21st November

Year 8 Capability Folders  24th-25th October
Students in Year 8 presented their Capability Folio Projects to an audience of two teachers, a chosen adult and a chosen peer. Students identified and showcased their leaning success and strategies from a range of learning areas. Each student selected seven pieces of evidence that best demonstrated each of the Australian Curriculum learning capabilities of literacy, numeracy, ICT, critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability, ethical understanding and intercultural understanding.
Students evaluated their own learning strategies and ways in which they can be assisted to improve their learning further. We want the students to be able to experience, connect and grow through their learning, so they are able to set goals and challenge them, identify their barriers to success, access available support when appropriate, transfer knowledge between learning areas and involve parents in their learning.
The feedback received from all students about their learning was very positive and provided us with much information allowing us to identify common themes in student learning and select the best strategies to respond to students’ feedback in the classroom.
We are grateful for the support parents provided for this project.

Penola Show 26th – 29th October
Once again, our school community was closely involved with the show. Students from Year 9 spent time on Wednesday and Thursday helping Show Society members to set up the equipment needed for various events and displays. This work counts towards the ‘Citizenship’ section of the compulsory PLP.
Jo Skeer, Silvana Stephens, Kristen Bence and Justin McDonald were involved in putting the PHS display together and did a fine job. Our thanks goes to them and also to all the teachers who provided materials for the display.
Many of our students entered the Art and Photography categories of the Show competitions and ranked among the winners. Chad Dinnison won the Panoramas at Penley Photography Competition, while Year 11 Photography student Samantha Sims, took out the Champion Ribbon for the Junior section with her light painting photograph of a sparkler in a champagne flute. Other photography winners included Sam Gartner, Ashley Telkesi, Elysha Deckoning, Jack Clifton, Brooke Hutchesson, and Henry Berkin. Cheyenne Faux and Jesse Martin both won prizes for their entries in the Year 9 drawing section. Amy Whitehouse won a prize for her drawing in the Year 8 Drawing category.
Ella Kain did a great job as Junior Youth Show Ambassador, involving herself in setting up events and judging. She also won her cattle event.
Vicki McDonald-Burgess and the Governing Council manned the show gate and the PHS wine and cheese stall on the Friday night to raise money for the Vietnam Trip.

Girls’ Cricket 1st November
Miss Long and 9 girls travelled to Blue Lake Sport Park to play in a super 8s cricket competition. The
aim of this day was to encourage girls to try a new sport and develop new skills. Female cricket is becoming increasingly popular and is developing defined pathways for females players. Our girls took this opportunity to have a fantastic day out. Some highlights included Ebonie Moulton and Ebony Clifford, each with one wicket, Amy Whitehouse with 1 catch and Gorgia Robbie top scoring in runs for the day. Our girls game away with 2 wins for the day and should be proud of the new skills they have developed.

**Art Display for Regional Office**
A considerable quantity of our middle school art has gone to the Regional Office to be displayed there.

**Year 12 Art Display in Library**
The work of Year 12 Art students is currently displayed in the library. This work is of a particularly high standard and the back up folios show just how much thought and effort has gone into these works.

**Vietnam Trip Training Day 4th November**
A representative of World Challenge visited the school to check on the students’ preparations for the Vietnam trip. Students were well equipped with all their gear, making a positive impression. Several scenarios for events that could arise were considered as well as a discussion of the final checks students will undergo before boarding the plane. The room was abuzz with a mixture of nerves and excitement.

**Year 12 Farewell Assembly 4th November**
The final day of formal lessons for our Year 12 students started with a breakfast on the front lawn provided by the SRC and cooked by Scott McCulloch and Dave Vannini, with some help from Rob Thornett. As well as relishing the eggs and bacon, the students enjoyed the bouncing castle which they had hired for the occasion. Then, it was out of their fancy dress costumes (Tom Walker looking particularly cute as a dinosaur jockey) and into school uniform for the formal Farewell Assembly. The assembly was planned and run by an enthusiastic group of volunteers from Year 11. Bentley Galpin directed students from Years 8 to 11 into the Hall, and Bradley Tregenza asked the audience to stand for the entry of the official party and the Year 12 students. Ella Kain introduced Camryn Schriever who read the Acknowledgement of the Land, and then welcomed everyone. It was great to see so many family members and friends attend to support their Year 12 students. Aliza Pfitzner lit a candle symbolising the spirit of learning and our aspirations for our graduating students. James Braddy had prepared a series of photos of the students based on their official school photos over the years; the audience responded enthusiastically to these. Rob Thornett, Year 12 Level Organiser, addressed the students, reflected on their years of schooling, and encouraged them to take on the world. Andrew Stockley followed with a rousing address urging our students to believe in their ability to reach great heights and make a difference in our society and the wider world.

Our SRC Co-President, Alana Winter and Cory O’Connor, also spoke, with Alana crafting her speech around the theme ‘We’re all in this together’, and painting accurate thumb nail sketches of each of the students. Sarah Walker had compiled a series of photos of the Year 12s, some current and some archival, and these, too, were appreciated by the audience. Rob Thornett conducted the final roll call and Ella and Camryn distributed helium balloons which were taken outside and released while the whole school
looked on.
The proceedings were followed by a morning tea in the seminar room for the students, their families and friends and staff.
As well as all those mentioned above we need to thank Vicki for overseeing the morning tea, Sarah for producing the cards, Jan Marcus for decorating the candles and Ali Bond for her beautiful flowers.

**Library Staff T&D  4th November**
Ali Bond and Heather Stone attended a full-day training run by the SA Libraries Board to introduce library staff to a new program from the University of Wollongong. This program, called ‘The Little Bang Science Club’, is designed to introduce small children to Science in a gentle but stimulating way. As well as this training, the library has received $2500 worth of associated resources. Ali and Heather returned very excited from their day of ‘STEM’ and enthused about introducing the program next year. This program will complement work we are doing in the secondary sector and is a most welcome initiative.

**Year 11 Chemistry Trip  7th November**
The Year 11 Chemistry class, along with two Year 10 students who will study this subject in 2017, travelled to the Naracoorte Caves, where they were treated to a day of stimulating Science from guide Frank Bromley.
The Wonambi Fossil Centre was the first port of call, with students intrigued by many aspects of the display. A short trip brought the group to the Victoria Fossil Cave, where the topics discussed included the formation of the caves, speleothem growth, the acidic nature of carbon dioxide and, most importantly, the discovery of the fossils themselves and their importance in understanding our locality and the environmental challenges we face. A quick lunch was followed by a visit to the palaeontology laboratory and Blanche Cave, where students were most interested to observe an excavation. A self-guided tour of Wet Cave finished the day.

**Remembrance Day Observance  11th November**
Our Remembrance Day Ceremony was held in the Hall. Camryn Schriever welcomed attendees and introduced Henry Berkin who delivered the Acknowledgement of Country. Aliza Pfitzner introduced Rob Thornett who spoke to a fascinating powerpoint presentation of the roles of animals in warfare. Phoebe Tregenza presented her paper entitled ‘Poppies’ Path to Prominence’ and was followed by Cheyenne Faux who presented her work, ‘For Memory’s Sake’ most stirringly. Students each placed a poppy on a screen in the foyer and then moved to the flagpole where Year 8 SRC representatives, Ebony Moulton and Amy Whitehouse, accompanied by Jason Plunkett, laid a wreath. Jack Clifton recited the ode, the Last Post was played, a minute’s silence observed, and then Reveille.
Later in the morning, the Year 9 students attended the town ceremony where Phoebe and Cheyenne shared their work with members of the wider community.

**SRC Co-President Policy Speeches  11th November**
An assembly was held during which three candidates, Aliza Pfitzner, Ella Kain and Emily Winter, presented their policy speeches as candidates for the SRC Co-Presidency for 2017. Each of the girls had invested considerable thought and effort in preparing her speech, and their effective presentations left the student body with difficult choices to make.
As a result of the election, Aliza and Ella will be Co- Presidents in 2017, while Emily will fill another leadership role.
Shell Questacon Science Circus 11th November

Year 8 students were given a trial presentation by presenters from the Shell Questacon Circus. The students viewed a variety of exciting demonstrations under the theme of Pressure, and how this varies with Temperature. Icing up of food, exploding lids, crumpling cans and exploding water all entranced the students – often with the aid of supercool liquid nitrogen.

PE Week 14th -18th November

Last week Penola High School celebrated PE Week, with students involved in a range of activities including a 5-A-Side Soccer tournament, a Come and Try Bowls day, Touch Football and Volleyball as well as participating in a school-run Health, Sport and Fitness Quiz in home group each morning.

Festival of Sports Bowls Day 16th November

On a damp, cold and overcast November day, Penola High School was represented by an excited group of year 8 and 9 students. The start of the day was somewhat slow and difficult for the students, however, as the day progressed the sun started to shine and so did the students, resulting in some pretty intense competition. All in all, the day was enjoyed by everyone, with honourable mentions to Jack Clifton, Katie Colbert, and Jack Walker for their leadership on the day.

5-A-Side Soccer 14th November

Four teams of Years 8 and 9 students competed in the SESSSA 5-a-side Soccer competition held at Grant High School, competing against students from all around the South East Region. The teams played up to five matches throughout the day, with all teams managing to record at least one win. It was lovely to see great sportsmanship, resilience, and occasionally even some soccer skills, on display. Special thanks must go to Jason Plunkett and Dave Vannini for their coaching expertise and enthusiasm.

The Festival of Sport 18th November

The annual Festival of Sport was held at PHS with over 200 students from Penola, Millicent, Mount Gambier, Grant, Tenison and St Martins competing in Year 8/9 Touch Football and Year 10 Volleyball. Faced with low Year 10 numbers, our students formed a combined girls and boys team. Our girls showed that they could hold their own against stiff competition, winning multiple sets across the day.

The Year 8/9 girls had a very enjoyable day of touch football, showing new skills and enjoying getting more of the ball without the boys hogging it. Kate Skeer showed strong leadership throughout the day helping the Year 8 girls develop their skills.

The Year 8 boys were undefeated throughout the day, and some excellent passages of play were on display. The hard work that was completed in PE lessons was evident, as the Penola students had an excellent understanding of the tactics involved with the game compared to other schools. The boys worked as a team the drive the ball forward in attack to allow Joel and Ryan to work the wings for tries.

The Year 9 boys’ team started the day off strongly, showing their development from last year. Sam Gartner scored the first try of the day with a run down the wing. Jesse Martin showed off his skills, scoring 5 tries throughout the day. James Foggo and Sam Gartner also had a good day out scoring 6 tries between then. The team worked well together to get all players a score for the day.

The last game of the day was a grudge match between the Year 8 boys and the Year 9 boys. With a PlayStation 4 and Nintendo Wii on the line the boys and their coaches prepared for battle. The first score of the game went to the Year 8 boys making an easy try. However, the Year 9s had a quick return to level the scores. Both teams played a high intensity match with good defence and lots of scoring opportunities. At half time the scores were level at 2 all. The 2nd half of the game saw the Year 9 team starting to crumble. The Year 8s showed the Year 9s that their ‘sheep dog defence’ was
full of holes, with Caleb breaking through the line to score 2 tries to give the year 8 boys the win. Particular thanks go to Nathan Rowe for being a great help with marking the fields with Chloe (Long) and Justin (McDonald). Thanks also go to Ella Kain, Romi Eckermann, Bentley Galpin, Josh Currie, Logan Gibbs and Hayden Hutchesson for enthusiastically coaching the touch teams, and to all students for their excellent efforts in setting up as well as packing up all equipment. It was great to show off our school and our wonderful students to the other schools in the South East.

**Year 11 P.A.R.T.Y Excursion, 15th November**
The Year 11 cohort along with Silvana Stephens, Tom Sutterby and Winsley Wighton, travelled to Mt Gambier Hospital to participate in a full day program run by the Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth team. This is an Outreach Program of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. After a brief welcome, facilitator Lauren Rogers spoke about risk taking, choices, behavioural influences and trauma. Paramedic, Claudia Bissell, (a former PHS student), quickly engaged the students as she spoke about her role and experiences. Then a CFS representative and a SAPOL sergeant spoke about their jobs and the effects that youth trauma have on them. Morning tea was followed by an opportunity for students to don gloves and gowns and work with a manikin in an emergency ward. Students worked to intubate the patient, maintain his breathing, deliver CPR, and defibrillate him. Afterwards, students participated in activities demonstrating the difficulties faced by quadriplegics in communicating with others and ingesting food and drink. Students also had a first hand look at the difficulties of one-handed dressing and sandwich making. The final activity was a computer hook up with a young man in Adelaide who described the challenges he faced after being involved in a fatal road accident. Aliza Pfitzner thanked the Adelaide team. While parts of the program were confronting, our students were engaged and attentive throughout the day and found it a useful experience.

**Year 12 Dinner 18th November**
Rob Thornett
Friday evening brought together the Year 12 Penola High School students of 2016, their families, friends, and teaching staff. The students had taken a great deal of trouble to present themselves as the young adults that they have become. As usual it was a relaxed and pleasant evening with an opportunity for students to take a breath and reflect on 12 years of school education and what the future may hold. Thanks go to the students who made the evening a successful night, notably Alana Winter and her helpers Cory O’Connor and Montana Freeman. To Kristen Bence, photographer extraordinaire, our thanks once again (and for her last time at Penola High School), for her tireless and professional efforts of recording the evening. Winsley Wighton, although an apology due to exam marking duties in Adelaide, made sure to provide every student with a rose to commemorate the milestone in their lives. The friendly and helpful Hollicks restaurant staff also provided a fine meal.

**Student Success**
We congratulate Emily Winter on achieving State selection for Basketball for the third time.

**Past Student Success**
We were thrilled to learn that Colin Hinze (PHS ‘86 – ‘90) has been named Australian Winemaker of the Year. Colin works for Taylor’s in the Clare Valley and is about to undertake a trip to Bordeaux and other places French.