Principal’s Report  
Fleur Roachock

Dear Families

We have reached the end of a very full and successful term and students and staff alike are looking forward to a well-earned break!

Last Wednesday evening, I had the pleasure of attending the SESSA Training Awards which celebrate Vocational Education and Training in the South East. We were delighted that Steph Smart-Cunningham won the Industry Pathways Award and Hollick Estates were awarded Employer of the Year for their ongoing work with our students and, most recently, Taylah Tranter. Our continued success in the VET area is a credit to all involved and Dee Hutchinson, in particular.

Dee has announced that she will be shortly retiring to move to Strathalbyn with her husband, Kevin. After 11 years at Penola High School, where she has led the region in Hospitality training, she will be sorely missed. Her brainchild, Café 43, is an exemplary training facility that is the envy of the region, and the success of the young people whom she has trained in the Hospitality industry, is second to none. Dee’s outstanding career will be properly celebrated at a function at school in Week 1 of next term.

One of our very successful VET Students is former student, Jake Rowe, whom we congratulate on being awarded the Group Training Employment 2015 Third Year Apprentice of the Year Award. It is always fabulous to hear of the success of our young people once they have left school.

Last week our Athletics team experienced wonderful success in Adelaide, details of which will appear elsewhere in this newsletter. We extend our thanks to Mark Heyn and Simone Combe for taking time away to supervise these students and also for their commitment to training our athletes before they left. In other extra-curricular activities, Kristen Bence organised a Photography Workshop for many of our students in Week 9, which was incredibly well-received.

In ways such as this, we continue to pursue a good balance between sporting and other cultural pursuits in order to provide our young people with a well-rounded education.

Also to that end, over the past few weeks, our teaching staff have committed to improving their classroom practice by undertaking a rigorous peer observation process, aligned to the National Professional Standards for Teachers. Our staff has committed to giving each other constructive feedback with regard to teaching methodology, but has also appreciated the opportunity of learning from others – sometimes in a completely different learning area. I have been really admiring of the professionalism with which this process has been undertaken. Next term, I will be formally observing all members of our teaching staff and giving feedback as part of our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement.

In other staffing news, we welcome Justin McDonald, who is our new groundsperson, to Penola High School. We likewise welcome Emma Bellgrove who is here on a teaching practicum over the next few weeks. On a final staffing note, Michael Hentschke’s tenure as Deputy Principal will conclude at the end of this year, so we are currently undertaking a process to fill that position, too. The result of that process should be known about the middle of next term.

Finally, we at Penola High School wish all of our families a safe and relaxing holiday time.

Kind regards

Fleur Roachock

Student illness/injury while at school

Parents and students are reminded that if a student is feeling unwell or is injured at school, they are to report to the front office for assistance. Students are reminded to not text message their parent from their mobile phone to ask if they can be collected; they are to report to the front office and they can then wait in the Sick Room while staff contact their parent/guardian to arrange transportation home and the absence can also be recorded.
On Tuesday 31 March 2015 the Penola High School athletics team travelled to Adelaide in preparation for the SSSSA D Grade State Athletics Championships. The following morning, in perfect conditions, we arrived at SANTOS Stadium at 9.00am with the squad, ready for an intense day of competition. Having completed five weeks of training, most students were at their peak and ready to go. There were many exceptional performances on the track and in the field events, with a substantial number of students finishing in the top three for their event(s). The boys finished fourth by a whisker, with the girls completing their competition in eighth position which was to be expected given that we were unable to fill lots of girls’ events due to absences.

One of the highlights of the competition was the dominant performance of Brandon McMurtrie in the sprints, capped off with an emphatic win in the 400m where he ran the race in under a minute for the first time. Other highlights included a massive four individual placings for Scott Merrett, including a first in the Open Boys Javelin, in which he broke the record at our own athletics carnival. However, the strongest performance of the day belonged to Bailey Walker, who finished first in Open Boys High Jump, Long Jump and Triple Jump.

Special mentions to Georgie Beighton who missed out on first place in Open Girls Javelin by just 2cm, and to Ella Kain who won the Open Girls Steeplechase at just fifteen years of age. Ben Casey also had the largest workload of the day, competing in the Open Boys 3000m, 2000m Steeplechase and 1500m. He was certainly quiet on the bus ride home! The Penola High School students must be commended on their true sportsmanship throughout the day, with every competitor shaking hands with their rival competitors after each event. They also assisted Miss Combe in running the javelin all day, and were instrumental in the smooth running of that event. Students who filled in for higher age groups should pride themselves on their courage to fill in for these events, and some students even experienced great success in these higher age groups. Well done!

Student Comments:
“The trip was really fun, and it was great to see so many of our students win ribbons. It’s good to compete against other schools which are the same size as us.” – Georgie Beighton, Year 12.
“I enjoyed competing at SANTOS Stadium, and it was a good feeling to experience success after five weeks of training.” – Brandon McMurtrie, Year 9.
SESSA Training Award Winner

Dee Hutchinson

The South East Secondary Schools Training Awards provides an opportunity to recognise individuals and businesses for their efforts and achievements in vocational education and training across the Limestone Coast. There were ten award categories and Penola High School students and host employers were entered in three.

Penola High School student, Steph Smart won the award for Industry Pathways Student of the Year which recognised her outstanding performance in the Cafe 43 Hospitality Program at Penola High School during 2013 - 2014. During that time Steph completed Certificate 1 in Hospitality Operations and 15 units of competency from Certificate III Commercial Cookery. This has enabled Steph to develop her passion in food, greatly improving her confidence and experience the Hospitality Industry while completing her SACE studies. These experiences have strengthened Steph’s resolve that this industry is her chosen career pathway and highlighted the value of students embarking on a training pathway as part of their school studies. The Hospitality program at Penola High School is delivered in partnership with Limestone Coast Training at Naracoorte and we thank the organisation for their valued support.

Industry based training relies heavily on support from local businesses to provide students with the opportunities to further develop their knowledge and skills within the industry. Taylah Tranter, who won the Industry Pathways Student of the Year in 2014, was very fortunate to continue with her Hospitality studies as a School Based Apprentice in 2014 -2015 at Hollick Estate Pty Ltd. Hollick Estates were recognised as the Employer of the Year for a School Based Apprentice. The level of training, experiences and commitment to Taylah’s future dream to be a really good chef have assisted Taylah in focusing on her studies and career pathway with the assurance that she will have longevity of employment at the restaurant. Hollick management and senior staff, Executive chef and Julie Howe from MEGT have met with Taylah and her parents on a regular basis to ensure the quality and development of technical skills and the management of study, social life and work life balance. Wendy Hollick received the award on behalf of Hollick Estates and reiterated the importance of Industry Partnership in providing students with these opportunities.

Photography Workshop

Kristen Bence

Last year we applied for a scholarship for a photographic workshop from the Moran Arts Foundation. I received notification this year that our school won an all-day photographic workshop for 30 students working with a professional photographer from the Moran Photographic Foundation. The Moran School Photographic Program is a way for students to foster their photographic creativity and skills and to build students’ confidence within the photography learning area. Students were chosen for the workshop from Years 8-11 based on their level of interest in the medium.

On Tuesday 24 March 2015, Jim Filmer, a photographer based in Adelaide and the South East came down to deliver the day long workshop. He taught the students basic photography skills, along with the theme of visual story telling. All equipment for the workshop was provided by the Moran Foundation, including mini printers, so the students were able to print 5 photos from at the end of the session. We spent the day around Penola using the local historical spots of Petticoat Lane and the Mary MacKillop Church areas as inspiration. Due to the magic of digital photography, students were able to take almost 200 images each in the two hours of photographing. A lot of students found it difficult to choose their best shots. One of their best photos was then selected to adorn the foyer of the Millicent Civic Centre for the opening of the Rotary Photographic Exhibition evening. The rest of the photos were sent to Sydney to be judged as part of the student section in the National Moran Photographic Competition later this year. All students who participated on the day learnt something and were able to enjoy a full day experience working in their favourite medium – minus the usual “selfies”. 
Epilepsy Awareness Day
Simone Combe

On Wednesday 26 March 2015 Penola High School hosted the National Epilepsy Foundation’s ‘Purple Day for Epilepsy’. To raise awareness about the ever-growing disorder, Penola High School and its students dressed in purple and fundraised for the foundation. As a part of the awareness day, information was given to students in the days leading up to the event and a speech by the class SRC members was also given on the day to inform students and teachers about epilepsy and also where their donations would be going.

The SRC was very happy with the way that the day ran and also with the way that all the students participated in the day by wearing a purple garment or simply donating to the cause. The SRC hopes to have more days like this for other foundations to not only support them in their ongoing medical research but also to raise awareness in the general public. For more information on epilepsy, ‘Purple Day’, or details on how to donate, please go to www.epilepsy.org.au.

Year 9 Alternative Program
Tom Sutterby and Dave Vannini

As part of an alternative program, six Year 9 students are performing general maintenance tasks and a specialist automotive task. With the assistance of a School Support Officer, Dave Vannini, a local mechanic and a motor wrecker, the students are rebuilding a late 1980s Mazda engine.

The students are doing this as an alternative to other traditional subjects and linking their studies to the common interests of mechanical and engineering work.

Student Brandon McMurtrie said, “I think the Automotive program is awesome. I look forward to coming to school to be a part of the program. I believe that the program will help me and other boys in the future.”

ANZAC Ceremony
Rob Thornett

This year’s ANZAC Day Ceremony was held on Thursday 9 April to provide the school community an opportunity to reflect on the events of a 100 years ago. We missed the presence of Mr Pat Wilson who was unable to attend the event. The SRC Presidents, Ashlee Sullivan and Alana Winter did an excellent job of hosting the event and introducing the presenter. Selected Year 9 students provided brief oral and Powerpoint presentations on aspects of the Gallipoli campaign of 1915: Lucy Butler and Connor Eastwood on Planning, Preparation and Training of the ANZACS, Erin Fielder and Gorgia Robbie on the Landings at Gallipoli, Joanne Drury and Emma Ryan on Gallipoli Nurses and Elysha Dekoning on the Gallipoli Evacuation.

Mr Thornett showed some excerpts from the movie, Gallipoli and other documentary information.

The school then moved out to the basketball court where the final traditions of ANZAC Day were completed with the laying of a wreath by Mrs Roachock and the Year 8 SRC representatives, Sam Gartner, Brianna Oppelaar and Darcy O’Connor, recital of The Ode and The Last Post.

All students were very attentive and quiet through the whole ceremony and were a credit to the school and local community. A reminder to families that this year’s significant Centenary ANZAC Service is on the 25th of April, the last Saturday of the school term break. A very appropriate time to make the effort to attend one or both of the services that day.
Road Rescue Simulation
Winsley Wighton

The Naracoorte Lucindale Community Road Safety Group together with combined emergency services organised a road crash rescue simulation “SHATTERED” as part of Youth Week 2015 to promote the road safety message aimed at young provisional drivers. Twenty-two students from Years 11 and 12 travelled to Naracoorte to attend. A very dramatic and sobering re-enactment of an accident was carried out in the town square, with police, ambulance and CFS volunteers and actors participating. This was followed by a forum in the town hall, where proceedings began with two videos made by or about accident survivors. Then followed the most telling part of the morning: a presentation by a man, Marcus, from South West Victoria who became the first Victorian gaolled for texting while driving after causing a fatal accident. His unadorned telling of his story and of the terrible consequences that followed had his audience riveted. The morning finished with a presentation of road safety statistics emphasising the vulnerability of rural youth, particularly rural males, on our roads.

Apprenticeship Award

A former Penola High School student has been crowned as the region’s Third Year Apprentice of the Year. Jake Rowe was announced as the winner at the Group Training Employment annual Apprentice and Trainee of the Year Awards presentation. Whilst at school Jake Rowe also tasted successes receiving not one, but two Defence Technical Scholarships. Receiving two payments of $3000 over two years, Jake was able to purchase tools to help with his apprenticeship in Furniture Making as well as putting money towards a ute.

Materials & Services Charge
Vicki McDonald-Burgess

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.

School Buses
Louise Clayfield

Could the families of bus students please note the following points.

• If your family will be away for a family holiday during term time and your child(ren) will not be travelling on their normal bus route, please make sure you notify the bus driver of the dates your child will be absent so the bus is not waiting at your stop unnecessarily. Also, as a courtesy, please keep your bus driver informed if your child(ren) will be not be travelling on the bus on the afternoon run if they are attending football/netball practices or other after school commitments or the morning run if they are absent due to illness etc.

• Parents are reminded to please be at your stop at least 5 minutes before your allocated pick up time in the morning so that buses are not kept waiting and the timetable can run to time. Drivers are not obliged to wait for students in the morning if they are not at their stop at their designated time.

• A number of bus routes are currently at or near capacity for eligible travellers. Therefore, please do not expect that any ‘extra’ students will be able to access your bus if you are hosting a birthday party or a sleep over as there is no guarantee there will be room on the bus.

Penola Community Library
43 Cameron St PENOLA  5277
Phone 8737 2838

April School Holiday Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>8.30am - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>8.30am - 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>8.30am - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>8.30am - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>9.30am - 12noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>8.30am - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>8.30am - 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>8.30am - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>8.30am - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Closed (Anzac Day)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closed for Lunch 12.30 - 1.00pm
- Term 1 in Pictures -

Hannah Klemm
- Interschool Swimming Carnival

Max Beighton
- Year 10 Tech Studies

Josh Currie
- Year 10 Science Slime Making

Amber Smart-Cunningham
- Cafe Cookery

Fleur Roachock, Gus Eckermann, Ben Casey, Ryan Gruetzner, Tom Price - Free BBQ Lunch

2015 Year 12 Class

Jack Kain
- Interhouse Athletics Carnival

nurturing individual successes
- Term 1 in Pictures -

Jack Clifton
- Year 8 Camp

Joe French and Lucy Butler
- Blindfold Team Building

Fleur Roachock and Steph Smart-Cunningham
- Training Awards

Dylan Driver
- Welding new doors for Gym

Ali Bond
- Community Library

Students repaired and assembled gym equipment and planned the layout.

Year 8 Class
- Friendship Fun

nurturing individual successes
1 April 2015

Dear Parents/Caregivers

For over 30 years ICAS has been delivered to schools throughout Australia and in over 20 countries in Asia, Africa, the Pacific region and USA. Your child is invited to participate in the Mathematics and/or Science competition for 2015.

ICAS provides an opportunity for all students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics and Science.

**All students receive a certificate** and an **individual student report** indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child’s strengths and weaknesses. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

**Dates for competitions:**

- □ Science – 3 June 2015 ($8.80)
- □ Mathematics – 11 August 2015 ($8.80)

To enrol your child in ICAS, please contact Mr Heyn for a registration form by Wednesday 8 April 2015.

Yours sincerely

Mark Heyn
Science Teacher

Endorsed

Fleur Roachock
Principal