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Important Dates

- Monday 14 February 2022
- Assembly
- Wednesday 16 February 2022
- School Photo Day
- Friday 4 February 2022
- Interhouse Swimming Carnival
- Monday 28 February 2022
- PHS Governing Council
- Wednesday 9 March 2022
- Year 8 Immunisations

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**Government
of South Australia**

Department for Education

Principal's Report

Lesley Okholm

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back to fabulous learning at Penola High School 2022. I think we had all hoped for a more normal year, however this hybrid model of learning we are using to start the year has been a tricky start for many. I commend parents, students and teachers for the resilience and flexibility they have shown over the past 2 weeks.

What I can say however, is that starting the Year 7s and 8s with only the Year 12s, has been an incredibly successful way for the younger students to settle into routines and expectations at high school. Our Year 12 students have been superb role models and have supported a calm and orderly start. Their focus and drive as students in the final year of schooling has been second to none, and an absolute credit to them. It is heartening to hear them with clear goals around SACE completion and getting the best ATARS they can.

Conversely, the younger students have completely immersed themselves into their learning, focussing on being a cohesive middle school and developing skills to handle themselves when they feel upset. This work to self-regulate their behaviour is critically important as young people head to adulthood, and enables them to be confident in their future relationships. I have been thrilled to see the happy and caring environment develop through the hard work of Rikki Helps, Matt Strother and Jessie Cope.

I have been quite happy with the number of students who have engaged in online learning in Year 9, 10 and 11, and well understand how difficult it must have been especially given they did not know many of our new staff. Having everyone back next week will be a reason to celebrate and certainly we expect a lot of smiles as students catch up with their friends.

COVID

Currently we are aware that the other schools/childcare around us are starting to see cases of COVID. It is only to be expected that we will be impacted soon as well, in fact as I write this, I have become aware of a student who is positive. I urge you to ensure ANY student with any symptoms does NOT attend school, and as importantly, please let us know if they, or anyone in your family tests positive so we can take measures to prepare.

I can assure you that if we are impacted and your child has had contact, you will be notified as soon as possible. I encourage you to get boosters and second jabs as soon as you are able to protect yourselves and others.

READING AND COMPREHENSION

In 2022 the bulk of our improvement work will be around ensuring our students UNDERSTAND what they read in every subject. I am a good reader if the topic is food, but if I am given a chemistry text, I have no understanding. We know that if we can improve this in all subjects, we will give students a chance to get higher grades and understand their learning better. Just because we can sound out words and say them correctly.



AGM

On Monday 28 February 2022 we will hold the Governing Council AGM, either online or face to face. We would love to see some new people nominate for this group. It is a great way to know what we do and why we do it, and more importantly, represent the views of parents in decisions about learning for your young people. Last year we tackled camps, extra-curricular activities, mobile phones to name a few and this year I hope to see us working very closely with our student driven SRC to continue to develop our amazing school.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Eating breakfast and regular healthy meals are important for all of us. Our Breakfast program has started and is available for any student who needs a little extra or who may have headed out without fuelling up. Please encourage your young people to have some toast, fruit or cereal even if it means doubling up! Foodbank and IGA support us to run this daily.

Kind regards



Deputy Principal Report

Hillary Trotter

The start of 2022 has thrown many challenges at our teachers and students and as a new staff member I have been so impressed by how well everyone has worked together to adapt and get on with the business of learning. I am excited for what the year holds for our students and I look forward to getting to know our community better.

SACE Information Night

I will be hosting a virtual SACE information night on the 9 March 2022 for parents/caregivers of students in Year 11 and 12. We will talk about the structure of SACE, the traffic light reports and what this could mean for students and share any important information about being successful in SACE. This virtual format will allow parents to check in with us from the comfort of their homes and also provide the option of accessing the video recording at another time.

NAPLAN Online

We also have information coming out about NAPLAN testing, so keep an eye out for this. Our Year 7 and 9 students will be involved in this and all tests will be online again this year.

I want to thank everyone for the friendly and kind welcome I have received and I look forward to working with the Penola High School Community.

Student Illness

Parents and students are reminded that if a student is feeling unwell or is injured at school, they are to report immediately to the Front Office for assistance. Students may not use mobile phones while on school grounds at any time, therefore they should not be contacting their parents from their mobile phone. Students are to report to the front office to wait in the Sick Room while staff contact their parent/caregiver to arrange transportation home, and then the office staff can record the absence as an early departure if the student goes home.

New Staff

Hillary Trotter

As we start our 2022 school year we are excited to introduce our new staff. New staff profiles will be published on Facebook, so make sure you are following the Penola High School Facebook page!

Hillary Trotter: Deputy Principal, Year 12 English Teacher, Research Project and SACE coordinator. Hillary has joined us after working as Assistant Principal at both Naracoorte High School and Renmark High School.

Rikki Helps: Middle School Coordinator and Year 7 English/HASS/HPE teacher. Rikki has joined PHS following the "Transition to High School" initiative encouraging primary teachers to bring their experience and practice to High School settings.

Matthew Strother: Year 7 Maths and Science teacher and Year 8 Math, PE and Arts teacher. Matt is an experienced primary school educator who has joined us to lend his skills to a high school setting and support the year 7 to high school transition.

Chris Jordan: Tech, after working as a relief teacher for a while Chris has joined us as our new tech studies teacher.

Dylan Agnew: Mathematics, Dylan is a mathematics teacher who has joined us from the Yorke Peninsula.

Joshua Pearce: Physical Education, Outdoor Education and Science. Josh joins us from Penola Primary School.

Chloe Holmes: English, Chloe joins us as a graduate teacher and has already adapted to country life.

Jasmine Brain: Student Support Officer, Jasmine is a qualified youth worker, currently studying to become a secondary school teacher. Jasmine comes with a wealth of experience and knowledge.

Student Absence SMS (only)

Notification number:

0400 134 993

Stage 2 Results

Lesley Okholm

Hard work and perseverance rewarded students at Penola High School in 2021 with the release of the SACE results, which showed the school had another successful year. The school's top ATAR was achieved by Charlotte Neale with a score of 86. Charlotte is hoping to study Psychology. The school's top 4 out of 9 students all received an ATAR over 80, with Tom Skeer gaining 85.4. These scores include bonuses.

Principal Lesley Okholm congratulated all Year 12 students on their achievements, saying, "Penola High School has worked hard on SACE improvement and the work of our Deputy Principal, Judy Goodes on SACE improvement, and the mentoring support of Winsley Wighton and Mark Heyn has made a big difference to our students."



Penola High School Governing Council AGM 2022

**Monday 28 February 2022 6:00pm
in the Penola Community Library**

The 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 6 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 slip can either be returned to the school, or you may phone your nomination through by Friday 18 February 2022.

Bushfire Season

Lesley 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 Department for Education School Care.
- 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.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Wednesday

16 February 2022

CLEANERS WANTED!!

Cleaning vacancies in the Penola area

If you are interested in securing employment as a cleaner, please contact any of the following companies for further information:

- SSA Cleaning (Tanya) on 0459 295 024
- Mod Cleaning (Heidi) on 0439 854 633
- Southern Cross Cleaning (David) on 0428 690 998.

Materials & Services Charge & School Card

Families who were eligible for School Card in 2021 MUST re-apply for School Card in 2022.

Application forms are available from the school or families may apply online at the following link: www.sa.gov.au

If you have children attending different schools (ie secondary and/or primary), a separate application form must be completed for each school. However, if you apply online the application can be completed for multiple schools. We encourage all parents to review their financial circumstances 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 2022

****You will need to provide proof of income – such as payslips or Centrelink information****

Eligibility income limits for a student attending a government school

Number of dependent children	Gross annual income limit	Gross weekly income limit
1 child	\$62,440	\$1,201
2 children	\$63,555	\$1,223
3 children	\$64,670	\$1,245
4 children	\$65,785	\$1,267
5 children	\$66,900	\$1,289
More than 5 children	Add \$1,115 for each dependent child	Add \$22 for each dependent child

NAPLAN – privacy collection notice

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) takes place each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN helps parents, carers and educators to see if children are meeting important numeracy and literacy standards.

Collection of personal information

Schools are required by law to collect personal information about you and your child, irrespective of whether your child participates in NAPLAN testing.

The purpose of this notice is to advise parents and carers of how your child's personal information will be used for NAPLAN testing (both online and paper tests) in 2022 and, as part of NAPLAN Online, readiness activities scheduled at various times leading up to the test in May 2022.

NAPLAN testing

Since its introduction in 2008, NAPLAN testing has been conducted using paper-based tests for students in all year levels. NAPLAN paper tests are administered every year across a 3-day test window in the second full week of May.

In July 2013, Australian education ministers agreed to guiding principles for national online assessment. The move to NAPLAN Online started in 2018. Moving online means NAPLAN is transitioning from paper-based tests to computer-based assessments.

Online testing brings many benefits and opportunities including providing better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information.

Schools in South Australia will conduct NAPLAN testing online in 2022.

More information on NAPLAN Online is available at: www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/.

Readiness testing activities

A critical step in preparing for NAPLAN Online is schools' participation in readiness testing activities.

The purpose of readiness testing activities is to ensure your child is familiar with their device and the online test environment, as well as to test school and national infrastructure systems and processes.

Readiness testing is not another NAPLAN and will not formally assess students who participate in the test. Any reports generated will be used for testing purposes only. Readiness testing activities may involve students who are participating in NAPLAN in 2022.

Disclosure of personal information

For every student participating in NAPLAN Online testing and readiness activities, personal information will be uploaded by the Department for Education, as the Test Administration Authority (TAA), to the NAPLAN Online Assessment Platform ('assessment platform'). This information is listed over the page.

The information below marked with an asterisk (*) is also provided by the department, as the TAA, to FUJIFILM Data Management Solutions Pty Ltd for the purposes of printing paper test materials and reporting student results. FUJIFILM Data Management Solutions Pty Ltd ("FUJIFILM") is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education and is only

NAPLAN privacy collection notice – updated December 2021



permitted access to personal information from a relevant school for the purposes of providing the contracted services.

FUJIFILM's privacy policy can be found at: <https://www.fujifilm.com/au/en/privacy>

- Student name*
- School name, class and year level*
- Date of birth*
- Country of birth
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status
- Jurisdictional and local school student identifiers*
- Gender*
- Disability adjustments (where applicable) *
- Language background other than English
- Parents' occupation, education and language background

The personal information for students who are exempted, absent or withdrawn from NAPLAN testing is collected and used for reporting purposes.

Data security

Security and privacy are key requirements for the delivery of national testing.

NAPLAN Online

The online assessment platform has been designed to comply with relevant national data security policies and guidelines, as well as data encryption standards.

The assessment platform is managed by Education Services Australia (ESA). ESA is a not-for-profit company jointly owned by the Australian education ministers. ESA is subject to rigorous information privacy and data security obligations under its contract with the Department for Education.

ESA only has access to personal information from a relevant school, TAA or the Australian schools list for the primary purpose of fulfilling ESA's role in supporting the operation of the assessment platform.

ESA's privacy policy can be found at: www.esa.edu.au/contact-us/privacy.

Access and correction

To request access or correction to personal information collected for NAPLAN and held by schools, please contact your school principal in the first instance. Any concerns about a breach of privacy by a school should be directed in writing to the school principal.

More information

Speak with your school principal in the first instance if you have any questions about this information.