their children have learned at school. Make it fun, but also help to reinforce what children have been learning.
Enjoyable activities with letters and numbers and reading a lot can help keep learning alive. There are many educational activities that families can do to help make the transition back to school easier. Cooking, shopping, reading, planning activities, working out costs, making phone calls, writing thank-you letters are all very important to keep children engaged so that their minds stay fresh for when they return to school.

Try using the newspaper as a learning tool, even with younger students. They can find the items you need in supermarket advertisements. Get them to circle words they recognise in stories or photo captions.

Take children for small day trips that are fun, educational and energetic. Buy postcards so they can write to friends and grandparents about what they have seen and done.

Playing cards and board games can keep children engaged in reading, cooperating and learning skills.

Most of all have fun doing it

On a personal note can I publicly thank all members of the Moonta School Community for their support this year.

I wish to thank all the staff for their tremendous work, Governing Council, Parent Club, volunteers for their support and their efforts in making Moonta Area the best it can be.

I would especially like to thank all Moonta Area students for their commitment to their studies, their willingness to learn and for taking their opportunities to grow and make themselves and the school a place of **Learning, Caring and Sharing.**

Have a great Christmas break and holidays and I look forward with enthusiasm to the 2010 school year.

Kind regards

Dean

On Tuesday the 1st of December the R-6 Action Group had their end of year lunch at Queen’s Square.

We played games like cricket and ball games. We had pizzas and soft drinks for lunch followed by fruit and spiders.

Then we had extra time to play before we walked back to school.

Everyone had a good time being on R-6 this semester.

We would like to thank Mrs Pope and our Junior School Captains for attending all our meetings.

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**R-6 Action Group Lunch**

*By Gracie and Katie*

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Moonta Area School Aboriginal students participated in the Nunga Little Athletics Day on Friday 27th November at Santos Stadium. Nunga Little Athletics’ Day is a great event where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and youth get together to have a go at various athletic track & field events. The event is organised by SA Little Athletic’s Association and Office for Recreation & Sport. In the morning all students received basic training and in the afternoon children aged 8 and above were able to participate in the Championship Medal events. It was a fantastic day and was well organised. The students were kept busy all day. We had 12 students attend; Andrew Appleton, Willis Daveson, Tianna Sansbury, Tamika Sansbury, Carron Daveson, Edwin Dyson, Lloyd Hobbs, Jessica Bones, Lochlan Appleton, Rachel Bones, Zane Gummow, Vaun Sawdy-Gummow.

There were over 400 students at the day and our students did very well in the Championship events.
- Lochlan Appleton – Silver medal, 200m
- Carron Daveson – Gold medal, discus & Bronze medal, 200m
- Edwin Dyson – Bronze medal, 200m & Long Jump
- Tamika Sansbury – Silver medal, discus
- Tiana Sansbury – Bronze medal, discus

Last Thursday evening the Senior School Graduation Dinner was held at the Seagate Bistro. The girls looked so glamorous and the boys very suave, all dressed up in their finery.

Thank you to Phoebe, Tayla, Mrs Anderson and the rest of the Formal Committee for their organisation and to Natalie, Tara and Michelle for setting up the lovely decorations.

Also a really big thank you to the Royal Hotel Social Club for their very generous donation, which was greatly appreciated.
Nervous and tired students waiting to catch the plane to Melbourne.

Rhyan, Alec & Steven skating at Wonderland Ice skating Park.

MCG – don’t walk on it or you will get a $6000 fine!

Willis at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre.

Ricky, Alec & a penguin at the Melbourne Aquarium.

Sarah & Chloe at the Melbourne Zoo.
Year 8 Port Vincent Aquatics Camp

On Monday 30th November through to Thursday 3rd December, 30 year eight students travelled to Port Vincent to participate in aquatic activities including surfing, windsurfing, kayaking, knee boarding and sailing. We stayed in tents at the caravan park and were extremely fortunate with fine weather. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday were spent at Port Vincent and then Wednesday we travelled to Berry Bay to spend a day surfing. Throughout the week the increased level of competency at a variety of aquatics activities was evident.

We would like to sincerely thank Travis Skipworth for giving up his spare time to support us at camp.

Year 10 Australian Business Week

During week 7 of this term the year 10’s competed in Australian Business Week. Moonta Area School had 3 teams – The Crevasse, The Malahini and Bella Parisio. The students had to create a luxury hotel and run it through a computer simulation for the entire week. They were also judged on a trade display for which they had to create, a 30 second video advertisement and a company report. This culminated on Friday with each team vying for the judges’ interest and their dollars as well. It was a fantastic week with the eventual winner of each category being
BEST TRADE DISPLAY: The Crevasse
BEST VIDEO ADVERTISEMENT: The Crevasse
BEST COMPANY REPORT: The Malahini
BEST SHARE PRICE: Bella Parisio

Congratulations to the overall winner The Crevasse. Special thanks must go to Brad Perks and Kym Phillips from Matrix Companies. Gavin Appleton from A.H electrical, Travis Skipworth, Sharon Ward from KMHS and Ian Ravenscroft for their help with judging.

A very special thankyou must also go to Moonta Froota and Fabians Nursery who sponsored the individual groups for Business Week.

Year 10 students participating in Week 7’s Business Week would like to thank Moonta Froota for their generous donation. Their contribution to the ‘Bulla Paraiso Resort’ trade display looked and tasted fantastic. There were many favourable comments.

Moonta Froota

Year 10 Australian Business Week

The Malihini business group [aka Year 10’s] would like to thank FABIAN’S NURSERY for the kind loan of plants for their trade display. They certainly looked the part.

Most appreciated
CEO Jonathan Slade
Year 9’s Take Over RADelaide

On the 2nd December, the year nine crew took off for an educational and celebratory trip to our beloved capital... and it turned out to be more educational than first planned...

- Willow and Barrett had either a very late night or a very early morning
- Jacinta showed us that young people can, in fact, be ridiculously safe drivers. Gumby went all out to show us what not to do on the road. Cooper should never be allowed to even sit the L’s test due to an insatiable slide-addiction and finally young Madden, complete with a newly operated on knee, and a cement post, showed why motor sports have so many on the edge of their seats.
- Trev was an integral leader, showing us that the baseball cap is this summer’s hottest fashion accessory with many returning home newly-hatted and which will, of course, not be modelled at school.
- Keasty showed us how to fit an entire spare outfit into a handbag.
- Scott and Sparrow showed the crowd how the diving platforms should be conquered.
- and Party, surprisingly, showed how an all-you-can-eat buffet is really done!

They did both the school and themselves proud and a great time was had by all!

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

For the past two years the senior school staff has made a concentrated effort to help students access training and study more relevant to their future careers, through TAFE and private registered training organisations (RTO’s). This year 40 students have studied 296 competencies through a variety of courses including building and construction, engineering, auto, hairdressing, beauty, retail, child care, aged care, police and justice and fashion. Many students have undertaken regular work experience in addition to the obligatory one week in July and several students have undertaken work placement for one day every week. Two students, Jessica Carmichael and Lisa Cooper, have completed traineeships in retail at Network Video while Jen Appleton and Jess Flavel have begun school based apprenticeships – Jen in hairdressing with Wendy from Hair Bitz and Jess at Parkview. Another three students have gained full time apprenticeships for next year as a result of their VET studies. Mel Scott will be working at the Kadina Child Care Centre, Harley Litchfield at Wahlstedt Quality Homes and Bec Allen at the nursing home in Kadina. We are extremely grateful to those employers for supporting our students and providing them with opportunities in the world of work.

If parents or employers would like to discuss any aspect of VET please contact either Mem Westbrook or Vince Ivens.

Year 10 CAMP at Stenhouse Bay

Stenhouse Bay Jetty

At Pondalowie - SURFERS BEACH

The trip to Stenhouse Bay was my first camp with Moonta Area School and whether we were fishing, swimming, body surfing or jetty jumping we all thoroughly enjoyed the entire trip.       James Stanley
On Monday 30th November we held a celebration to mark thirty years since our library opened as a combined school and community library. Mrs Johnstone made 500 cupcakes and everyone who was at school came into the library at recess time to sing ‘Happy Birthday’ and receive a cupcake.

On Sunday the 29th we held a community luncheon and invited past staff, library committee members and interested people from the District Council and the community. The first and second community librarians, Eileen Browne and Sue Hazel, were on hand to cut the birthday cake which was also made by Mrs Johnstone.

It was a great couple of days of celebration.

It’s the end of term 4 and most students have returned all resources checked out to them. Many put their name in the box to go in the lucky draw after returning all their items. Congratulations to Steph from FR, Casey from SHA, Kurt from VG and Willis from MH who all received a bag of goodies from us.

On Wednesday evening accounts are printed for outstanding items from 2009. These accounts will be placed in report folders. We ask you to return the items or pay for them by the end of this year so that students can begin 2010 with a fresh start. There is a return chute near the front office door for out of hours returns.

Those who want books for the holidays are welcome to borrow from now on. The library is open all through the holidays, Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm (til 6pm Thur) and Sundays 1.30 to 4pm. We are closed from 25th Dec to the 4th Jan inclusive.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and hope you get to enjoy some good books while you relax.

Tricia, Dave, Janet, Janine and Jane.

Siberia Makeover

Flash with students sprucing up Siberia with a bit of fresh paint and pressure cleaning the pavers.

Tim Harvey and Chevie Mullins painted the verandah poles and seats.
Taylor Paulson pressure cleaning the pavers.
Stacey Cooper and Alice Ackland painting the seats.
Music Concert

The well attended end of year music concert on the 28th November allowed over 50 students to showcase their talents in woodwind, keyboard, drums and guitar. A big thank you to the music teachers Rob, Andrea, Michelle and Vince for organising the concert, to Michael Carson for filming and producing a DVD of the event and to the students who performed.

Big Beginner Band Day

Gabby Morby and Gemma Ivens participated in the Big beginner band day which was held at Maitland on the 24th November. They enjoyed practising and playing their instruments with other music students from around the peninsula.

Public Notices

Summer School Dresses – YP Uniforms and Promo Products. Please order now, samples here for sizing. Minimum of 20 required to order. NO orders taken after 11th December 2009. Order will be placed on this date. Delivery late January. 65 George St, Moonta. Phone: 88 252 824, Mobile: 0418 853 207.
The Salvation Army Copper Coast is holding a School holiday program in January from Wednesday 13th January to Friday 15th January between 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. to be conducted at 1 Port Rd Kadina. Ages are for primary aged children. The cost is $2 per day, per child. Activities include games, songs, biblical stories craft and morning tea. Please contact the Church on 88213366 for details and for booking as there is a limited capacity. From everyone here at the Salvation Army we would like to thank all have assisted through our Christmas hamper appeal this year we would like to also take the opportunity to wish everyone a joyful and blessed Christmas and a safe and prosperous new year.
Santa’s Cave – Helpers needed please for Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th December 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Monday 21st to Thursday 24th December at 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Roster at Moonta Variety Store or phone 88 252 169.
Make-a-Wish Family Fun Beach Carnival, 10th January 2010.

GET CREATIVE WITH LITERACY

All readers

Artistic activities stretch your child’s imagination and boost their reading skills.
1. Visualise it. Ask your children to draw, paint or make models of scenes of a story they’ve read.
2. Paint a portrait. Encourage your children to draw or paint the way they ‘see’ a character in a book in their mind, focusing on facial expressions, physical appearance, clothes etc.
3. Get dramatic. Children love to dramatise stories. Encourage them to retell a story dramatically or read it with different voices for different characters either alone, or with siblings or friends.
4. Sell a story. Ask your children to ‘advertise’ to others a good book they have read.
5. Put it to music. With your children invent new lyrics to fit to a known tune and sing and enjoy them. It could be a ‘parody’ that is a send-up of an original song or idea, or words that just fit with the music.

GREAT READS

❖ I Thought I Saw a Dinosaur by Emma Todd. Jack’s cousins Olly and Issy have come to camp in the back garden where Jack convinces them to go on a dinosaur hunt. The combination of torches, shadows and imagination is funny and scary — who is hunting whom? Suggested for readers 5+.
❖ Oliver Nocturne #3: Blood Ties by Kevin Emerson. Vampire stories are hot and this is a great series for younger readers. The Nocturnes are heading off to visit their Old World relatives in Morosia, an underground vampire city, but Oliver and his friends think a mysterious woman can help them. Recommended for readers aged 9+.
Year 11/12 Formal

Week 8 Camp Photos

Year 7's in Melbourne

Year 8's in Port Vincent

Year 9's went to Adelaide

Year 10's at Stenhouse Bay

Week 9

Wednesday 9th December
5 p.m. Family Night

Thursday 10th December
R-11 Semester 2 Reports sent home

Friday 11th December
2 p.m. Dismissal

Calendar

2010

Wednesday 27th January 2010
Term 1 commences