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Important Dates

Monday 10 February 2020

- Open Boys Cricket

Tue 11 - 13 February 2020

- Year 8 Camp

Friday 14 February 2020

- Interschool Swimming

Wednesday 19 February 2020

- Student Free Day

Monday 24 February 2020

- PHS Interhouse Athletics Trials

Wednesday 26 February 2020

- 1500m

Thursday 27 February 2020

- PHS Interhouse Athletics Carnival

43 Cameron Street

Penola SA 5277

T: 08 8737 0000

F: 08 8737 0050

E: DL.0931_info@schools.sa.edu.au

W: www.penolahs.sa.edu.au



**Government
of South Australia**

Department for Education

Principal's Report

Ngaire Benfell



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the 2020 school year! A very warm welcome to new staff, students and families. Lesley Okholm joins us as our new Deputy Principal and Sam Matthews as our new Science and Maths teacher. In addition, Bob Reece is teaching a Maths class this year and will continue to support us with Relief Teaching work. Our Year 8 students have settled into high school really well and are set to go on camp in a week's time where they will get to know each other and their teachers a little better and consolidate the relationships they began building in the Week One Alternative Program. We have also had several new enrolments in other year levels and look forward to what these new students will bring to our school.

The 2020 Vision

This year we aim to further upgrade the school with Minor Works funding and grant funding. We are committed to our vision for Middle Schooling in readiness for Year 7 and 8 students joining us in 2022. This includes developing the learning program (particularly the achievement of our School Improvement goals) and the physical environment to cater for these students' needs. Our messages and our foci for student development in 2020 are (1) Get Involved and (2) Challenge Yourself! When students seek out challenges and step outside their comfort zones, they can achieve greatness. We will encourage them to look outside their own worlds and see what they can do to make their future world a better place.

Student Free Day

To help us make a consistent approach to our Positive Behaviour for Learning policy, Penola High has convened a regional workshop on 19 February on Restorative Practices. Further information about restorative practices is contained within this newsletter. Following this day, our Deputy Principal and Well Being Coordinator will be trained as facilitators of the practice.

Mobile Phone Policy

At Penola High School, we do not have a ban on phones. Our policy states that we anticipate responsible use of phones, however, our vast experience tells us that the teen years are a period where boundaries are tested and pushed. Therefore, Year 8 and 9 students will have their phones collected at the start of every learning block. Year 10 to 12 students may be asked to switch their phones off and hand them in if their use is interfering with learning. Our policy also states that we will educate young people about phone etiquette. Last week, Year 8, 9 and 10 students workshopped good phone manners and listed the positive and negative points about having a phone at school.

Communication

Phone, message, email, visit us! Our door is open and we welcome your feedback and thank you for bringing your concerns straight to the school where they will be received by a teacher, Admin Officer or Leader who will listen, inform and act. Not satisfied with the outcome? There is a grievance process at the school whereby you can escalate the concern to the Principal. Still not satisfied? The Department for Education also has a grievance process where you can escalate the issue to the Education Director at Mount Gambier Office. It is important to be heard and to have all the information you need.

I am looking forward to a very positive and productive year where, with your support, our young people will achieve great things.

Kind regards

2019 Stage 2 Results

Michael Hentschke

Hardwork and diligence rewarded Year 12 students at Penola High School in 2019 with another strong showing of results. Phoebe Tregenza achieved the top ATAR score of 91.3 from Stage 2 subjects studied over 2018 and 2019. Phoebe completed English and Research Project at A level in 2018 as a Year 11 student and added to this with B+ grades in Chemistry, Physics and Math Methods last year. Phoebe received the Year Level Dux award from Year 8 to 11 and tops this off with our highest ATAR for which she will receive the Rueben Goldsworthy award from the school.

Phoebe Tregenza said "When I looked at my results this morning, I was really excited and happy with how it all turned out. It is really great to see that all my hard work has paid off."

Brooke Hutchesson achieved A grades in all of her subjects which included English, Information Processing, Health and Research Project studied at Penola, as well as Media Studies with Open Access College. For this Brooke received an ATAR of 87.75.

Brooke said "I am hoping to go to university in 2021 to study a Bachelor of Secondary Education/Arts and become a secondary Drama teacher."

Kate Skeer, with an ATAR of 80.55, achieved A grades in 4 subjects: English, Visual Arts, Information Processing and Research Project and a B+ for Child Studies.

Kate Skeer said "I am very relieved and proud. I will be having a gap year and hope to study nutrition or communication and media."

Year 11 student Ebonie Moulton completed 2 Stage 2 subjects last year, receiving 2 A grades with an A+ for Visual Arts. A final piece of Ebonie's artwork was selected as the inaugural Acquisitive Art Prize to showcase student work in this learning area. Aimee Moretti, in her first year at our school, certainly allowed her students to achieve success with high grades being achieved across Visual Arts that reflected the hard work and commitment of both Aimee and her students.

Principal, Ngairé Benfell said, "The commitment of these students has paid off, demonstrating that great results are achieved through hard work, the motivation to reach your goals and the strong support our students receive from all their teachers."



2019 Stage 2 Visual Arts

Aimee Moretti

2019 Stage 2 Visual Arts students performed extremely well and as such have been rewarded for their outstanding skill and hard work. Kate Skeer, Jesse Martin and Ebonie Moulton were all selected by a panel of curators/ markers of the Riddoch Art Gallery and the University of South Australia to display there in the current exhibition running from 1 February-1 March. Calibre is located in the Main Corner of Mount Gambier, and is an inaugural exhibition dedicated to Senior High School students in the Limestone Coast. A major prize of \$1000 will be awarded to the winning entry. The exhibition showcases the most creative and innovative work from young people in the region and encompass visual art, design, photography, performing art, media or creative art.



Ebonie Moulton, who also won the 2019 Penola High School Acquisitive Art award at the end of last year, was also selected by the SACE Board to present her work 'Salvation' in Adelaide, as part of the annual SACE Art Show, once finishing up her exhibit in Riddoch Art Gallery. The SACE Art Show will run from Tuesday 17 March - Friday 17 April 2020 in the Light Square Gallery. The SACE Art Show showcases art and design work created by Stage 2 students from across the state. Over 100 works are displayed at the 4 week exhibition, ranging from traditional paintings and drawings to sculpture, costumes, photographs and digital media pieces.



Student Absence SMS (only)

Notification number:

0400 134 993

Week 1 - Middle School

Middle School students engaged in a comprehensive alternative program during the first week of the term. The focus was to build relationships and set the scene for our students to commence 2020 with a sense of belonging and positive new directions.

The program included three and a half days of action-packed sessions, culminating in the whole school Swimming Carnival. It was designed to address areas that would enhance the opportunities for all students to be successful in their academic and extra-curricular pursuits.

Our week commenced with the whole school assembly where students and staff were welcomed. There was quite a sense of excitement and anticipation towards the new year and the possibilities of what this might bring for our school community. House meetings followed to organise events and teams for Friday's Swimming Carnival. This provided opportunities for the house captains to get to know the new recruits into their houses and encourage them to participate in as many events as possible. This was a very good start to building connections with senior and junior students and understanding the need for cooperation and teamwork.



Important topics were addressed in the next assembly session where students were introduced and reminded of school policies, including anti-bullying, positive behaviour for learning, mobile phones, diaries and homework. Activities were intermingled with the dialogue providing students with useful means of relating to the content of the documents.

Home groups met on several occasions to attend to administration requirements, but also engaging students to develop their own classroom behaviour expectations, build relationships and generally settle into the school term. Home group sessions were also convened to work on the ShineSA program. Students were divided into gender groups to encourage conversations and sharing of ideas on the chosen theme of 'Gender Expectations and Power'. Students participated well to build better understandings of the nature of this topic and its relevance to working together in a safe learning environment.

School values were discussed extensively in home group sessions to thoroughly reinforce the need for the students to develop an understanding of each of them. This provided a grounding for connections to individuals and groups to ensure cohesiveness in the learning environment.

'Coaching for Success' was introduced to all middle school students enabling them to focus on study skills, mindsets, organisation and other pertinent areas for development. Year 10 students had time to focus on working with others, personalities and attitudes. Conversations around capabilities, particularly, the personal and social capability, provided a useful start to addressing personal awareness, building relationships and social skills. Other sessions focused on goal setting and establishing e-folios to document their learning and establish a folio of personal achievements. This is an initiative to assist students to maintain records for reflection and reference when negotiating their future pathways.



Included in the program were opportunities for students to engage in traditional sporting activities as well as some dance, aerobics and yoga to encourage the need for physical fitness as part of their overall wellbeing.

The week was very busy and productive with students showing enthusiasm, excellent cooperation, and readiness to start the academic year.



Week 1 - Senior School

Kate Jones

The Year 11 and 12 cohort started the 2020 school year off with a bang as they headed down to Beachport for the annual Senior Retreat. For the year 11s this camp provided them with an opportunity to establish their new role as senior students at Penola High School and how they are now seen by younger year levels as people to be admired and looked up to. This led them to recognise their new responsibilities as role models. The year 12s were provided the chance to consider their goals for the coming year and what they want to achieve within their final year of schooling.

All students participated in a variety of activities and exercise that had them working as a team to build relationships and develop communication with their peers. Leadership was a large focus as students needed to demonstrate their responsibility and showcase their ability to work together. Students were also provided with an opportunity to reflect on their previous years of schooling to see how far they have come and how they have developed into bright, capable young adults.

"I found every activity very fun and inclusive. It helped us with our leadership and team work skills. All the activities took us out of our comfort zone and made us work with people we wouldn't usually." – Stephen Ryan

"I really recommend going on retreat. It is a great way to get to know each other and possibly talk to people you haven't before. The retreat is filled with lots of fun activities that everyone can enjoy." – Indi Venables

All students were highly engaged with all activities, making the most of the experiences the Senior Retreat provided. They should be commended on their participation and inclusivity as students embraced all challenges and proved to themselves that they are capable of achieving anything they put their mind too.



Bushfire Season

Lesely Okholm

Bushfire season is upon us. The school has a detailed plan where each staff member has specific roles to undertake to ensure each person on site is safe. There will be a drill soon to make sure that we are all well versed in these responsibilities.

Important things for families to know:

- On days declared as "Catastrophic" our **school will be open**, but there will be **no buses** operating.
- Total Fire Ban days will be publicised to all students via signs in all classrooms and entrances.
- Total Fire Bans may result in excursions being cancelled as a result of a risk assessment.
- In the case of a local fire, students may be kept at school after the usual dismissal time, on advice from CFS and Police.
- If specific school bus routes or local roads are impacted upon or threatened by fire, staff will make arrangements to supervise the affected students until Emergency Services report that the situation is safe to release them from the site.
- School buses will not leave the site unless a clear directive is given to the Principal by DFE School Care, SAPOL or CFS Incident Management that indicates bus routes are safe to travel. If a bush fire prevents school buses leaving the site the Principal, Deputy Principal and teachers will supervise students remaining on site until parents collect them.



PHS Swimming Carnival

Chloe Long

On Friday 31 January, the three Penola High School Houses once again battled it out in the annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival. Miss Long had studied the weather conditions over the week to find that storms were coming over in the afternoon. This meant that Penola High School went to a morning Carnival this year. The morning was warm and sunny - perfect to get some strong results. The high number of students participating accompanied by strong swimmers in every age group, made for some fantastic finishes. The team scores were close all day, with Torilla and Moyanga fighting it out for overall honours.

The Under 14 age group is always the most interesting to watch as this is the first time the Year 8s get to show off their sporting talents. A highlight in Under 14 was Scarlett Black who competed in every single event the house captains asked, even competing in the team games alone. Scarlett also took out the Under 14 champion, with Lily Clifford- Finch close behind. The Under 14 boys also had a strong age group with Thomas Currie continuing on the family legacy to take Under 14 champion. Toby Zerk and Ned Skeer battled it out for runner up with Toby Zerk being awarded the honour on a count back.

The Under 15 boys competition heated up this year, with close finishes and fighting spirit. Lochy Neale and Harley Davies showed off their swimming talent with a tie for Under 15 boys champion. The Under 15 girls showed that when you put yourself out of your comfort zone you will surprise yourself. Kasey Venables and Reese Balshaw had great days in the pool winning the champion and runner up honours.

The rivalry continued between Aaron Zerk and Jake Klemm this year with strong battles in each race, with Jake coming away with the Under 16 boys trophy and Aaron runner up. The Under 16 girls trophy was another tight battle between Amelia Henry and Breanna Lythgo, with Amelia winning the Under 16 girls champion by 1 point.

The Open girls competition looked a little different this year. With Ella Hutchesson out with an injury, it was anyones game. All the open girls swam their hearts out on the day. Indi Venables set the standard placing in all of her races and was crowned champion. Charlotte Neale went home with the runner up award on a count back from Ebonie Moulton. The Open boys events were strong all day with close finishes and lots of banter at the starting line. The Open boys freestyle event is always a highlight with Jacob Robbie winning the race in a photo finish. Ryan Zerk took out the champion trophy for the second year in a row with Caleb Lythgo a close second.

The house captains did exceptionally well in organising their teams and making sure all the events were filled throughout the day. Their moral support and enthusiasm on the side lines proved to be effective in getting their competitors to the finish line. It was great to see all house members contribute to their team's success both in entering events and encouraging and supporting fellow House members. At the end of the day the results were very close, however Torilla proved that participation in events pays off by taking home the shield.

Individual Age Group Winners

	Male	Female
U14		
Winner	Thomas Currie	Scarlett Black
Runner Up	Toby Zerk	Lily Clifford – Finch
U15		
Winner	Lochy Neale Harley Davies	Kasey Venables
Runner Up		Reese Balshaw
U16		
Winner	Jake Klemm	Amelia Henry
Runner Up	Aaron Zerk	Breanna Lythgo
Open		
Winner	Ryan Zerk	Indi Venables
Runner Up	Caleb Lythgo	Charlotte Neale

Final House Results

Torilla	217
Moyanga	207
Yalluminga	172

Penola High School Governing Council AGM Monday 17 February 7:00pm in the Penola Community Library

The Penola High School Governing Council currently comprises 15 members

- School Principal
- Staff Representative (as voted by school staff)
- 11 elected parents
- 2 co-opted members from the Penola High School staff (finance and curriculum purposes)

From the required membership of 11 elected parents we have 8 vacancies to be filled at this year's AGM. Are you interested in joining the school Governing Council? As an active member of Council you will be involved in the decision making processes of the school as well as supporting your child during their time at Penola High School. Council meets, on average, 8 times during the school year. The support given to the school community by parents is greatly appreciated and plays an integral part in the day to day running of the school.

PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL NOMINATION SLIP

Nominator _____

Nominee _____

Signed _____

Acceptance Signature _____

This nomination slip can either be returned to the Penola High School Front Office via your child, or you may phone your nomination through by Friday 14 February 2020.

Open Girls Cricket 20/20 in 2020

Michael Hentschke

The Penola girls played a 20/20 cricket game against Mount Gambier today at McCorquindale Park. The skills of the team has certainly improved each year and this was a competitive game against a larger school whose team included a number of regular cricketers.

Batting first, Penola scored 8/42 with Indi Venables top scoring with 5 not out while Sophie Clifton scored 4. Others to score runs were Reese Balshaw, Ebonie Moulton, Charlotte Neale, Lily Clifford-Finch and Scarlett Black.

In reply, Mount Gambier were able to score through their experience players to score 7/65 from their 20 overs. Our bowlers have also improved, with Indi Venables and Stella Glynn each getting 2 wickets. Lily Clifford-Finch and Sophie Clifton also each got 1.

The game was played in good spirit and the girls enjoyed their time. Thank you to Joel Virtanen and Jacob Robbie for setting up the ground and umpiring.



Stationery and Uniform

Vicki McDonald-Burgess

A number of students have presented to the office asking for items of either stationery or uniform and requesting that these items be placed on their parents account. Please be advised that Stationery items are via cash sale only. If your son/daughter requires a uniform/school hat please phone the school to arrange. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Vicki at the school.



Lesley Okholm, Ngaire Benfell, Sam Matthews

In 2020, as an Army Cadet, I will ...

- Learn new skills
- Meet new people
- Challenge myself
- Discover what's outside of my Comfort Zone
- Have heaps of fun!

I know YOU have what it takes, so why not join me?

Interested? Come along to the 48 Army Cadet Unit Information Session!

Date: Friday, 14 February 2020 at 7PM

Location: Army Depot, Shepherdson Road, Mount Gambier

More Info: 48acu@armycadets.gov.au

Materials & Services Charge & School Card

Families who were eligible for School Card in 2019 MUST re-apply for School Card in 2020

Application forms are available from the school or families may apply online at the following link:

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

If you have children attending different schools (ie secondary and/or primary), a separate application form must be completed for those attending secondary school and those attending primary school. However, if you apply online the online application for all children can be completed altogether. We encourage all parents to review their financial circumstances carefully to see if their students' education costs can be financed in this manner. Please note that those students in receipt of School Card will have the School Materials & Services charge automatically deducted.

Payment of Materials & Services Charge. Parents have the option of paying the Materials and Services charge in full or in instalments by cash, cheque, credit card, eftpos, direct credit or centrepay system. Parents who wish to pay the Materials and Services charge and any other school costs, ie camps etc by instalments, via the centrepay system and/or by direct credit must contact Vicki at the school on 8737 0000 to complete the required paperwork. The Materials and Services charge is due and payable by all parents as soon as possible.

SCHOOL CARD 2020

Income limits for applications lodged in 2020 – based on the family's gross income in 2018/2019.

Eligibility income limits for a student attending a government school

Number of dependent children	Gross annual School Card income limit	Gross weekly School Card income limit
1 child	\$60,264	\$1,159
2 children	\$61,340	\$1,180
3 children	\$62,416	\$1,201
4 children	\$63,492	\$1,222
5 children	\$64,568	\$1,243
More than five children	Add \$1,076 for each dependent child	Add \$21 for each dependent child

APPLICATION TYPES/FORMS - There are various types of School Card application forms

Form A – Income Audit (low income families)

Form B – Hardship/Change of circumstances or self-employed

Form F – Informal and formal care agreement

Form M – Migrants and New Arrivals

Form S – Adult re-entry students on low income

Form V – Veterans Affairs

Form Y – Independent student in receipt of Independent/Youth Allowance as at 29/2/2020.

If you require an application form please contact Vicki at the school on 8737 0000 or apply online at

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

PENOLA HIGH SCHOOL STAFF 2020

NGAIRE BENFELL

Principal

ALI BOND

Library Support Officer

JAMES BRADY

Network Manager

IT Support Officer

ICT

Sentral

LOUISE CLAYFIELD

Student Information Manager

EDSAS/Sentral/Schools Online

Student Reports

Buses

JESSIE COPE

Student Wellbeing

Coordinator Learning Support

Attendance/Absences

FLO/Flexible Learning

One PLANS

MICHAEL HENTSCHE

Year 11 Year Level Organiser

Senior Maths and Science Teacher

Student Awards

Presentation Night

OLIVIA JAESCHKE

Year 9 Year Level Organiser

Home Economics and Hospitality Teacher

Health and Child Studies Teacher

KATE JONES

English Teacher/HASS

KEVIN KNOTT

Design & Technology Teacher

CHLOE LONG

Year 12 Year Level Organiser

Interschool Sports Manager

Physical Education, Outdoor Ed & HASS Teacher

JAN MARCUS

Library Support Officer/Classroom Support

JUSTIN MCDONALD

Groundsperson/Classroom Support

VICKI MCDONALD-BURGESS

Finance Officer

SAM MATTHEWS

Maths, Science and Biology Teacher

AIMEE MORETTI

Art Teacher

LESLEY OKHOLM

Deputy Principal

Student Management Senior School

SACE Improvement

STEM/Digital Technology

Buses

Enrolments

Reliefs

Timetable

Open Access/WREN

KATHLEEN PHILLIPS

Year 10 Year Level Organiser

HASS, English, Japanese

Research Project Teacher

JANE PRYOR

Coordinator: Middle School & Student Voice

Year 8 Year Level Organiser

Student Management Middle School

Continuity of Learning Coordinator

ART/Agriculture Teacher

BOB REECE

Maths Teacher

JO SKEER

Student Support Officer

GEOFF STEPHENS

Instrumental Music

SILVANA STEPHENS

Laboratory Technician

WHS Representative

Classroom Support

DAVE VANNINI

Student Support Officer

Student Case Manager

SARAH WALKER

Receptionist

Publicity Liaison

Transition

MIRIAM WILLIAMS

Teacher Librarian

HASS, Tourism Teacher

TERM 1 2020 CALENDAR

	MONDAY 27/1	TUESDAY 28/1	WEDNESDAY 29/1	THURSDAY 30/1	FRIDAY 31/1
Week 1	 AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY	Swimming Carnival Nominations Due			PHS INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Week 2	3/02	4/2 SCHOOL PHOTOS	5/2 FAMILY BBQ/ INFO SESSIONS	6/2 OPEN GIRLS CRICKET	7/2
Week 3	10/02 OPEN BOYS CRICKET	11/02	12/2	13/2 Violence Prevent Workshop Year 9-12	14/2 INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING
YEAR 8 CAMP					
Week 4	17/2	18/2	19/2 STUDENT FREE DAY	20/2	21/2
Week 5	24/2 PHS INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS TRIALS	25/2	26/2 1500M	27/2 PHS INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL	28/2
Week 6	02/3	3/3	4/3	5/3	6/3
OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP					
Week 7	9/3  ADELAIDE CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY	10/3	11/3	12/3	13/3
Week 8	16/3	17/3	18/3 INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL	19/3	20/3 CLAY TARGET SHOOTING
Week 9	23/3	24/3	25/3	26/3	27/3
Week 10	30/3	31/3	1/4	2/4	3/4 ADELAIDE ATHLETICS
Week 11	6/4	7/4	8/4	9/4 C	10/4  Happy Easter GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY



nurturing individual success