Successful Year 12 Results

Congratulations to our year 12 class of 2009. The results achieved show that students at Moonta Area are capable of achieving at the highest level, and I want to acknowledge the work of our teachers and parents who supported these students to achieve these results.

We received a total of 12 A’s and had a 95% SACE completion rate.

Well done:
Daniel Osborn: 4 A’s
   English, Hospitality, Physical Education & Maths
Tom Ackland: 2 A’s
   Art and English
Lauren Ferguson: 2 A’s
   English and History
Scott Grenville: 2 A’s
   Hospitality and Physical Education
Phoebe Hunter: 1 A
   Hospitality
Natalie Tozonotte: 1 A
   Hospitality
SCHOOL WELCOME NIGHT -
I encourage all parents to attend our Welcome Night, tomorrow night as an opportunity to meet your child’s teachers, and other members of staff including myself. Your child will able to show you around their class and the school and introduce you to their teacher/s. Remember we will be providing a BBQ on the night.

PUPIL FREE DAY: TUESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
A reminder that the school will be closed next Tuesday 16th February. On this day and for the next two days we are working with a literacy expert in Mr Stephen Graham on effective teaching of reading and comprehension in a literacy block. Having it early in the year will provide our staff with ideas, plans, strategies and learning activities which they can then incorporate into their literacy blocks immediately and hopefully have flow on effects for the entire year.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AT MAS
To be a great school we need to have as much parent involvement as possible. This can be as basic as ensuring you know your child’s teachers, class expectations and work requirements so you are able to support their learning. Making sure your child misses minimal schooling by keeping appointments out of school hours and being on time every day, are common things we need all parents to do.

It may be that you are able to provide more time and assist with canteen support or assist our LAP program by reading with students on a regular basis. You may wish to be involved with governance of the school and join governing council, decision making council or become a member of our parent club. One thing is for sure, - the more parent involvement we have the better the school will be.

We can't do it without you.
As I mentioned previously, Education is, essentially, a partnership between home and school and in order to do it well, we need your advice and input about what you think would work for your child and the student body as a whole. It is fair to say that we all want what is best for our children.

How do you get that?

GOVERNING COUNCIL
One way is to join Governing Council and become a member of a committed group of parents, like yourself. They meet once a month for a couple of hours to discuss, inform and decide on a range of issues to do with the school and its direction.

Governing Council members contribute to and advise on school policy matters, finance issues, asset management, school systems and communication methods. They also help out at many of the school's events such as sports day. What's it in for me?

It’s a big list, starting with supporting not only your own child’s education but that of others. Council members would describe a sense of satisfaction at seeing a job well done and an ongoing feeling of achievement as they walk through the school, knowing it is a better place for the students and staff to learn as a result of their efforts.

Want to know more?
I am sure any of the people mentioned below would be happy to talk to you about their time on governing council, what they got out of it, as well as what they did and what the meetings were like, plus any other questions you may have.

Governing Council elected members last year were: Elise Barrett, Mark Templer, Meredy Shipard, Libby Williams, Lyndon Elsworthy, Julie Wardle, Sue Ferguson, Tony Dunn, Adrian Hatcher, Craig Cross, Sandy Madden, and Greg Smith. Representative members include: Travis Skipworth, Bruce Schmidt, Michele Appleton.

As the constitution dictates, some of these members completed their two year tenure at the end of last year and therefore will be up for re election or will be retiring. Where do I sign up?

The Governing Council AGM will be held on Wednesday 3rd March at 7:30 p.m.
I invite all parents to attend. If you wish to stand for Governing Council, I ask you to either complete the tear off nomination slip & return it to the front office at the school or contact me directly.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
Our canteen’s future depends on its ability to make itself run at a slight profit. DECS will not allow any canteen to run at a loss. The introduction of the Healthy Eating Guidelines, has seen the removal of many previous (non healthy) profit making items from the menu. Along with the fact that healthy options take more preparation time, our need for volunteers has never been greater. Please contact Tracy at the canteen, if you can help in any way.

This year we will need extra support for Sports Day; any time you can help on these days would be greatly appreciated.
SPORTS DAY VOLUNTEERS
We are always very appreciative of any help we can get to support the running of our school sports’ day on Thursday 4th March. There are many and varied jobs to do from timekeeping, to cooking BBQs. If you have some time on the day and would be willing to assist please contact the school. We would love to hear from you.

ATTENDANCE
As you are aware, it is Government legislation that all children under 16 years old should be attending school. All students who are absent from school must provide a reason for their absence. There should be very little reason for us to use the “Unexplained” category of absence in our student records.
A quote from some preliminary information from the package provided to schools by the Education Department:
"The likelihood of success in learning is strongly linked to regular attendance and appropriate participation in educational programmes.”
It is crucial that children and students develop habits of regular attendance at an early age, even from the time they are enrolled in a pre-school setting. Children and students who have poor patterns of attendance are at risk of not achieving their educational, social or psychological potential and are disadvantaged in the quality of choices they are able to make in later life situations”.
Although we would prefer that students try to have appointments outside normal school hours, we realise that there are times when a student needs to leave the school grounds for something that cannot be done at another time, or for unavoidable family reasons. At such times, we request that you pre-arrange appointments with your child and either notify the school via telephone or a note in their diary.

HOT HOT HOT
As you would be aware the extreme weather conditions the state has been experiencing has been predicted to continue throughout the coming week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their outstanding efforts in continuing an education and care program in these very difficult and exceptional circumstances.
Child Safety While these extreme conditions continue we are making sure outdoor activities are modified or curtailed to take account of the extremity of the weather. Also we ensure that all students have plenty of cool water to drink, and stay in the shade. We are constantly monitoring the swimming program and will modify should it be necessary.
Early Dismissals Whilst it has been previously reported in the media that schools will be closing at 12:30 p.m. our policy does not include this option. As we have air-conditioning at the school, it makes more sense that students remain at school and in class. If students are feeling the effects, due to little sleep or other activities, then parents of course have the right to keep them home or pick them up early. Please contact the school if this should be the case.

REMINDER - EXEMPTION FROM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
Exemptions from school attendance for less than four weeks at a time can be approved by the Principal (for family holidays etc.) A written application for exemption must be submitted at least four weeks prior to the travel commencement date. A note providing details of the child’s absence can be left at our front office. For absences of longer duration, an exemption from attendance request must be completed by parents and these are forwarded to the district office for approval. These forms can be obtained by contacting the principal.

Kind Regards,

MAS Parent Club
This group of interested parents meets every term, with myself chairing the meetings. Our aim is to facilitate the involvement of parents in various aspects of Moonta Area School. Roles and functions may include helping to organise support and parent involvement in:
- Organising guest speakers on a range of topics
- Helping in classrooms
- Supporting parents’ concerns
- Working bees
- Sports days
- Special events
- School photos
- Giving parents another voice
- Coordinating meet & greet at the start of the year for new parents
- Providing parents with relevant useful information
- Time to speak with the Principal

Our first meeting for 2010 will be on Tuesday 23rd February at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room and I invite all interested parents to attend.
The year sevens classes have made a very positive start to the year and have settled in well to the Middle School. New lockers, diaries, Middle School raffles and a range of teachers haven’t phased most of these keen young scholars.

After some initial testing, students have been divided into different groups for English, Maths and SOSE and are quickly working out Sally and Margie’s expectations.

Recycling
Once again the Year Seven students are taking charge of the Red Recycling Bins. Money raised from this will be split, some going towards a designated charity and some towards our Melbourne camp at the end of the year. We would like to remind people that the RED bins are only for recycling bottles, cans, fruit juice and milk containers. PLEASE put other rubbish in the proper bins to make our job easier.

Staff Profiles

Anjali Kaushik

Last Schools:
Kadina Memorial High School, Kaurna Plains in Australia.
Rest in India.

Years Teaching: 20 ½ years.

Areas of Study/Majors: Physics, Chemistry, Maths.

Special Interests: Reading and learning anything new I can.

Role this year: Senior Maths / Chemistry Teacher.

What you are looking forward to this year: Sharing my learning with more and more students, and watching them grow confident, clear about their goals in their lives.

Wendy Muir

Years as an SSO: First year.

Areas currently working in: I am working with Reception to Year 4. Working one on one with some students and also in the classroom.

Special Interests: Coaching junior netball. Scrapbooking (When I get time!).

Role this year: Classroom support.

What you are looking forward to this year: I am looking forward to working with students and watching them grow in confidence as they learn. I am also looking forward to working with other staff members and being part of a team.

Moonta Area School Governing Council Nomination Form 2010
I wish to nominate for a position of Governing Councillor for a term of two years.

Name:.......................................................................................................................................................

Signature:...................................................................................................................................................
Many students have already begun reading and recording their books for the Premier's Reading Challenge. Attached to this newsletter is a tear off sheet for your fridge or pin board with important information regarding the Challenge. Some classes are managing the records in different ways this year. So speak to your child’s teacher if you have questions about that. If you would like more info in general please call in and see us at the library or visit the PRC website.

Last year 199 students at our school completed the Challenge. This year we are aiming for 250. We have come up with several incentives to encourage students to record their reading and hand in their sheets. More information about this will be in the next newsletter. In the meantime we encourage you to read with your children and support them towards completing the Challenge.

Tricia Stringer and Dave Steele.

**URGENT REQUEST:**

Parents /caregivers:
Please DO NOT access the school grounds by vehicle through the gate opposite the Senior Citizens Club. The whole area is now a building site for our new buildings and courts and there will be heavy vehicles needing to come in and out at all hours. So for SAFETY REASONS we need to limit access.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this request.

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There have been a few changes for 2010.
Tricia Stringer is Information & Communication Technology 1 day a week and teacher/librarian the rest of the time. In this role she is also the library manager but with particular focus on school library services.

Dave Steele teaches senior history 1 day a week and is teacher/librarian 3 days a week. Part of Dave’s role is to manage the public library and his school library duties include working with middle and senior school in relation to their library needs.

Kris Strauss-Scott joins us this year for 1 day per week. Kris is a Yr 4/5 class teacher but her library training is now being put to good use as she focuses on supporting and developing the Accelerated Reading program.

Janet Johnstone works as a community library assistant for most of her full time hours and some of her hours are school based. A lot of her time goes into managing and maintaining the public library stock as well as desk duty and some out of hours work.

Janine Bennett works as a school library assistant with some hours for community library and some for student support. Most of her time goes to behind the scenes maintaining the school library collection.

Jane Sutton fills the gaps for us with school library hours and community library out of hours opening times as well as continuing her role in classroom support.

Other faces you may see in out of school hours opening times are Nina Penna, Tamra Stringer, Jaki Jakomis and Shauna Malone.

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Kris Strauss-Scott
Tricia Stringer
Dave Steele
Janet Johnstone
Janine Bennett
Jane Sutton
The following proposals will be discussed at the meeting held Monday 15th February:

Proposal One: Student Well Being Presentation
Proposal: The Year 6/7 students attend a presentation by Derrick McManus. The focus is about building personal self-esteem and called 'Inside Your Head'.
Date: Tuesday 9th March, Week 7.
Proposer: M Pope / D Daulby

Proposal Two: Year 10 Outdoor Ed Bushwalking Camp at Moolooloo Station
Requirements from home: Bushwalking gear.
Date: Tuesday 25th – Friday 28th May, Term 2, Week 6.
Proposer: K Daddow / D Angus

Proposal Three: Year 11 Outdoor Ed Bushwalking Camp at Moolooloo Station
Requirements from home: Bushwalking gear.
Date: Tuesday 8th – Friday 11th June, Term 2, Week 8.
Proposer: K Daddow / D Angus

Proposal Four: Year 10 Outdoor Ed Waterskiing Camp at Morgan
Requirements from home: Swimming gear, wetsuit.
Date: Monday 29th March – Thursday 1st April, Week 10.
Proposer: K Daddow / D Angus

Proposal Five: Year 11 Outdoor Ed Windsurfing Camp – Balgowan to Port Hughes
Requirements from home: Swimming and camping gear.
Date: Tuesday 20th– Friday 23rd April, Term 2, Week 1.
Proposer: K Daddow / D Angus

Proposal Six: School Photos by Academy Photography
Date: Tuesday 23rd March, Week 9.
Proposer: D Daulby / D Angus

Proposal Seven: Take Year 12 interested students to Year 12 study skills workshop
Proposal: Free workshop at University of Adelaide looking at time management and exam preparation, how to write an outstanding essay and Tertiary education advice session.
Date: Friday 26th February, Week 5.
Proposer: V Ivens / K Daddow

Proposal Ten: Student Voice Camp
Proposal: Annual Student Voice Training Camp to be held at Glenhaven YMCA camp site near Gawler.
Benefits: Leadership training for SV Executive and sub committee leaders.
Cost: To be confirmed.
Date: Wednesday 10th – Friday 12th March, Week 7.
Proposer: M Pope / D Daulby

The following proposals were approved at the meeting held Monday 1st February:

1. Change to Swimming program (R-7) – To be run in Term 4. R-2 in Weeks 8/9, Years 3-7 in Week 7/8.
3. School Competitions: University of NSW
   - Computer Skills Tuesday 25th May, Term 2, Week 6
   - Science Wednesday 9th June, Term 2, Week 8
   - Spelling Tuesday 22nd June, Term 2, Week 10
   - Writing Tuesday 22nd June, Term 2, Week 10
   - English Tuesday 3rd August, Term 3, Week 3
   - Mathematics Tuesday 17th August, Term 3, Week 5
   - Informatics Thursday 6th May, Term 2, Week 3
   - Mathematics Thursday 5th August, Term 3, Week 3
4. Sports Days:
   - Pre-Sports Day events
     - Javelin Thursday 25th February, Week 5.
     - 800m, 600m Monday 1st March, Week 6.
     - 1500m, JP Long Run Tuesday 2nd March, Week 6.
   - Interschool Sports Day, held at Kadina Tuesday 16th March, Week 8.
   - Mile End Athletics (E2 Grade) Thursday 25th March, Week 9.
   - MAS Cross Country Friday 30th April, Term 2, Week 2.
   - YP Cross Country at Maitland Friday 21st May, Term 2, Week 3
5. R-6 Footsteps Dance Program held at the Town Hall. Fridays of Weeks 6-10 in Term 2.
6. Change of assembly day: For 2010, R-12 Assemblies are held on Wednesday in Week 5 and in Week 10 for Term 1, 2, 3 and Term 4 Weeks 5 and 9.

Did you miss out ordering your copy of the 2009 School Magazine?
We have one available at the front office.
Cost: $15.
Congratulations go to the following on their election as House Captains and Vice Captains for school sports teams this year.

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<th>Junior</th>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Vice Captain</th>
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<td><strong>Eyre</strong></td>
<td>Teneika Nitschke</td>
<td>Kiara van Rooy</td>
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<td>Brayden Elvin</td>
<td>Jordan Turner</td>
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<td><strong>Flinders</strong></td>
<td>Madelyn Keast</td>
<td>Skye Watson</td>
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<td>Isaac Glasgow</td>
<td>Blake Whale</td>
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<td><strong>Monterra</strong></td>
<td>Kate Prout</td>
<td>Tayla Holmes</td>
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<td>Julian Tripodi</td>
<td>Kane Vaughan</td>
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<td><strong>Eyre</strong></td>
<td>Olivia Northeast</td>
<td>Emma Hackett</td>
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<td>Will Northeast</td>
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<td>Tyler Andrews</td>
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<td><strong>Eyre</strong></td>
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<td>Sean McMahon</td>
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<td>Amelia Shields</td>
<td>Aisha Cooper</td>
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<td>Dylan McPeake</td>
<td>Daniel Lish</td>
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<td><strong>Monterra</strong></td>
<td>Rachel Templer</td>
<td>Isabelle Brown</td>
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<td>Luke Moss</td>
<td>Shane Moss</td>
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Keyboard Lessons
– will begin in Week 3 on Thursday. Please have students check the Daily Bulletin on Thursday for lesson times. Michele Giesecke

Road Crossing Monitors
Term 1, Week 4
Bayden Cross, Riley Hatcher, Harry Love

Term 1, Week 5
Gemma Ivens, Georgia Ivens, Natasha Moore

To Give Away
to a good home with a paddock/space

3 school Nanny goats
Queenie, Susie Q and Little Tacker
Used to people, very friendly.
Contact
Wendy Brusnahan or Daniel Richardson
School Ph 88252088

Family Life SA Program
Kadina Primary School will once again be hosting ‘Family Life SA’ on Tuesday 23rd March from 6:30 p.m.

These sessions have been very well attended in previous years. The two topics covered are ‘How We Began’ aimed at Years 2-4 and ‘Puberty Clues’ aimed at Years 5-7.

Great Debate
All readers
Forming opinions and respecting others’ opinions is an important literacy skill.
1. Choose a topic to debate. Pick a topic such as music, clothes, sport, movies or hairstyles to debate with your child.
2. Form a question. Refine the topic so that you come up with a specific question or issue, for example “Is it too dangerous to swim when sharks are around?” or “Can you wear jeans anywhere?”.
3. Choose sides and prepare. Decide who is to present arguments FOR and AGAINST the question. Along with your child, prepare at least three points for each side of the argument.
4. Debate it. Alternate presenting arguments and allow time to ‘rebut’ each other’s arguments.
5. Judge it. Ask someone ‘neutral’ to judge the debate. And remind your children that it is alright to have different opinions, but it is also important to respect others’ opinions.

Great Reads
❖ Super Fly Guy by Tedd Arnold. An easy-to-read story of Fly Guy causes havoc. Full of fun, slapstick, silly drawings and clever use of words that young readers will really enjoy. Recommended for readers aged 5+.
❖ Children of the Lamp #5: The Eye of the Forest by P.B. Kerr. A great series, with a film coming soon. In this new book, an ancient Incan prophecy leads the Gaunt twins deep into the heart of the Amazon in another spellbinding adventure. Recommended for readers aged 9+. 
Welcome back for 2010. I hope you all had a wonderful break but now it is time to start again. There are some wonderful things going on at the school this year and a lot can’t happen without the support of parents, grandparents and community members. Please consider helping in our school environment as the children love seeing you get involved.

Help is really needed in the Canteen, even if it is for just a few hours or perhaps once a week. It would be fantastic to have some new faces. We have a lot of laughs and the work isn’t hard. We would love to see you if you can spare some time. Just ring the school and ask for me and I will put you on the roster.

See you soon
Tracy Cutting
Canteen Supervisor.

Moonta Netball Club – Sign Up for Moonta Netball Club will be Thursday 11th February at the courts from 4pm until 6.30pm. If you would like to be considered for the 2010 netball season then you must sign up. If you are unable to attend please contact the secretary, Erica Andrews on 88253287 or president, Sally Hackett 0448656658 prior to 6.30pm on the 11th February. Trial Dates: Thursday 18th and 25th February: E & F grade – 4 – 5:30 p.m., A – D grade – 7 – 9 p.m. An extra junior side for Moonta Netball Club... In 2010 we are aiming to have a 7th competitive side. We realise there are a lot of girls eligible for F grade this year. We have been offered a unique opportunity to use a bus to transport a second F grade side to Kadina each week to play and then return them to the YP football/netball. We are hoping this may make it easier for families with more than one child playing sport, saving them from having to be in 2 places at one time. MNC just wants kids playing sport, and we hope this helps families to cater for all of their children.

CJ’s Netball Club Registration Day Thursday 18th February at netball courts Milne Rd, Moonta – Uniforms to be ordered on this day. All enquiries to Michelle Fisher (President) 88251211 or Wendy Smith (Treasurer) 8825 3090.

St John is holding First Aid Courses soon in Kadina

Senior First Aid Courses
Senior First Aid two days 9am – 4.30pm
February 11, 12
March 11, 12
April 14, 15
May 11, 12
June 16, 17
July 6, 7
August 17, 18
Thursday, Friday
Thursday, Friday
Wednesday, Thursday
Tuesday, Wednesday
Wednesday, Thursday
Tuesday, Wednesday
Tuesday, Wednesday

St John is holding First Aid Courses soon in Kadina

CPR Refresher 9am – 11am
February 23
March 18
April 28
May 1
May 27
June 25
July 20
Tuesday
Tuesday
Saturday
Thursday
Friday
Tuesday
Tuesday

Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) 9am – 12.30pm
February 11
March 11
April 14
May 11
June 16
July 6
Thursday
Thursday
Wednesday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Tuesday

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Sometimes an overrated aspect too. It was School is but one aspect of learning. emotionally powerful concepts (EPCs) about differently next time. Learning builds humans to make mistakes, reflect, and react unpleasant experiences. Learning enables humans to avoid repeating unpleasant experiences. Learning enables humans to turn information into knowledge, and knowledge is the basis of wisdom.

Because learning is the biological imperative of the brain. Learning enables us to turn information into knowledge, and knowledge is the basis of wisdom.

How do we stimulate our children’s minds?

Children’s minds and brains grow in specific ways at every age. In our examinations of the processes thus far, each article in the series provided information and suggestions for building healthy concepts that ultimately lead to higher levels of motivation for learning. Why learning?

Our wonderful brains are often under-used, abused, poorly nourished, placed under stress, neglected and may be subjected to all manner of disorders. Yet, remarkably, they are home to at least eight intelligences, they develop preferences for how to learn, they read complex diagrams, learn to play music and are capable of loving, or hating, others.

The upper primary years

- Read books to and with your child(ren) every day. Books are the treasure from which generations pass on knowledge and culture to other generations.
- Encourage your child (and yourself perhaps!) to ride a bike, skateboard, roller-blades, horses, motor bikes etc. This builds both confidence and competence and gives children a great sense of satisfaction.
- Play hand-eye coordination games every day to improve the physical skills of your children.
- Encourage your child to join a sports or church or community club. The extra association with kids other than school peers enables wider friendship groupings, development of particular values and knowledge and possibilities for being on teams, going on special outings etc.
- Encourage your child to choose a musical instrument and get some coaching to ensure practice regimes are met.
- Buy toys that require thought and manipulation such as model kits, puzzles, microscopes etc.
- Encourage weaving, sewing and pattern-making and other ways to educate the hands.
- Schedule homework time and schedule times when you are available to support homework and stick to those times so you have your own free time and your child learns the routines.
- Encourage friends to come over, sleep over and be a part of your family. Set clear expectations about tidying up afterwards.
- Join in with games that use puppets, action figures, dolls etc. Share the fun of imagination.
- Play Nintendo, Sega, Gameboy and computer games with your child. Limit times on these and plan as many physical activities as computer-based activities.
- Go to the pictures regularly and talk about the plots, emotions, special effects etc.
- Kids of this age love games such as chess, Monopoly, Scrabble, Yahtzee, Pictionary, Concentration, Uno, and the like. Lose sometimes! Talk through your strategies so your child can learn from you.
- Buy or borrow a telescope and sleep out to learn about the night sky. Kids have a keen interest in the night sky. They have many questions about what’s out there, and our own place in the universe.
- Encourage your child’s special interests in the sciences by purchasing books and CDs/videos on the topics and going on special excursions.
- Provide high quality and enriching art equipment including pencils, brushes, crayons and a variety of textures for canvasses.
- Encourage your child to make journal entries each day. Provide a lovely book for this so it’s worth keeping. Journaling is the mind’s way of sorting out complex issues and ideas.
- Teach your child how to cook meals, how to plan for them and how to budget. These skills will last a lifetime.

What’s this about?

The ideas and activities presented in this article promote the development of a broad range of cognitive, physical, emotional and social skills in stimulating ways. We bring a little humour to you by way of an advertisement that really highlights the incredible range of skills and talents required to parent kids in the upper primary school age group.

Great parents help to create the conditions for their kids to be great learners

In this article we provide a large number of ways to encourage your child(ren) to learn from you and with you in the home environment. You have no doubt already used many of these and we therefore apologise for stating the obvious. On the other hand, the checklist is a reminder of achievement and a prompt for re-engaging in activities where we shared wonderful emotions with our kids.

Here’s How

We provide a large number of ways to encourage your child(ren) to learn from you and with you in the home environment.

Learn how to:

- Never tell your child(ren) what to do. Instead ask questions and elicit ideas from them.
- Make learning a part of your daily routine. It can be as simple as reading a story together or solving a puzzle.
- Involve your child(ren) in decision-making. Ask them for their opinion and include them in household chores.
- Provide a variety of learning opportunities. This can include games, puzzles, reading, art, and music.

Our wonderful brains are often under-used, abused, poorly nourished, placed under stress, neglected and may be subjected to all manner of disorders. Yet, remarkably, they are home to at least eight intelligences, they develop preferences for how to learn, they read complex diagrams, learn to play music and are capable of loving, or hating, others.

When we perceive we can learn, we have any future we want.

Learning enables humans to avoid repeating unpleasant experiences. Learning enables humans to make mistakes, reflect, and react differently next time. Learning builds emotionally powerful concepts (EPCs) about the future that are significantly different to the EPCS that non-learners build.

School is but one aspect of learning. Sometimes an overrated aspect too. It was
Ways to support your child’s growth and learning at home

- Teach your child how to give community service by modelling such activities yourself.
- Teach your child how to use numbers in powerful ways. Show how to budget, how to save, how interest works, what investment really means, how to borrow, how gambling works, how to estimate and compare. Whilst much of these is dealt with at school, home provides the authentic examples of the theories.

**SITUATIONS VACANT:**

**Wanted**

Are you career-minded – ready for a new direction in your life? Then parenting a child going through puberty is just the ideal job for you!

**Essential criteria:**

**Cleaner** – must be prepared to enter dangerous territory (commonly known as a bedroom) to search out and extricate mouldy socks, partly consumed clumps of food rations, sauce-stained dinner plates, lost books, CDs, pens and scissors.

**Cook** – must be able to prepare an incredible range of fairly bland tasting food from a continually raided pantry supply. Must be available for cooking at a moment’s notice, 24 hours per day and cannot complain when all of the healthy ingredients of meals are scraped into the pet’s bowl.

**Taxi licence** – an astute knowledge of local and extended geographic districts and a car that can handle up to five kids (or typically 1 more passenger than seats). Must have the time and patience for delivery (not too close to friend’s actual home) wait time and pick-ups.

**Nurse** – considerable skill in diagnosis and emergency treatment, followed-up with ‘on-call’ bedside vigilance. Must be skilled in sports injury, broken teeth (adult ones!), severe cuts and grazes sustained from undertaking banned activities, bee stings and bites. Must be able to heal without hurting.

**Psychologist** – extensive skills in counselling, mediation, conflict management, stress management, bullying prevention, building resilience, sex education, anger management, addressing sibling rivalry (just to name a few!). All of the above must be addressed within a framework of unconditional love despite accusation of meddling and glazed eyes, shoulder shrugs and inspiring comments such as ‘Dunno’ from child.

**Teacher** – a strong working knowledge of entire school curriculum is essential. Capacity to help a child complete a 3-week project from go to whoa in a single all night stint. Capacity to engage child in homework while television and stereo are blaring is essential.

**Budget advisor** – must have a highly procedural brain capable of juggling impossible time and monetary demands. Must be able to balance the books when demand outstrips supply and must be able to lay hands on extra funds at a moment’s notice. Must be prepared to be compared financially to child’s friends and even consider selling family treasures to raise funds for more important products such as electronic games and the like.

**Sick days** – Just get over it!

**Benefits:** the opportunity to take your child through the adolescent years!

**Hours:** Full time, all day and all night. That’s right! 365 days per year.

**Salary:** Only in your dreams!

**Leave conditions:** If you win lotto!

**The least I need to know**

Parenting is a long haul endeavour. Every stage of children’s growth has its challenges and pleasures with the upper primary school age group starting puberty and building growing independence from adults. These are great years as our children demonstrate skills and interests that will sustain them into the adolescent years. However, there are more opportunities for conflict, frustration, feeling let down and feeling used during these years than in any other phase. Keep your love unconditional, communicate openly, teach your children by modelling, spend time with them and their friends in recreational activities and respect their need for growing independence.

**References**

(Items marked * are available from Mind Webs).


*Magic Trees of the Mind, Marian Diamond and Janet Hopson.*

*Brainy Parents, Brainy Kids, John Joseph*.

**Next Issue – Module 4 Part 1:** How the brain learns - the adolescent years.
Week 3
Thursday 11th February
Welcome Night

Week 4
Monday 15th February
5 p.m. DMC meeting
Tuesday 16th February
Pupil Free Day

Week 5
Tuesday 23rd February
7:30 p.m. Parent Club meeting
Wednesday 24th February
R-12 Assembly
Thursday 24th – Friday 25th February
Pre Sports Day events
Friday 25th February
Step to the Future

Calendar

Week 6
Monday 1st – Tuesday 2nd March
Pre Sports Day events
Monday 1st March
5 p.m. DMC meeting
Wednesday 3rd March
7:30 p.m. Governing Council AGM
Thursday 24th March
MAS Sports Day

Week 7
Monday 8th March
Public Holiday – Adelaide Cup

Term 1 Home Planner 2010 is attached to this edition of MAS Media.