Two weeks ago, we welcomed our Japanese students to Moonta Area School at a special assembly. The eight students from Meidai High School in Japan were introduced to the school and presented gifts by their host buddies.

While here, the students undertook an intensive English Language course delivered by Mrs Stringer, and they also had the opportunity to visit other classes, and places of local and state interest.

The students were Mayo Ozaku, Ayano Ishida, Harumi Tashiro, Sayaka Fujimoto, Saori Takarabe, Mayu Enokida, Yukana Toyama and Kaori Yokose.

I would like to acknowledge the families, who welcomed the students into their homes for the two weeks. Thank you to the Barrett, Smith, Wardle, Stewart, Hutchinson, Scott/Cross, McCulloch and Haynes families.

I spoke to the students about the differences between our cultures and how we at Moonta Area School welcome these differences, for they give us an opportunity to learn. They give us an opportunity to be more understanding of others, to improve our knowledge of another country and its culture, to improve our understanding of the Japanese language and the Japanese way of life.
I encouraged all Moonta Area School students to take this wonderful opportunity to meet our guests and learn from them, to care for them, to share our culture, our town, our school, our way of life.

**Which week is it?  Science Week, Book Week, Literacy & Numeracy Week**

Over the next 3 weeks, Moonta Area School will be working with students on a range of activities which will be tied into these ‘thematic’ weeks. A huge thank you to the teaching staff who have spent considerable time incorporating these weeks into their teaching and learning program. Information will be forwarded to parents in regard to some special events that are happening as part of these celebrations.

Book Week – ‘One World Many Stories’ – Week 5
Literacy and Numeracy Week – ‘The Fundamentals are Fun’ – Week 6

**Signing out of school – through front office**

I remind all school community members it is extremely important that any student who leaves the school during the day signs out via the front office. We have had some cases of parents picking up students and taking them home without our knowledge or not signing out. We need to know at all times each individual student’s whereabouts. Your support in this matter would be appreciated.

**Morning supervision**

I would like to remind parents that students R-10 should not be dropped at school before 8.30 a.m. (unless they are attending breakfast club). The school does not provide supervision in the yard before this time, and while it is important to be on time for school, it is even more important that our children are safe in the yard!

**Listen and respond - Parent Opinion Survey**

A reminder to those families who have been selected to participate in the Parent Opinion Survey, that all submissions need to be in by September 2nd. All instructions are in the package you received. You may complete online or we have paper based copies available from the front office.

I urge all parents who received the survey to spend a little time providing us with very valuable feedback and thank you for your time in doing so. We will also be surveying a sample of 100 students and all staff as part of our annual review process.

**Class Placements for 2012**

Don’t forget to let us know, in writing, if your child will not be attending Moonta Area School next year. Also, if you have family or friends moving to the district and who definitely want to enrol their children here, please let us know so they can be considered in the class placements. We’d like as much information about 2012 numbers as possible so we can structure the classes according to student needs.

And a reminder to provide any information that you would like considered in relation to your child/ren’s placement. It needs to be a genuine request relating to your child/ren’s academic, social, physical or emotional needs. However, sometimes there are instances where it has not been possible to meet these requests for a whole host of reasons. Please put your request in writing, or alternatively, make a time soon to see either Bruce or Di to discuss your child’s needs. Thank you.

**Education Tax Refund**

Its tax time again and for South Australia’s public school parents, the Education Tax Refund (ETR) is an opportunity to increase the size of that refund. The ETR began last year and entitles eligible parents to claim up to 50% of their children’s education costs as tax deductions.

Eligible expenses include: laptops & home computers, USB flash drives, home internet connections, computer hardware, computer software, computer repairs, school textbooks, and tools of trade.

The amounts you can claim have increased since last year. For the 2010/11 income year you can now claim up to:

- $780 for each primary school student, - a refund of up to $390
- $1558 for each secondary student – a refund of up to $779

Just announced, next year parents will be able to add the cost of their children’s school uniform to the ETR claim. (50% of the cost after July 2011). So keep any receipts in regard to buying of students’ school uniforms

**ATTENDANCE: IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY**

While the effects of irregular attendance adversely impact directly on a student’s current progress and understanding, the long term scars to his/her learning are devastating. Just as research has proven that exposure to the sun as a youngster can cause irreparable damage to his/her skin that will emerge later in life, poor attendance mirrors this.
From the Principal's Desk

The gaps in knowledge and understanding accumulated in Years 7 to 10 become a glaring problem in Years 11 and 12. Subject development is a sequential building process that relies heavily on a firm grasp of each section of material. When a part is missing the student finds immense difficulty in learning the work and real frustration sets in; this effectively makes school life a genuine chore.

In many senior classes across all subjects, teachers spend much valuable class time trying to fill in the gaps in students’ knowledge caused through condoned parent absences. Time is lost on teaching the Years 11 and 12 subject material; a real disadvantage to our students.

This situation can be substantially reduced, if not eliminated, by saying NO to any student absences other than genuine illness or serious family issues. Should you require assistance in saying NO to your son/daughter with regard to any matter, including unacceptable absence, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Let’s work together to make a difference to your child’s future.

Be on Time, Be at School, That’s the Rule!

Welcome to our new SSO staff

This term we welcome the following SSO staff and wish them all the best whilst at Moonta Area School:

Deahnn Whitehead
Travis Skipworth
Nat Chapman
Michelle Northey
Megan Prout
Rachael Osborn

MOONTA AREA SCHOOL
ANNUAL MUSIC CONCERT
TONIGHT

Thursday 11th August 2011
in the School Gym

Come along and support all of our students learning keyboard, woodwind, guitar and drums.

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

Have you changed your details?
New Address?
New contact numbers?

We are in the process of updating our EDSAS school information as it is important that this is accurate.

Could you please check the information on the form that will be sent home and make any necessary changes, sign and return it to your child’s teacher / home group.

Thank you.
Australia needs a scientifically literate community to develop a knowledge based economy, address environmental concerns about water conservation and global warming and health issues such as obesity and diabetes.

Professor Mark Hackling, Shelley Peers and Vaughan Prain

Concerns about the quality of science in Australian primary schools led the Academy of Science to develop 'Primary Connections'. This is a teacher professional learning program supported with curriculum materials (units of work) that aim to enhance learning outcomes in science. It is an innovative teaching and learning approach that links science with literacy, uses co-operative learning, and follows a hands-on inquiry approach, including student planned investigations.

Science at Moonta Area School

Science is part of our School Improvement Plan for 2011. All primary teachers are currently being trained in the Primary Connections program. Our school has developed the 19 boxes of equipment that support the units. DECS has mandated the following weekly instruction times;
R-2 up to 90mins
Year 3- 90 mins
Years 4-7 120 mins

I would like to thank the people who have contributed recyclable materials. These contributions have enabled students to select from a variety of materials to stimulate their creativity in art. I have taken, before, during and after shots to show that, with some imagination, “junk” materials can be turned into delightful pieces of art.

Students viewed Middle–Eastern vases and genie bottles and used materials to create their own genie bottle. They used a papier mache technique to cover their shape and then painted designs and varnished their product. These bottles are on display in our library.

Kerry Crosby

By 2012 all primary teachers will be teaching science using the new National Australian Curriculum which outlines what each year level should learn and the skills they should acquire. We also involve ourselves in quality programs like the upcoming CSIRO visit in Term 4.

National Science Week – Week 4

This year’s theme is ‘React to Chemistry’ in keeping with the ‘International Year of Chemistry’.

At Moonta Area School we are celebrating this week in a variety of ways. Many teachers are teaching a chemistry unit this term. Classes will be involved in poster competitions and crystal making observation activities in the lead up weeks.

During Week 4 there will be activities in the library for students to participate in.

We will culminate the week on Friday with a focus on science in our school assembly. Prize winners from competitions will be announced at this assembly.

The rest of the day will be a science activities day. Classes will rotate to 5 separate chemistry activities that will be run by Year 7s.

If at any time parents would like more information about science teaching in our school or fostering their student’s interest in science, please feel free to arrange a time to discuss this with us.

Shelley Hier and Kerry Crosby

Recycling to create art – Year 5/ 6 classes

Genie bottles – the early stages
Rebecca meticulously papier maches her bottle
Baden, Josh, Liam and Luke
Completed Genie Bottles
Congratulations Jake Cunningham, winner of the Copper Coast Youth Council Logo competition. The Copper Coast Youth Council was looking for a new logo and offered an Apple iPad as the prize for the best design.

District Council of the Copper Coast Youth Development Officer Jodi Russack shows the old Copper Coast Youth Council logo. "We are looking for an eye-catching, attractive, out there, youth-inspired new logo to promote the Copper Coast Youth Council so when people see it they recognise our group," she said.

Year 8-11 Art students were given the opportunity to design the new logo using any medium they wanted. There were plenty of great ideas and they were all so different, but it was Year 9 student, Jake Cunningham who produced the winning design. He will be awarded his prize – a 16gb iPad!!!

Well done Jake!
Congratulations to all students nominated by their class for upholding the values our Guiding Principles.
(Teamwork, Learning, Community, Respect and Wellbeing)

May Nominations for R-2 are:
Mrs Hettner (R/1) Shae van Duin
Ms Drechsler (R/1) Kasey Hutchinson
Miss Hier (Year 1/2) Blake Keywood
Mrs Hutchins (Year 1/2) Tom Cockshell
Ms van Galen (Year 1/2) Savannah Prout

Nominations for Years 3-6 are:
Mrs Perkins (Year 3) Shayla McKay
Mrs Jarman (Year 3/4) Alex Elsworth
Ms Ryan (Year 3-6) Tyla Wilson
Mr Camporeale (Year 4/5) Kara Hackett
Mrs Strauss Scott (Year 4/5) Amy Rhodes
Mr Hall (Year 5/6) Josh Moss
Mrs Honner (Year 5/6) Natasha Hubbard

The winners are:
R-2: Shae van Duin
Shae is friendly and cares for others. She is nice to people, listens to everyone, and plays with them. She is a good worker who does her best all the time.

Year 3-6: Kara Hackett
Kara is kind to others in the yard and in class. She supports others when they are hurt, cheering them up when needed. She is a great sportsperson, showing excellent teamwork and welcoming others to the group. She is also a great learner, quietly working hard and showing a desire to learn. She is cooperative and supportive.

June Nominations for R-2 are:
Mrs Hettner (R/1) Asha Johns
Ms Drechsler (R/1) Amber Aldridge
Miss Hier (Year 1/2) Blake Keywood
Mrs Hutchins (Year 1/2) Kirra Hettner
Ms van Galen (Year 1/2) Michaela Woodward

Nominations for Years 3-6 are:
Mrs Perkins (Year 3) John Stone
Mrs Jarman (Year 3/4) Abby Prout
Ms Ryan (Year 3-6) Andrew Ramsey
Mr Camporeale (Year 4/5) Claudia Hatcher
Mrs Strauss Scott (Year 4/5) Sean Paget
Mr Hall (Year 5/6) Jack Hobbs
Mrs Honner (Year 5/6) Amber Woods

The winners are:
R-2: Asha Johns
Asha follows the class rules, always tries her best, doing good work. She cares for others, looking after people when they are sad.

Year 3-6: Sean Paget
Sean follows the Guiding Principles. He tries hard with his work and always puts in his best effort. Sean is helpful and a good friend to others.

Once again we have a terrific range of books selected by the Children’s Book Council of Australia (CBCA), representing the best in children’s literature over the past year. Many classes have been reading the books short listed for the CBCA awards and lots of discussion and activities have followed.

During Book Week (Week 5) we will display their work and focus on activities to promote and enrich reading. Several classes have followed the theme and are investigating the world through stories and other forms such as recipes. We hope you will take the opportunity to follow the theme with your families and share your world of stories. Maybe share a childhood memory of the world when parents or grandparents went to school.

Book Week will begin on Sunday 21st August with our annual Living Books event in the Community Library. This year we have four ‘living books’ who are keen to share their stories with you. For more info about any of the events please call in at the library.
Well done to the following for completing their Premiers Reading Challenge sheets.

Edwin Dyson, Tarnya Smith (Mrs Hackett)
Olivia Elsworth, (Ms Van Galen)
Georgia Prout, (Mrs Hancock)
Rachel Bones, (Miss Hier)

Congratulations to Alisha Wardle, Rebecca Stock, Misty Dyke and Bianca Derrington for completing Beyond the Challenge.

A special mention to Brett Reilly from Mrs. Perkins class who has managed to read a massive 72 books – well done Brett.

We have just over four weeks until the end of the Premiers Reading Challenge and encourage parents to have a chat to their child and see if they have submitted their sheets.

It's time for a bit of an extra effort to see if we can reach 275 students who complete the challenge and break our record. It's really pleasing that Middle School students are starting to hand in their forms and if this continues we will be off to the movies.

This week’s $10 voucher from Moonta Newsagency goes to Edwin Dyson. Keep them coming in!

Courtney and Sarah decided to add some class to the task of cleaning the chicken house in Science lessons.

Road Crossing Monitors – Term 3:
Week 4
Ryan Coleman, Sam Crocker, Bryar Ostendorf
Week 5
Ryan Shields, Dylan Slack, Lachy Buck

Chic(k) fashion hits the Hen House

Trista Garrard
Last School: Mannum Community College (2008-2010), Junior Primary classroom teacher.
Years Teaching: 3 years.
Areas of Study/Majors etc: Bachelor of Education – JP and Primary at Magill, UniSA.
Special Interests: My family, one year old son Hamish, travel and holidays.
Role this year: Music teacher R-6, Choir teacher.
What are you looking forward to this year in regard to teaching: Trying something new. Learning with the Choir and being a part of their ‘big’ performance at the Festival Theatre later this term. Working with a range of year levels.

Welcome

Anna Harder
Last School: St Joseph’s Catholic School, Queenstown, Tasmania.
Years Teaching: 10 years.
Areas of Study/Majors etc: Drama, English (Secondary).
Have been teaching primary for the past 5 years.
Role this year: Drama teacher R-6.
What are you looking forward to this year in regard to teaching: Meeting a load of new people. Seeing students of this school develop an interest in and enjoyment of Drama.
Road crashes are the biggest killer of people aged between 16 and 24, an alarming statistic and one that is avoidable. To assist in combatting this the “Road Awareness Program”, conducted by Mark Haylock from the MFS was run on Wednesday 3rd August, with all Year 10 and 11 students in attendance, as current and near future drivers. The key aspects of the presentation were to reinforce the element of students making smart decisions with cars, both as a driver and passenger – concentration and commonsense. All students were clearly engaged and “wide-eyed” with various videos, some quite graphic and confronting, illustrating how a small risk can bring catastrophic consequences. Students also heard from Sam Pearce, a crash survivor who was in a car that flipped 3 times and now has learning, reading and memory issues. She had to re-learn even the simplest of life chores, such as tying a shoelace. Sam’s sister also broke her neck in two places in the accident and has since had family issues. The students clearly saw the immediate anguish the accident had on Sam and her family. Information was also relayed about crash site priority, various statistics and information about causes of crashes and ways to prevent the possibility of being a victim. Simple smart decisions such as not getting into a car with someone who has been drinking alcohol, or who often drives recklessly, not using a phone to text or call while driving and arranging a lift from a party could save lives. Feedback from the students was very positive and we have no doubts some “in roads” were made to produce a safer sensible generation of young drivers.

Good attitude, smart decisions, safe behaviours.
Well done to all the students who participated in the MOONTA AREA SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION, during July. These are just a few of the comments made in the visitors book at the gallery during July.

“Excellent! All great talents! Students you should all be proud of your works”

Great imagination & techniques – some future artists here!!!

“Very cultured work – way beyond my expectations – Budding artists galore!!!

“Fantastic artwork. That shows the diversity and talent in our youth at Moonta Area School.

“What brilliant minds! We look forward to the future of these great artists. Brilliance at its best.”
The following proposals will be discussed at the meeting to be held on Monday 15th August:

Proposition One: Sacred Stone – Year 7-11 RE Program
Proposal: Christian seminar – Musical rock group who use contemporary music and drama.
Date: Thursday 20th October, Term 4, Week 1.
Proposer: R Martin / D Daulby

Proposal Two: R-7 Physical Education Week
Proposal: Take part in PE week by running Health and PE activities within the school.
Dates: Monday 14th – Friday 18th November, Term 4, Week 5.
Proposer: A Keleher / D Daulby

Proposal Three: Year 8/9 Knockout Indoor Soccer
Proposal: Students travel to Jamestown to participate in the tournament. Year 10 students to coach.
Requirements from home: Recess and lunch, drink bottle.
Cost: $10.
Date: Thursday 8th September, Week 7.
Proposer: D Richardson / B Schmidt

Proposal Four: Year 12 Hospitality students to cater for 100 guests at International Bowls
Proposal: Students have been given the opportunity to cater for 100 guests at the Moonta Bowls Club. This is part of the international competition running at this time.
Date: Monday 29th August, Week 6.
Proposer: F Anderson / M Westbrook

Proposal Five: Choir rehearsal – Magic Millions, Morphetville
Requirements from home: Drink, recess, lunch, choir book, medication (where necessary).
Cost: $5
Date: Thursday 25th August, Week 5.
Proposer: D Daulby / D Angus

Proposal Six: R-6 Literacy / Numeracy Week – Reading Program
Proposal: Students R-6 invite a special person (parent, grandparent, friend) to school to read to a student / small group. Visitors will be invited for morning tea after reading.
Date: Friday 2nd September, Week 6.
Proposer: D Daulby / D Angus

Proposal Seven: Year 4-12 students attend International Bowls competition
Proposal: International Bowls competition between Australia and South Africa at Moonta Bowling Club. Class groups of students walk to Bowls Club – watch competition for 20 minutes, have a go at bowls for 20 minutes.
Dates: Tuesday 30th – Wednesday 31st August, Week 6.
Proposer: D Daulby / D Angus

Proposal Eight: Year 7-9 Aboriginal Cultural Program
Proposal: Scott Darlow, an Aboriginal teacher / performer to work with students from Years 7 to 9 on an Aboriginal cultural program.
Date: Monday 22nd August, Week 5.
Proposer: D Daulby / D Angus
The following proposal was approved at the meeting held Monday 1st August:
1. Early Years Zoo Excursion – Travel to the Zoo by bus, view pandas and other exhibits.
   Requirements from home: packed recess, lunch, snack and drink.
   Cost: $10.
   Date: Thursday 8th September, Week 7.

The following proposal was not approved:
2. Vibe Alive Festival

The following proposal was approved by the Principal:

Did you know that there’s FREE help for families having difficulties with their children.

Relationships Australia are an organisation that run regular training programs about families. The topics range from behavioural issues through to violence and relationships. They also have an excellent library of books about families and relationship matters.

Rob Martin is Moonta Area School’s Chaplin and can assist in linking families with Relationships Australia. Rob has attended lots of their training and can advise on particular subject matter.
You can also go direct via their website www.rasa.org.au or phone 1300 364 277

Copper Coast Fun Run/Walk

The Athletics SA and DCCC Fun Run/Walk is coming up on Sunday 21st August, starting and finishing at the Copper Coast Sport and Leisure Centre in Kadina. Children aged 12 and under can enter the 5km run/walk for $5 each. All children taking part will receive a free OPAL goodie bag. There’s also a 10km run/walk option for children and adults. OPAL will be providing some fun family activities on the Kadina Oval after the event.
Please register at the Athletics SA website www.athleticssa.com.au – you will find ‘Copper Coast Fun Run’ under the ‘Events’ tab.
Contact Georgina at OPAL for more information on 88214986 or email gboston@coppercoast.sa.gov.au
We have recently collated all our parent, student and staff responses to our SWOT survey.

A SWOT analysis aims to identify the:

S strengths
W weaknesses
O opportunities
T threats that exist within an organisation

Specifically, SWOT is a basic, straightforward model that assesses what an organisation can and cannot do as well as its potential opportunities and threats.

Over the next few editions of MAS Media I will be sharing the results of the analysis.

This week it is the opinions of the parents in relation to strengths and possible changes we could make at MAS to improve what we do.

1. What do you see as the strengths of MAS?
   
   1. Sports/variety of subjects/good facilities
   2. Lots of support for students
   3. The close connection between students/parents with staff
   4. Sporting facilities
   5. We are a community school & seem to have good communication between the school, parents & community
   6. Makes parent at ease to come to the school at any time to talk or discuss concerns. No tolerance to bullying
   7. Student/teacher communications & rapport
   8. Teachers have all been open & supportive of our individual needs
   9. Welcoming, great community feel, great communication between teacher & parent, kids well informed about topics & what to tell parents
   10. Reception – 12
   11. Sense of community/pleasant environment. Recognition of student achievements
   12. Approachable teachers
   13. The younger children will have respect & manners when they are older, teachers are disciplining them well. Besides that I can’t see any strength yet!
   14. That it’s not too big, and the students of all year levels interact with each other. ie. Sports days, assemblies
   15. That the school goes from R to 12. Focus on the Cornish Festival coming up in May
   16. New stuff all the time
   17. The work gets harder every year
   18. Strong sense of community, OSHC service is invaluable for working parents, Active after school activities are great
   19. The school is fantastic in acknowledging students’ achievements – small & big
   20. Good teaching staff
   21. Well taught children, good lessons

The growth of the school with new buildings, passion of the teachers, after school activities & LAP
Community feel & spirit, great teachers & SSO’s, everyone helpful, good playgrounds
New teachers, dedicated staff, happy school community. Community/school events such as twilight Sports Day & the old Christmas performances, opportunities for the community to be a part of the school.
Keeping costs low, extra curriculum activities, beautiful grounds & facilities, M/S programme
Proactive bullying plan/discipline, good standard of teachers, excellent uniform of pupils, regular updates in Newsletter of what’s on at school
Quality of teachers that my girls have had so far
Excellent support staff
Education is absolutely fantastic, MAS is a friendly school, students are happy & it’s great that teachers let parents know how their child/ren are doing
New facilities
Communication, supportive environment
Being small enough for students to know families & siblings. Encourages children to be the best they can be in wherever is their strength
Broad range of kids
Deal with bullying quickly
Approachable staff, inclusive environment
Curriculum, excellent teachers, communication with parents, uniform
Listen and respond - SWOT Analysis (Continued)

2. If you could change anything at MAS, what would you change? Why?

None

Sports: try to start an afternoon soccer competition, with other surrounding schools. You would be surprised how many students will be interested. I for one would be offering my services for the MAS, if it ever occurs.

Year 12 subject by correspondence does not work. Should have other avenues in place

Bit disappointed that when my children started school they were learning Indonesian, since then they have had Spanish, German & now Japanese. Would have been good if they had had only 1 language and why does Japanese stop being taught in the Middle School??

Nothing, we are really happy with MAS. As a school you are always trying to get to the next level.

As a parent I am pleased with what the MAS offers its students

Sports Day-can’t believe the little one’s start & end in the hottest part of the day. 2011 was a lovely cool day but 2010 was extremely hot!

Car parking

Think that on occasion, children/students are ‘fast tracked’ to the Reflection Room for inappropriate reasons. Certainly not all the time, however certain situations could be better dealt with by being sent to a buddy class etc. The Reflection Room begins to lose its effectiveness when used inappropriately.

Have more teachers on yard duty, not enough. There should be one in every area

I would like you to get tougher on bullying. Struggled for a couple of years. It makes school life very hard. OK now but Year 7 may be different. (as kids will be together again)

Change the time of some events so they don’t go so late (music concerts). Have a roster for set-up & clear-up so it’s not always the same people

Have a history subject for classes to learn about the miners’ days & history of the town. What life was like back then

Not to have to do Japanese & instead do Narungga

The space of classrooms

Be more considerate towards working parents. Pupil free days & early finishes before holidays put a lot of pressure on parents to find suitable child care. Also having Sports Day start at 12 pm, means one parent has to take a day off to get the children to school

The amount of school time spent on sport in Term 1. i.e. Sports Day, SAPSASA, K/O sports, Cross country etc

Bullies need to be under control

Bicycle racks put in another area

Computer maths-not suitable for the majority of students, offer it as an extension to students with high maths skills. More explicit teaching in upper primary to lower secondary, less project work & more explicit teaching of genres i.e. report writing while incorporating contextualised learning. Change Japanese to German

Nil

The pants uniform as it is so hard to buy blue pants with no writing or no stripes. They seem to have one or the other. We understand uniform is great, but it is a public school not private. I think as long as it is blue & they wear the right top does it really matter?

Girls’ shorts needs to be addressed. Sports Day for new students/families – begin earlier, begin as a class group, little structure. Middle group seemed to be free-whole school involvement

I would give the students more options for after school activities, for example, have different sports to learn

More focus on career choice at early age

Uniform is a bit dark

Identifying students with learning disabilities at an early age & not fobbing off parents for 11 years!!

Ways to pay school fees. Many parents don’t go into school, they drop kids off, pick them up, as they work. I also pay all of my bills online, & use my Visa card for everything else, so I don’t have cash in my wallet. (Jan says give it to a child to pay). Give us a B-pay or bank deposit option & fees would be paid on time!!

Some teachers are mean & nice, more nice,& fair teachers. More inspiring & “can do” culture so the students aspire to greater things.

Wish it was closer

Nothing

Moonta Area School
Year 11/12
Snow / Ski Trip
Mt Buller
Song and Dance Night
Saturday 27th August at 7:30 p.m.
Wallaroo Town Hall

$20 ticket entry
(children under 15 free)
Tickets available from Frank Camporeale
88 253 027 or 0429 011 049

Outstanding Singing by SASS-E

Public Notices
Take home a big brother or big sister – Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2012 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Japan, the U.S.A and Canada will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaustr@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Family Maths Challenge

Challenge 6 - Answer
Here are some answers:
map, mapping, mass, mathematics, maximum, mean, measure, median, method, metre, metres per, mid point, mile, miles per hour, millennium, millilitre, millimetre, minimum, minus, minute, mirror line, mixed number, modal class, mode, month, most significant digit, multiple, multiplication, multiply, multiply out, mutually exclusive.

Challenge 7 – Christmas Dinner
1. The Ryan family are preparing for their traditional Christmas lunch which they plan to have at 1.30pm. They have a turkey which will need 2 and 3/4 hours cooking time, roast potatoes which will need one hour, roast pumpkin which will need 45 minutes and vegetable bake which will only need 20 minutes. The other vegetables will be steamed for five minutes before serving.
At what times will they need to start cooking the different foods?

a) turkey __________________
b) roast potatoes ________________
c) roast pumpkin ________________
d) vegetable bake ________________

2. If the pudding needs to be boiled for 3 and a ½ hours, what time would they need to start cooking it if they wish to eat the pudding at 2.30pm?

Kadina Show – Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st August

Colour-in competition:
Age groups range from 2 ½ - 12 years as per lists. Entry forms are available from the Front Office.

Wobbles the Clown, will be coming to the show on Saturday at 12 noon and again at 2 p.m.

Anyone interested in becoming a Make-A-Wish volunteer, or wanting to know more about Make-A-Wish, please register your interest by contacting Jan Thomson on (08) 8821 2857 or Belinda Knight 0438 257 230.
Why consistency improves kids’ behaviour

One of the simplest ways to improve a child’s behaviour is to be more consistent.

Consistency means as parents we follow through and do as we say we will. It means resisting giving kids second and third chances when they break the rules or behave poorly around others. When we let kids get away with two or three infractions of the rules we often come down very hard eventually, which causes resentment. Act early and prevent poor behaviour from escalating is the best approach.

Consistency also means both parents in a dual parent family get their act together and respond in similar ways when children are less than perfect. Children learn from a young age to play one parent off against the other when their standards differ or communication is poor. Sole parents need to be consistent with how they react when children behave poorly.

A consistent approach is shown through a clear set of limits and boundaries that provide kids with structure and teaches them how to behave. Studies show that families with very few boundaries or rules are more likely to have children who behave poorly around others, or don’t consider their own safety.

Children like limits and they also like to push against boundaries. One study has shown that kids will push parental boundaries about one third of the time. This is a normal, but irritating expression of a child’s push for independence and autonomy. Some toddlers, teens and other tricky types will push twice that amount, which is very hard work indeed.

Consistency is often sacrificed by busy parents and put in the ‘too-hard basket’. When parents are tired, stretched and overworked the last thing we want to do is engage in a battle with a strong-willed child over what are sometimes petty issues. Besides, consistency can make a well-meaning parent who values relationships feel downright awful.

But giving in rather than holding your ground is not a smart long-term strategy. If you give in occasionally kids will learn that if they push hard enough, or give that winning smile, you will eventually give in. Consistency is about being strong. It takes some backbone to be consistent.

Here are some ideas to help you be consistent with your kids:

1. Focus on priority behaviours. It’s difficult to be consistent with every single misbehaviour, but it’s easy to focus on one or two. When you are consistent with one or two priority behaviours it has a positive impact on other behaviours.

2. Give yourself a tangible reminder about the behaviour you want to follow up. Leave a note somewhere telling yourself that you need to “Walk away when a child whines. Don’t give in.” Or “Catch your kids doing the right thing when they resolve a problem without arguing.”

3. Check your routines. Make sure you have simple routines for troublesome times of the day such as bedtime or mealtimes.

4. Act rather than overtalk or repeat yourself when kids misbehave. Sometimes it’s really inconvenient to set a consequence, as you may have to battle a tantrum that follows. But the stand-firm approach pays off in the long-term as kids learn eventually that you mean what you say, and say what you mean. That’s what firm, consistent discipline requires.

5. Agree to a joint position with your partner about a range of parenting issues such as discipline methods, going out, the use of technology, alcohol, sexuality and other important areas.

For more practical ideas to help you raise happy confident kids subscribe to Happy Kids, Michael’s free email newsletter at Parentingideas.com.au. You’ll get a free Chores & Responsibilities Guide when you do.
This week, with great sadness, we farewelled our Japanese visitors after a very busy ten days. The eight students from Meidai High School in Tokyo have returned home with a better grasp of English, some understanding of Australian culture and many wonderful memories. The reverse can also be said for the eight Moonta families who hosted the students and in particular, the eight Moonta students who stepped up and became buddies to the visitors. I am sure the understandings gained and the friendships forged will remain well into the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both the school and wider community for the many things that happened on a daily basis to welcome and include our visitors. On our visit to the farm, Mrs Westbrook gave the girls a tree to plant so we could remember their visit to us. They planted it just before they left so besides the great memories and thousands of photos, we also have a living reminder of their stay with us. Well done, everyone and a special thank you to the buddies who did a terrific job.

Tricia Stringer

---

**Calendar**

**Thursday 11th August**
- 7 p.m. Music Concert

**Monday 15th – Friday 19th August**
- Science Week

**Monday 15th August**
- 4:30 p.m. DMC

**Tuesday 16th August**
- Maths Competition

**Friday 19th August**
- 9 a.m. R-12 Assembly

**Week 3**

**Week 4**

**Monday 22nd – Friday 26th August**
- Book Week

**Monday 22nd – Thursday 25th August**
- Year 12 PE Bushwalking Camp

**Monday 29th August – Friday 2nd September**
- Literacy & Numeracy Week

**Monday 29th August**
- 4:30 p.m. DMC

**Week 5**

**Week 6**