Student Voice is an active and vital component of Moonta Area School’s Guiding Principles. It endeavours to promote leadership skills among the students and encourages students to be active participants in the policy making and school decision making processes. There are two main student voice teams: The Student Voice Executive, consisting of School Captains and years seven to twelve students, and the R-6 Action Group, consisting of reception to year six students.
On Friday 20th February we had a very successful Student Leader Induction Assembly. Former Moonta Area School student Miss Kristen Colliver gave a very motivating and inspirational speech on her journey through school and after school highlighting to students to seize all opportunities that are given to you as it is these opportunities that help lead you to your future goals and aspirations. Kristen, along with Mr Steven Griffiths, local State Member of Parliament, presented blazers and badges to our Senior School Captains Riley Williams and Adele Andrew, Junior School Captains Will Drogemuller and Cheyanne Ostendorf, and badges to Senior Vice-Captains Zac Butler and Kate Stewart, and Junior Vice-Captains Matt Scarce and Tara Drewett.

Special congratulations to Senior Captains, Riley Williams and Adele Andrew, and Junior Captains, Will Drogemuller and Cheyanne Ostendorf, on the successful speeches they delivered following the presentation of their school blazers and badges at the assembly.
Riley and Adele proudly introduced our Student Voice Executive Committee and Governing Council member Mr Greg Smith, and Mrs Kirsty Amos presented students with their certificates and badges. The Student Voice Executive Committee consists of nine student members, the school captains, junior captains and vice-captains. Junior Captains Will Drogemuller and Cheyanne Ostendorf introduced the R-6 Action Group for Semester 1.

Mr Kris Daddow and Mrs Sally Hackett announced each of the Sports House Captains for 2015. Mrs Roslyn Talbot, Deputy Mayor of District Council of Copper Coast presented students with their badge and certificate.

Following the House Captains introduction, Mrs Jane McCauley invited RSL guests: Mr Allan Halliwell and Mrs Josie Halliwell, to present our 2014 RSL Award winners Tash Moore, Madison Pearson and Rachael Clarke with their prize for the RSL project.

We would like to say a special thank you to Moonta Nursery for lending the beautiful plants and ferns we had displayed at the Induction Assembly.

Jane McCauley
Student Voice Coordinator
On Monday of last week I was with 1000 other school principals and pre-school directors at the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) Conference in Adelaide. The conference focussed on the benefits we have as a public system - the fact that we have 1000 other sites with which to collaborate - to share best practice, resources and expertise. Susan Close, our new Minister spoke with conviction about the excellent service we offer before the Chief Executive Officer spoke about our vision for the next 3 years.

“A high performing system that improves the educational attainment and wellbeing of South Australia’s children and young people”

As you know, Moonta Area School is part of a partnership made up of all public schools and pre-schools in Moonta, Kadina, Port Broughton, Bute and Wallaroo. Over the last 12 months principals and pre-school directors from these locations have been working together to improve the learning, wellbeing and engagement of all students across our sites and achieve our Vision of “Working Together: Excellence for All”.

Our first formal assembly for the year was held last Friday to recognise our student leaders and induct them into their roles of responsibility. While acknowledging this year’s student leaders as an exceptional group of people who have committed themselves to representing their peers, we also heard from past student Kristen Colliver. Kristen spoke of her journey between school and opening her café, Nook and Nourish, in Moonta. Kristen described how dreams can change and the challenges that she overcame in living away from home for the first time, making decisions about her future with competing ideas entering her thoughts, the joys of travel and the pleasures of achieving dreams after working hard and overcoming many hurdles as they arise. Kristen’s main message was “Dream big and work hard- as you never know what you might be capable of achieving”. We thank Kristen for her inspirational words and wish her all the best.

Preparations are underway for our sports day which will be held on Thursday March the 12th. The marking out of the oval is progressing, house leaders are busy encouraging their team members and students are busy practising for their events. We are urgently seeking parent volunteers to help on the day - please give us a call if you are able to assist. I look forward to seeing many of you here on the day!

Japanese Ribbon Challenge 2015

Background Information
The Japanese writing system has three scripts: Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji. All three scripts are used together in everyday life in Japan. Hiragana is used for words from the Japanese culture, Katakana is used for foreign names and words borrowed from other cultures and Kanji are picture characters borrowed from China.

Purpose of the Challenge
As a student of Japanese, it is essential that your child is able to recognise and write Hiragana, Katakana and some Kanji characters. To support them in their learning, we offer the Hiragana/ Katakana Ribbon Challenge.

The Challenge
There are 14 ribbons to achieve, 7 for Hiragana and 7 for Katakana. Each ribbon has a set of characters to master. Students will need to be able to recognise and write each character in the set to be eligible for a ribbon. Students may elect to complete a test for each ribbon during any Japanese lesson. Ribbons will be awarded at our whole school assemblies.

Eligibility
Students need to be in Years 3-8.

At Home
Students will need to practise their set of characters at home. Some practice time will be provided at school. Students will receive a practice sheet. Some ideas of practice include Look, Say, Cover, Write & Check, write with coloured pens/pencils, test a friend and create a game of snap or memory.

For more information, please make a time to come and chat with me.

Stacey Golding
At last week’s assembly, Mr. Allan Halliwell and Mrs. Josie Halliwell presented the annual RSL Award for a piece of work submitted by year 9 and 10 students on Australia’s involvement in conflicts in the twentieth century.

The winners were Tash Moore, Rachael Clarke and Danielle McGrath who produced an impressive diary on the life of Australian nurse Vivian Bullwinkle. Vivian was a volunteer in the Australian Army Nursing Service during World War II and was the sole survivor of the 1942 Banka Island massacre. Tash, Rachael and Danielle researched widely and put together a diary about Vivian’s life during her imprisonment in a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

Madison Pearson was also joint winner with a piece on the life of Len Waters. Len became Australia’s first and only Aboriginal fighter pilot during World War II. Madison also wrote about the contribution Aboriginal Australians made to Australia during the war.

The judges were very excited with the quality and depth of research put into all assignments by the students and commented on how hard it was to choose a winner. The school would like to thank the Moonta RSL for its continuing sponsorship of this annual award.

On Thursday, February 12th, Jane McCauley, Michele Appleton and Moonta Area School SAASTA students Ashton Angie, Carron Daveson, Charlie Buckskin and Angel Webb travelled to Maitland Area School for the SAASTA Presentations which took place during the School Leaders Induction Ceremony.

Miss Chelsea Koch, Maitland Area School SAASTA Co-ordinator introduced SAASTA students.

SAASTA stands for South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy. It is a school based education program designed to support young Aboriginal students achieve their SACE.

This year three students from Moonta Area School are involved with the 2015 SAASTA Program and travel to Maitland Area School each Tuesday to complete their studies. Carron Daveson has been successfully chosen in the SAASTA Elite Netball program and travels to Adelaide each Tuesday to complete her studies and program.

Jane McCauley
Aboriginal Education Teacher
Some children LOVE being centre stage. They look forward to their presentation day and sometimes find it difficult to stop talking! For others it’s daunting, particularly at the start of the year when they are unsure of their audience. They can feel quite nervous.

Whether they revel in it or approach it with trepidation oral presentations are a valuable learning time for students. When a child gives an oral presentation they are demonstrating a variety of skills. For example:

* speaking clearly
* using appropriate volume and pace
* maintaining eye contact
* having a clear opening statement
* using vocabulary specific to the topic
* smiling
* engaging
* responding to questions
* using expression in their voice
* using facial expressions and gestures to interact with others
* expressing ideas clearly
* having some knowledge on the set topic
* having something to show that supports what they want to talk about to the class
* demonstrating an understanding of the genre (recount-who, what, when, where, why)
* speaking with confidence

The value of this time is not limited to the presenter. The audience needs to learn to show good manners, to be active listeners, to look at the speaker, to sit still, to contribute ideas at an appropriate time, to ask relevant and insightful questions, and to wait their turn before making a comment.

We have enjoyed some interesting, well-prepared talks already this year. Last week’s topic was *Bring something beginning or ending with ‘ch’*. We met Chomper, a soft toy made in China, saw a variety of chopsticks, a precious chain, a board for playing chess and checkers and we really enjoyed sharing a big block of chocolate!

We would like to thank the parents of our Year 1/2 class for supporting their child in preparing their oral presentations.
FURNITURE FOR SALE
Tables, small desks, small chairs – Note/Paper Donations. Please contact the Front Office if interested on: 08 88 252 088.

PASTORAL CARE WORKER
(Previously known as “School Chaplain”)
KADINA MEMORIAL SCHOOLS (12.5 hrs/wk)
MOONTA AREA SCHOOL (12.5 hrs/wk)
WALLAROO MINES PRIMARY SCHOOL (12.5 hrs/wk)
Schools Ministry Group along with Schools Ministry Northern Yorke Peninsula are seeking applications for these positions (individually or some combined), commencing Term 2, 2015. The positions exist to offer support to students, staff and the school community.
Separate Job and Person Specifications, including details on “How to Apply”, are available from Schools Ministry Group on 8378 6800 or mail@smg.asn.au
All Closing Soon (all in week beginning 9 March) For details go to: www.smg.asn.au

FAMILY PHOTO FUNDRAISER
Moonta Kindergarten
Sunday 29 March 2015. First appointment 9am. $15 donation (payable on booking) entitles you to a 25x33cm colour or black and white portrait of your family. Please come in to book and pay at the kindy.

MOONTA HOCKEY CLUB
Reminder: The Moonta Hockey Club will be holding its registration night on 11th March 2015. Any children or adults interested in playing hockey in 2015 are welcome to catch up with us. We will have a registration table along side Caroline Hutchins room on the 11th March – that’s Wednesday week 7! We have teams for:
Minis – under 9 - 1st January and minimum age of 5
Junior Colts – under 13 - 1st January and minimum age of 8 years. We desperately need some more junior colts.
Senior Colts – under 16 - 1st January and minimum age 11 years.
We also have two mens teams and a womens team for any interested adults. We have applied to register as a Sports Voucher club.
Any enquiries to:
Brendan Bowden – President – 0407974971
Kev Dyson – Senior Colts Coach - 0419845079

The Brave Program.
Need help managing stress or anxiety?
If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8 -17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8-12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.
Play is the Way aims to foster empathy in students, who are considerate of themselves, each other and the world in which they live.

Classes are focusing on the Golden Rule “Treat others as you would like them to treat you.”

Mr Hall’s class shared their ideas about how they like to be treated. They discussed the quote "If someone is unlike you, seek to understand them“ and what it meant for their class.

They agreed that the following statements were how they wanted to see people in their class treating each other:

- We like it when people are honest
- We like it when people greet each other in a friendly way!
- We like it when people share
- We like it when people include and don’t exclude
- We like it when people treat each other fairly!
- We want people to be nice to others
- We like people to treat others with respect
- We like people to be kind to each other
- We like it when people accept our differences!
- We like it when people respect the way we are!