Welcome
Japanese Homestay students

Upcoming Events:

Thursday 2nd August
TONIGHT
7 p.m. Music Concert

Friday 3rd August
Jeans for Genes Day

Monday 6th August
4:30 p.m. DMC

Wednesday 8th August
School Socials

Please view the complete Calendar on the back page.

Japanese Visit
For the next two weeks we are hosting eight Japanese students and their guide from Meidai High School. Whilst their purpose is learning and improving their English speaking skills, it also gives our students a chance to meet and learn from people from a different culture. For some of our host families this is their first experience of hosting students from a different culture whilst others are 'old hands'. Of course without people willing to open their homes and hospitality these visits would not be possible so we thank them all. During the next two weeks a range of experiences have been arranged for both our visitors and hosts. Thanks to Mrs Tricia Stringer who has once again co-ordinated the visit.

Mitch Norman – Finalist In State Training Awards
Further in this newsletter you will find an article by Mr Vince Ivens congratulating Mitch Norman as a finalist in the State Vocational Student of the Year Award – on behalf of the school community I would like to congratulate Mitch for his nomination and wish him well as he advances through the process.

Moonta Area School’s QR Code:
Scan the code with your smart phone QR Reader and it will take you to our school’s website.
Keep an eye out in future editions for the code.
National Tree Day
Congratulations to Mrs Sonia Perkins and Mr Hall’s class who planted something like 200 trees last week, an article and photos appear on the back page in this newsletter.

Community thanks
Thank you to the local RSL and in particular Vietnam Vets, who continue to support the school. Mr Bruce Watson and Mr Kevin Wilkinson came to the school assembly and made a special presentation to Emma Hackett and Dylan Chapman for their work researching aspects of the Vietnam War. The RSL’s support of our students is much appreciated.

Parent/Student surveys
It is that time of the year again when we survey parents, students and teachers to measure satisfaction with our school. Many of you may have done one in the past and we would ask that you complete one for this year if asked. Families are randomly selected by computer and the surveys can be conducted online or in paper format if preferred. The school does not see raw results until they are released.

Exemptions
Students are required by law to attend school between the ages of 6 and 16. We know that attendance at school is vital to student success which is the reason why we follow up on it when needed. For prolonged absences you can apply for an exemption. I, as Principal, can grant an exemption for up to one month in certain circumstances but for longer periods an application needs to go to the Education department. In both cases applications need to be made well in advance. As usual there is a form which we can supply if required.

Living, Learning, Thinking Focus:
When students enjoy transparent, honest and caring relationships with their parents, friends and teachers, they feel positive about their lives, are happy in themselves and as a consequence learn better and enjoy their schooling far more. Also, having trusting, clear and open communication lines between their parents and teachers provides a fertile environment in which students can thrive and strive.

We all need feedback on how we are travelling to make necessary adjustments in our lives and our students are no different. To build students’ self-awareness and ownership of their attitudes and behaviours, they need regular developmental, non-judgemental feedback, even though they will probably disagree.

The adolescent brain is a turbulent place, with the good decision making monitor, the Pre-frontal Cortex, not completely wired up. As such, while they can create emotions like adults, they don’t yet have the capabilities to consistently control them. This often leads to any advice or feedback to be seen by them as criticism and put downs.

Building relationships is a two way street, which is sometimes quite a challenge with many teenagers preferring a one way street – my way or the highway. To encourage them to think beyond Me, Myself and I, a beneficial exercise is to get them to do a self-analysis of their emotional intelligence, and in completing this they will have to reflect on their input into relationships with others.

The focus should be on encouraging them to strive for personal bests in all their pursuits including health, friendships, leisure, hobbies, sport and their learning. When parents and teachers put an extra emphasis on school, the turbulence of their brain kicks in and defiance and/or indifference arise.

When a “Team” approach is fostered both at school and in the home, students tend to see parents’ and teachers’ advice more as positives to adopt rather than something to rebel against.

“All for one and one for all.” Anon

Regards

Decision Making Committee
Due to the resignation of one of our parent members on the Decision Making Committee we need a replacement!!
If you are a parent who would like to be more involved in how our school operates and would like to be part of the decision making process please consider volunteering. The Decision Making Committee meets fortnightly at 4:30 p.m. in the staff room. Meetings usually last for half to three quarters of an hour.
If you are interested please contact Bruce Schmidt on 0427 800 681.
**Mitch Norman – Finalist in State Training Awards**

Mitch Norman, one of our year 11 students has been travelling to Port Broughton once a week for the last 18 months to undertake certificates I and II in Heavy Vehicle Mechanics. Because of his excellent training and work placement reports with Cavpower, Mitch was nominated for the State Vocational Student of the Year Award. The Award is for nominees in all training areas not just automotive. Seven nominees were taken on to the interview stage in Adelaide and Mitch has progressed to become one of the final four vocational students selected to attend the South Australian Training awards Gala Dinner on the 14th September. If he is announced the winner he will then go on to represent the State at the National Awards.

We wish to thank Andrew Charlton of Port Broughton Area School for his assistance in Mitch’s placement in the course, Peter Button the trainer at Port Broughton Area School and Reg Dennis, Regional Industry skills Manager, who put in a great deal of time helping Mitch with his application for the Award.

We congratulate Mitch for his hard work in getting to this point in the awards and we wish him all the best at the finals in September.

Vince Ivens (VET Coordinator)

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**TONIGHT**

**Moonta Area School Annual Music Concert**

**Thursday 2nd August, Week 3**

7 p.m. in the School Gym

Come along and support all of our students learning: drums, woodwind, guitar, and keyboard, as well as the School Band and Choir.

Gold coin donation at the door to support the Music Fund.

Hope you see you there 😊

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**Canteen**

The canteen menu, which has been sent out to everyone, has lots of exciting new things on it which fit into our schools healthy eating guidelines. We would encourage all parents to support our canteen and in the process support the ongoing health of their children. I have serious concerns about the amount of processed foods being sent to school as part of student lunches. It will be cheaper and healthier to either change what is in lunch boxes or support the canteen. Please feel free to discuss this with me if you wish. Bruce Schmidt.

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**OSHC/Vacation Care**

For the first time since we started this service for parents and students we made a small profit running our after school programme and the vacation care programme.

We still have a way to go to recoup our investment in our children and families so keep on sending them!! Deahnn Whitehead runs a great service and needs your support.

Please contact her on 0401 555 964 if you would like to enrol your student.

Remember that all users are eligible for the Child Care Rebate from the government which makes the service very affordable. Bruce Schmidt

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**Jeans for Genes Day**

**TOMORROW** Friday 3rd August

Wear favourite jeans or pants and a favourite casual top and bring along gold coin donation. The Fundraising Committee will be holding a Trading Table at recess time next to Home Ec Room. Items for sale include:

- Happy Face Biscuits 50 cents
- Cupcakes $1.00
- Pop Tops $1.50
- Cans soft drink $2.00

All proceeds go to Jeans for Genes Day
At our assembly this week, we welcomed eight students from Meidai High School, Tokyo, Japan, along with their teacher and tour guide. They are spending two weeks with us as part of their summer holiday program to improve their English and learn about Australian culture. During the day the students have English lessons and school experience and then spend their after school and weekends with their host families.

Besides their formal English lessons with Mrs Stringer they will join in with MAS students for other activities including sport, pasty making, boomerang construction, music and will spend a few lessons in our Japanese language class.

There are many more activities planned and the host families are also enjoying giving the students an experience of Australian family life. Our school is most grateful to those eight families who have welcomed the students into their homes. The two weeks will go very quickly.

Students arriving in Adelaide – Monday afternoon

School Social

Wednesday 8th August, Week 4
R – Year 2 Theme: Fairy tale, fantasy and Super Heroes
Year 3-12 Theme: Uniform (i.e. football, chef, doctor, nurse, army, police, sport, etc)
Year 7-12 Theme: Uniform or Casual
Canteen facilities available on the night

MAS Band at Balaklava

Last Friday, 27th July, the MAS Band competed in the Balaklava Eisteddfod in the rock division.

Band members; Kayla McCulloch (Year 9), Gemma and Georgia Ivens (Year 8), Zac Butler (Year 9), Henry Shields (Year 10), Willis Daveson (Year 10) and Nick Colliver (Year 11) travelled to Balaklava for the day’s competing along with myself, Nathan Hamdorf, and Vince Ivens.

They performed three songs from their repertoire, “Yellow” by Coldplay, and “Someone Like You” and “Rolling in the Deep” by Adele with the last song receiving a great response from the audience!

Although we didn’t win, we did do well for our first time competing at the Eisteddfod and for a band competing against more older and experienced students.

The judge had many positive comments too, about Kayla’s voice and the overall tight rhythms the band displayed.

The day was really an eye opener for our band to see how good they are doing and to see what other schools are doing in their bands, we really gained confidence from the experience.

We should all be proud of our school band’s achievement!

Nathan Hamdorf
Round 2 - On the 28th of June the Year 7 Knockout Netball team went to Port Wakefield to play Mawson Lakes Primary School in Round 2. Emma Hackett & Julie Keast happily volunteered to coach as Carina Congdon was unable to make it due to work commitments. The final score was 33-14 our way. Bring on the next round. We will play against Redwood Park on Thursday 26th July. If we win this round we will move into the semi-finals.

By Tahlia Congdon & Lucy Daly

Round 3 - The girls had a win once again against Redwood Park 19 to 25 in Round 3 of the Large Schools Primary Knockout Netball Competition. It was a closer game than we have had before but we were able to play in a variety of positions and still control the court. We now move onto the semi-finals against Pedare. This game will occur in the next two weeks. Hope we have another win.

By Maddie Keast & Skye Watson.

Well done to the following for completing their Premier's Reading Challenge sheets.
Blake Keywood (Mrs Crosby)
Jack Hobbs (Mrs Hackett)
Renee Smith (Mrs Stutley)
Ryan Shields (Ms Lauer)
Ella Aldridge (Barb)
Cameron Buck, Braden Spencer (Mr Hall)
Aaron Darling Delaney (Mrs Hutchins)
Jordan Nicholas (Mrs Hancock)
Congratulations to Shae van Duin, Asha Johns, Amali Scobi, Aaron Darling Delaney, Izabella Payne and Rebecca Stock for completing Beyond the Challenge.

Name: Will Northeast
Occupation: Student (Year 11 MAS).
What are you currently reading? My Life Story by Ben Cousins. In a nutshell, this book is about the life of Ben Cousins, on the field and off. What do you love about it? The football side of it and how hard he worked to become the best. Some of the off field stuff is good as well. What was the first book that made an impression on you? The Twits by Roald Dahl. What is your favourite book? Specky Magee by Felice Arena & Gary Lyon.
I developed a love for reading because it takes you to another world. Reading is enjoyable as you can read anything, whatever you are interested in.

Name: Trevor Keast
Occupation: Builder.
What are you currently reading? Body of Lies by Iris Johansen. In a nutshell, this book is a murder, mystery, thriller. What do you love about it? Web of intrigue and suspense. What was the first book that made an impression on you? When the Lion Feeds by Wilbur Smith.
I developed a love for reading as a way to escape into my imagination. Reading is a great way to stimulate body and mind.

Students are encouraged to get their sheets completed and returned to the Library by 7th September. (That's about 6 weeks away and is time enough to complete the 12 books required for the Challenge.) In 2011, a total of 281 students completed the Challenge. The goal for this year is 300 students – Can we do it?

This week's $10 voucher from Moonta Newsagency goes to Braden Spencer-Teague.
During term 2 all middle school students in SOSE investigated different types of government, leading into communism and capitalism to gain an insight into the final topic of the term, the Vietnam War. The final part was having Kevin Wilkinson, a member of the Vietnam Veterans come and, speak to the students on the first day back this term. He discussed his personal experiences and involvement in the Vietnam War and how both he and other soldiers reacted and were treated after the war had finished.

Kevin insightfully spoke about his time in the army from 1970-1995 and especially his time in Vietnam in 1971. His first day in Vietnam he was “in the action” and discussed the conditions they faced, which he said were generally good, although the food was poor, but better than the Americans, and there was never a break from hot, humid weather. The number one rule, he told the students about, was always take your rifle with you everywhere!

Kevin found the locals in general to be friendly, apart from the Viet Kong who were very “resourceful” and “resilient”, including making bombs out of coke cans. He further got into some detail about how hostile at times the reception was upon returning, including having blood thrown on them and that national serviceman were not looked after post war.

A very big thanks to Kevin for taking the time to come and speak with the students, there is no doubt the students gained a great insight from this and was a great way to finish off a good unit of work.

Student thoughts and responses

- Bayden Cross “went into good detail about his personal experiences, great to have a point of view from someone who was there”
- Carly Chapman “it was really good and quite interesting, it was good seeing his medals and glad he didn’t shoot anyone”
- Daniel Bache “Interesting, found out things we didn’t know. He didn’t just state the obvious things and spoke in detail, such as bombs being made out of coke cans”

Year 12’s view “Hairspray” the musical

On Thursday night of Week 1, the Year 12 English students together with Mrs Stringer and Mrs Westbrook, travelled to the Shedley Theatre at Elizabeth to view the musical “Hairspray.” The musical was produced and directed by Matt Byrne, a brother-in-law to local TRT Mr John Milson and starred Joshua Penley, a good friend of our music teacher Mr Nathan Hamdorf.

Based on the 1988 film by John Waters and the script of the Broadway and London West End productions, the story is set in Baltimore, USA in 1962 where a plump teenage girl, Tracey Turnblad, dreams of dancing on the “Corny Collins Show.” She wins a role on the TV dance program and becomes a celebrity overnight. She then launches a campaign to allow “coloured people” to perform on the show. So the musical is a social commentary on the prejudices against black and overweight people in American society in the 60’s.

The music and the cast were excellent and the performance was thoroughly enjoyed by us all. For some students this was the first time they had attended a live theatrical performance.

The students are now producing a PowerPoint slide show and will present an oral on the role of conflict in the musical, which will count towards their final English grade.
The following proposals will be discussed at the meeting to be held on Monday 6th August:

**Proposal One: Vietnam Vets Walk for Charity**

*Proposal:* Vietnam Vets do a Charity walk every few years. Also stop off at schools and talk about such things as leadership, mateship, supporting others. They do not come to glorify war. Special guest is Keith Payne VC who has a long history of positive talks with young adults.

*Date:* Wednesday 15th August at 11 a.m., Week 5.
*Proposer:* B Schmidt / D Hodge

**Proposal Two: Book Week Activities – Book Fair and Dress Up day**

*Proposal:* Book Fair – give school community an opportunity to access a wide assortment of books for purchase. Dress Up – in keeping with the theme ‘Champions Read’. Students can dress as their favourite champion.

*Date:* Monday 20th – Friday 24th August, Week 6.
*Dress Up day – Friday 24th August, Week 6.*
*Proposer:* D Steele / T Stringer

**Proposal Three: Year 8/9 Boys Knockout Netball**

*Proposal:* Year 8/9 Boys Knockout Netball final in Adelaide.

*Requirements from home:* Sports shoes, blue shorts, drink, lunch (and/or money).

*Date:* Wednesday 29th August, Week 7.
*Proposer:* D Hoskin / D Richardson

**Proposal Four: Senior School Captains to Government House**

*Proposal:* Senior School Captains (Aisha and Blake) to attend a reception at Government House to meet the Governor and other senior students.

*Date:* Monday 17th or Wednesday 19th September, Week 10.
*Proposer:* J McCauley / D Hodge

**Proposal Five: Wellbeing Week**

*Proposal:* Year 5-9’s normal curriculum is suspended for the week and a range of Wellbeing activities / guest speakers / lessons take place around wellbeing issues – drugs/alcohol, resilience, cyber-bullying, mental health and physical wellbeing. A range of outside agencies and organisations are engaged e.g. OPAL, Red Cross, SHINE, SAPOL.

*Date:* Monday 17th – Friday 21st September, Week 10.
*Proposer:* V Ivens / D Hodge

**Proposal Six: All R-3 students participate in In2Cricket clinics run by SACA**

*Date:* Tuesday 9th October, Term 4, Week 1. Classes – R + R/1: 1:15 – 2 p.m. Year 1/2 + 2: 2 – 2:30 p.m. Year 3: 2:30 – 3 p.m.
*Proposer:* L Hettner / D Hodge

The following proposals have been approved by the Principal:

1. **Balaklava Eisteddfod** – Friday 27th July.

The following proposals were approved at the meeting held Monday 23rd July:

2. **Primary Assembly Dates** – Lesson 5: Friday 27th July, Week 2. Friday 31st August, Week 7.

3. **Information re Japanese Homestay** – Monday 30th July to Monday 13th August, Week 3-5.


5. **Adelaide Excursion for Japanese students and their buddies** – *Requirements from home:* Water bottle, casual clothes (be prepared for cold and wet). *Cost:* $15 for Moonta students only. Thursday 9th August, Week 4.


7. **Reading morning with an invited guest/family member** – Friday 31st August, Week 7 at 10 a.m.


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**Book Fair**

As part of our Book Week celebrations, the library will be once again hosting its annual book fair in the library.

Community members are invited to come and browse a selection of books which are available for purchase from Tuesday 21st August until Friday 24th August.

- Book fairs provide easy access to a wide assortment of books,
- Give children a choice in what inspires them to read
- Involves family, which demonstrates to children that reading is important.

Further details will be published in the next newsletter and brochures sent home with students.
On Wednesday 25th July, Mrs Perkins and Mr Hall’s classes went to Port Hughes to plant trees.

We planted about 50 trees in the first area. Then we walked to the second area – Mrs Perkins went the wrong way and we all had to go back!

We planted 150 trees in the second area. We planted 200 trees in a little more than an hour.

When the trees are bigger we think that they are going to be beautiful and big. They will help the environment and give us shade.