Dear Families

2015 has so far been characterised by a very positive and purposeful atmosphere at Penola High School. Our students have no doubt been inspired by the excellent results of the Year 12 students of 2014, of whom we are all very proud. We congratulate Lewis March on his outstanding ATAR of 97.35. He has already commenced work in his chosen field of Finance and will be undertaking university studies at the same time. We also congratulate him on being announced the Riddoch Ward’s Young Citizen of the Year at the recent Australia Day ceremony.

All of our Year 12 students passed all of their chosen subjects in 2014 with a healthy number of A grades being achieved across a range of subjects and a Merit being achieved (by Lewis) in Mathematical Applications. Those students studying ahead of their year level also featured in the A grade range. Students who actively sought university offers were successful in attaining them; however, most will be taking a Gap Year before continuing their studies. We congratulate these students, their teachers and their excellent support networks on these terrific achievements.

Those students still at school have made a great start to the year. Our current Year 12s are embracing every challenge, many actively choosing more difficult subjects as the best preparation for their futures, rather than taking easier options, and we have already seen some high level work appearing in a number of subject areas. Our Year 11 students have been particularly impressive, with many teachers commenting positively on their focus and determination to succeed. It was certainly a pleasure to witness their engagement with the speakers who had been organised for them on the first day of school. Likewise, our Year 9s and 10s have settled quickly into routines and appear to be making the most of every opportunity.

We extend a very warm welcome to our new Year 8s. Record numbers attended our Year 8 BBQ on Monday of this week and it was lovely to see what a strong commitment our families make to ensure that their young people’s education is a positive experience.

We were also delighted to see a wonderful turn-out to Swimming Carnival last Friday. Congratulations to Yalluminga on yet another win and well done to all individual winners. Once again, it was a pleasure to see our student leaders step up to take responsibility for the organisation of all competitors and ensure fantastic house spirit existed all day. Simone Combe again demonstrated her exemplary organisation skills by ensuring the day ran very smoothly.

Our school culture focus last year was to embrace challenge – “if it’s easy, you’re not learning!” This year we will maintain this focus, but also aim to develop learners’ skills in taking personal responsibility for what happens to them – “if something goes wrong, look first to yourself before trying to find others to blame” will, therefore, be my catchphrase for 2015 and we hope the school community will support us as we endeavour to develop our culture in this way.

We would also appreciate the support of our school community in helping to develop our Site Improvement Plan for the three year cycle, beginning in 2016. To that end, you will find a feedback slip elsewhere in this newsletter with three questions on it related to the concept of the “Ideal Learner”. We would like to know what you think the ideal learner is like; how they go about their learning and where they end up. You can respond on the feedback slip or come into the Community Library, where everyone’s ideas around these three things will be displayed, and add your contributions there. When we have a clear idea about what we are aiming for, we will then be able to plan how to make it happen! In other developments this year, we are excited by the interest in our school production, which will be managed by Jackie Poumako, Kristen Bence and Tom Sutterby. Young people have committed to a range of roles from acting to set design and front of house among others, and we are very excited about the opportunities our students will have to develop a range of skills through this activity.

Finally, we extend a warm welcome to Kevin Maria, a new SSO who will be working predominantly with our Year 8s this year.

Kind regards

Fleur Roachock
2015 House Captains

The school community would like to congratulate our newly elected House leaders:

**Moyanga:**
Captains: Gus Eckermann and Ashlee Sullivan
Vice Captains: Ben Casey and Montana Freeman

**Torilla:**
Captains: Joel Moore and Georgie Beighton
Vice Captains: Sam Burgess and Hannah Klemm

**Yalluminga:**
Captains: Bailey Walker and Alena Tranter
Vice Captains: Cory O'Connor and Alana Winter

2014 Student Representative Council
Congratulations to our SRC representatives:
President: Ashlee Sullivan and Alana Winter
Secretary: Georgie Beighton

Year 12
Georgie Beighton
Tom Price
Ashlee Sullivan

Year 11
Will Cadzow
Alana Winter

Year 10
Josh Currie
Camryn Schriever

Year 9
Joe French
Emily Winter

Year 8
Sam Gartner
Darcy O’Connor
Brianna Oppelaar

School Uniform - Delay

We apologise to all families who have been affected by the late arrival of our 2015 school uniform supplies. We appreciate your patience and understanding with regard to this matter. School t-shirts finally arrived on Wednesday of this week, all backorders have been given to individual students - if for some reason your child has not received a t-shirt please contact Vicki on 8737 0000. The school windcheater and boys school shorts supplies are due to arrive mid February - these backorders will be given to students upon arrival. The wearing of the school uniform is school policy and endorsed strongly by the Governing Council, as well as by the majority of parents. A note in the diary is requested on the rare occasion when the wearing of the uniform is not possible. If a student is not in uniform and has a signed note no further action is required. When a note is not provided a note will be sent to parents requesting their support to ensure their child is in uniform.

PHS Swimming Carnival

*Simone Combe*

On Friday 30 January 2015 the three Penola High School houses once again battled it out in the annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival. Conditions were nice and warm, with many supporters turning out to cheer on the sidelines.

Year 8 student Brooke Hutchesson dominated the U14 Girls Competition, with Emily Winter coming runner up; while Tom Abbey swam well to win the U14 boys with Jack Kain and Gerard Merrett tying for the runner up position. Elysha Dekoning was too strong in the U15 girls, and Phoebe Tregenza put in a great effort to receive runner up. Once again, the rivalry between Josh Currie and Nick Rowe didn’t disappoint; with Josh narrowly taking the honours over Nick in the U15 boys this year. Alana Winter won the U16 Girls, and Ella Kain continued her strong performances to receive runner up. It was a case of history repeating itself with Cory O’Connor taking out the U16 Boys Champion and Will Cadzow being named runner up. The two boys finished in the exact same positions in the U15 age group last year. Hannah Klemm built on her win in the U16 age group last year, and was crowned Open Girls Champion, with Montana Freeman also swimming strongly. Finally, Bailey Walker snuck over the line to be the Open Boys winner over Gus Eckermann.

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 it was Yalluminga who proved too good for the other Houses with a convincing victory. This makes it three years in a row that they have taken out the Swimming Carnival shield. However, Torilla were much closer this year; and with their extremely strong group of Year 8s, they could certainly sneak in a victory next year.

**Final House Results**

- Yalluminga 236
- Torilla 221
- Moyanga 164

**Individual Age Group Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Male Winner</th>
<th>Female Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U14</td>
<td>Tom Abbey</td>
<td>Brooke Hutchesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Jack Kain &amp; Gerard Merrett</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U15</td>
<td>Josh Currie</td>
<td>Elysha Dekoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Nick Rowe</td>
<td>Phoebe Tregenza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U16</td>
<td>Cory O’Connor</td>
<td>Alana Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Will Cadzow</td>
<td>Ella Kain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Bailey Walker</td>
<td>Hannah Klemm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Gus Eckermann</td>
<td>Montana Freeman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**2014 Stage 2 Results**  
*Michael Hentschke*

SACE results released on 18 December 2014 saw all students completing their SACE with the highest scores for the past 5 years. A grades in individual subjects were achieved by 6 students with Lewis March receiving A’s in four subjects to record the highest ATAR in the school at 97.35. Principal Fleur Roachock said, “These results were a gratifying confirmation of the hard work by the students and the professional support provided by their teachers. This saw all students complete their SACE and there was a 100% pass rate for all of our Year 12s in all subject areas.”

The highest ATAR was attained by Lewis March with 97.35. Lewis has gained a position in Accounting and is also undertaking further study. He received a Merit Award for Mathematical Applications and A grades for Accounting, Chemistry and Information Technology. Other Year 12 students to receive As included Shannah Faulds (English Communications), Mathew Hutchesson (Math Applications) and Kara Martin (Health). This year some Year 11 students completed Stage 2 subjects successfully with Ashlee Sullivan (Visual Arts) and Joel Moore (Information Technology) receiving A grades for their respective subjects.

Students who studied through the Open Access College or our local WREN network received excellent results in these subjects with 3 A grades overall.

The increase in the number of students enrolled in VET subjects was again evident with two thirds of students having some form of VET credits in their SACE record. This was a combination of courses provided here at Penola, as well as off-site programs at other schools or School Based apprenticeships in the workplace. These students were able to include credits from these completed courses into their SACE, enabling them to qualify for an ATAR.

**Materials & Services Charge & School Card**  
*Vicki McDonald-Burgess*

Families who were eligible for School Card in 2014 MUST re-apply for School Card in 2015. Application forms are available from the school. 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.

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, direct debit, eftpos or centrepay system.

Parents who wish to pay the Materials and Services charge either in instalments and/or by direct debit and centrepay system please phone Vicki at the school on 8737 0000 to make the necessary arrangements. The Materials and Services charge is due and payable by all parents as soon as possible.

**Bushfire Season**  
*Louise Clayfield*

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:**

- CFS radio warnings will be issued if it is recommended that people take refuge and will specify a location.
- On day 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 notices and signs on 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 DECD 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.

**Year 8 Information and BBQ**  
*Sarah Walker*

Parents, caregivers, Year 8 students and their siblings attended the Year 8 Information and BBQ event on Monday 2 February 2015.

The evening began with some words from Principal, Fleur Roachock and also enabled parents and caregivers to meet the key people involved in their child’s education, particularly the Year 8 Year Level Organiser Scott McCulloch, and Year 8 Home Group Teachers, Kristen Bence and Kathleen Phillips, whilst socialising over a meal.

*Year 11 Maths Studies Teacher, Winsley Wighton with her students after receiving their Graphics Calculators which they will be using throughout the subject.*
Science Camp
Alana Winter

In the last week of the summer holidays, four students, Joel Moore, Alex Male, Ashlee Sullivan and Alana Winter travelled to Adelaide with Mr Heyn for a science experience at Flinders University. The students participated in a variety of workshops designed to give them a taste of University learning whilst preparing them for their Year 12 studies in the year to come. Some of the workshops that they attended included analytical chemistry, wetlands excursion, solving a murder using electrophoresis, creating electrical circuits, developing android apps and, the favourite among the students, making ice-cream using liquid nitrogen. While the students weren’t participating in the workshops designed by current university students, they were enjoying their time at Uni Hall. This was where the students stayed during their visit to Adelaide in the hope of giving them a taste of university living in preparation for whatever further study they may choose to undertake.

Everyone who attended the camp thoroughly enjoyed themselves and came away from it with a lot of valuable knowledge regarding both their studies and university life. A camp like this is a great learning opportunity and those who attended strongly recommend it to anyone thinking of attending in the future.

SAPOL Leadership Camp

SAPOL Leadership Camp 11th-16th January
Ryan Gruetzner was one of twenty-four students selected from a pool of about 150 to attend the SAPOL Leadership Camp held at Echunga. At the camp, there was an emphasis on team work and each student was placed in one of four teams. The camp was arduous, with the days, which started with rigorous physical exercise at 6am, long and challenging. The students were engaged in a range of team building activities. The camp provided an opportunity to forge new friendships. Ryan enjoyed the experience to the full and highly recommends it to others.

Year 8 students working together to successfully roll an egg between 2 tables as part of their Home Group activities.

Student Absence SMS (only)
Notification number: 0400 134 993

PENOLA IGA FRESH

Three vacancies are currently available.
Applicants must be 15-17 years of age.
Before and after school work.

If you are interested please collect an application form from the Penola IGA Fresh.

Penola High School Governing Council
AGM
Monday 24 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 5 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 on or prior to Monday 23 February OR you may bring the slip with you to the AGM Monday 23 February 7.00pm in the Library.
## 2015 Staff List and Responsibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role and Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KRISTEN BENCE</td>
<td>Coordinator: Teaching and Learning, Art &amp; Design Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALI BOND</td>
<td>Library Support Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAMES BRADDY</td>
<td>Network Manager, IT Support Officer, ICT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMONE COMBE</td>
<td>Interschool Sports Manager, Physical Education &amp; Maths Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOUISE CLAYFIELD</td>
<td>Student Information Manager, Schools Online, EDSAS and Sentral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMMA DEAR</td>
<td>Canteen Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUZANNE GRAY</td>
<td>Coordinator: Learning Support, English &amp; PLP Teacher, Attendance/Absences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICHAEL HENTSCHKE</td>
<td>Deputy Principal, Student Management, SACE Manager, Maths, Science &amp; Physics Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARK HEYN</td>
<td>Science &amp; Biology Teacher, Outdoor Education Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEE HUTCHINSON</td>
<td>Home Economics &amp; Hospitality Teacher, Year 10 Year Level Organiser, VET Coordinator, Skills for All Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAREN JACKMAN</td>
<td>Student Support Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JIM JOLLY</td>
<td>Design &amp; Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEVIN MARIA</td>
<td>Student Support Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOTT MCCULLOCH</td>
<td>Year 8/9 Year Level Organiser, IT &amp; Maths Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICKI MCDONALD-BURGESS</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN MARCUS</td>
<td>Library Support Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACKIE POUMAKO</td>
<td>Public Speaking, English Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KATHLEEN PHILLIPS</td>
<td>Japanese and S &amp; E Teacher, IPP Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLEUR ROACHOCK</td>
<td>Principal, Reliefs, Fire Warden, Transition Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JO SKEER</td>
<td>Student Support Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILVANA STEPHENS</td>
<td>Laboratory Technician, WHS Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEATHER STONE</td>
<td>Library Support Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOM SUTTERBY</td>
<td>Design &amp; Technology Teacher, Science Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROB THORNETT</td>
<td>Year 12 Year Level Organiser, S&amp;E, Tourism &amp; History Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARAH WALKER</td>
<td>Receptionist, Media Liaison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINSLEY WIGHTON</td>
<td>Year 11 Year Level Organiser, Maths, Science and Chemistry Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVID VANNINI</td>
<td>Student Support Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Ideal Student Feedback - PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL

**What is the ideal student like?**

**How does the ideal student go about their learning?**

**Where will the ideal student end up?**
Penola High Swimming Carnival

nurturing individual successes