Dear Families

Term 2 has begun with a strong sense of purpose across the school as students have settled quickly to work. While Term 1 was very busy, especially with sporting activities, we don’t expect any respite this term as we involve ourselves in a wide variety of events both within and outside the school.

“A Midsummer Night’s Midterm” is taking shape in a very positive fashion and we are looking forward to performances in Week 9. Our Rostrum Voice of Youth competitors performed proudly at Mount Gambier High School on Wednesday evening, proving to be a credit to our school. The adjudicators were very impressed that we had the most competitors of all schools in attendance – calculating that 6% of our students took part! The SRC has organised a fundraising day for Friday this week as they seek to be able to buy soccer goals for students’ lunchtime enjoyment and Knockout Football has also happened this week.

On Tuesday evening, Parent-Teacher interviews occurred and it was wonderful to see so many parents and caregivers take the time to show interest in their young people’s education. In addition to the information that came home in reports at the end of last term, these interviews are a really good way to find out how to support students to be successful while there is still plenty of time to influence end-of-semester outcomes.

Next week our Year 9s will undertake NAPLaN testing and we look forward to all of our students having a go at these, as the information we acquire is very useful in our planning for literacy and numeracy instruction – both for individuals and the cohort. These tests are not about achievement and will not influence any grades, but they are helpful diagnostic tools to ensure we do not leave any “gaps” in a young person’s literacy or numeracy education. Please contact us if you have any concerns about the tests, however.

Friday of Week 3 will be a Student Free Day, where staff will be working on our quest to define the “Ideal Learner” and to create Individual Ideal Learning Plans for our Year 8s – other year levels to follow soon! Meanwhile, on Tuesday of Week 3 we will be working with staff from Millicent High School and Kangaroo Inn Area School on Australian Curriculum moderation and SACE improvement.

Finally, in Semester 2, Penola High School will be hosting an exchange student from Denmark for twelve months. Sarah Stokvad is 16 years old and will take part in Year 11 classes this year. She has very good English skills and is pleased to hear that Penola is both sporty and artistic in its make-up as both these things suit her well. We are looking for four host families to look after Sarah while she is here, for periods of three months each. If you are interested in this fabulous opportunity, please contact me at school.

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.
Rostrum Voice of Youth
Fleur Roachock

Seven Penola High School students donned blazers and highly polished shoes to represent us at the Rostrum Voice of Youth at Mount Gambier High School on Wednesday 6 May 2015. Beautifully prepared by Ms Jackie Poumako, students spoke on such topics as The Price of Progress and Friend or Foe across Junior and Senior sections, before tackling the dreaded Short Notice speeches, at which we are definitely improving. Alana Winter and Camryn Schriever were our Senior competitors this year, while Darcy O’Connor, Josh Currie, Brianna Oppelaar and Emily Winter filled out the Junior ranks. Moving onto the semi-finals though is Titania, Queen of the Fairies from “A Midsummer Night’s Midterm.” Intrigued? Then be sure to attend the school production in June to see our budding thespian/orator in action!

Ice Forum
Vicki McDonald-Burgess

The Penola High School Governing Council is pleased to bring this major event to the Penola Community. The original Ice Forum was held in Mount Gambier earlier this year - a recorded version of this is scheduled to be held in the school hall. Entry to this event is free of charge, however, bookings are essential. Booking WILL OPEN Monday 1 June 2015 - please phone Penola High School on 8737 0000 to book your ticket - at the time of booking arrangements will be made to either collect or have your ticket sent. It is essential that when you attend the event that you present your ticket at the door - without this ticket you will not be permitted entry. While the format of the presentation is still under negotiation, please keep your eye on the local paper, further newsletters and publicity.

Open Boys Football
Simone Combe

A group of 18 schoolboys comprising of Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 students played against Millicent to compete in the Open Boys Football on Thursday 7 May 2015. In windy but fine conditions, Penola kicked against the breeze to the southern end. Unfortunately, Millicent hit the ground running and found form quickly. The Penola team was depleted due to illness and injury, and found the bigger bodies of the Millicent team tough to handle. However, Penola had a number of players who played very well. Ben Casey lead the team extremely well, and he tried valiantly to inject some run into the Penola team. Nick Rowe was superb, using his skills and run. Sam Burgess and Tom Price never stopped trying, and Brandon McMurtrie and Logan Gibbs tackled hard all day. Special mentions to Daniel Meek who played despite quite severe illness; his commitment to the team was very much appreciated!

All the boys should be proud of their team performance. The way they were able to work together and demonstrate inclusivity whilst on the field was an absolute credit to them.

A huge thank you to Brett Martin who did a fantastic job of umpiring, and to Logan Gibbs for organising guernseys. Thanks must also go to Bailey Walker for being the team runner and waterboy, as he was unable to compete due to injury.

SA Excellence in Public Education Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2015 SA Excellence in Public Education Awards.

The Awards recognise and reward the outstanding contributions made by teachers, leaders and support staff from across the state.

Don’t miss your chance to nominate an outstanding education professional within DECD to recognise and reward their dedicated and inspirational contribution to young South Australians. For more information and to nominate an employee at your school or preschool go to: www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards.

Like us on facebook and follow the progress of the Awards: www.facebook.com/SATeachingAwards.

Nominations close 5pm, 3 July 2015

For further information contact the Awards team on 08 8226 3079 or email DECD.Recognition@sa.gov.au

Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival

Year 12 Past and Present Art Works on display

An exhibition of past and present Year 12 Art Work will be on display at

Mink
Tuesday 19 May-Friday 22 May
9.00am-4.00pm

Saturday 24 May
10.00am-3.00pm

Tuesday 26 May-Friday 29 May
9.00am-4.00pm
Attention years 10 and 11

So you want to be a doctor?

The RDWA will help get you there.

**medSPACE Ready** is a free residential workshop **7-9 July 2015** in Adelaide for rural high school students wanting to study medicine.

Over the three days get a taste of student life - visit the universities, learn about the courses and how to apply.

If your dream is to be a doctor, we can help you make it a reality. Contact **RDWA 08 8234 8277** or **attraction@ruraldoc.com.au** or ask your school career counsellor for more information.

30 SEPT—2 OCT, 2015

Youth Workshops for academically gifted students in years 8-10 held in state-of-the-art facilities at Flinders University

Schools and families are invited to nominate gifted students from Years 8 to 10 who would benefit from in-depth workshops led by experts in their field. Students passionate about the arts, humanities and/or sciences are encouraged to attend.

There will be a variety of topics to choose from including: Analytical and Forensic Chemistry, Art, Creative Writing, Dance, Design, Drama, Engineering, Genetics, Law, Mathematics, Music, Palaeontology, Philosophy, Photonics, Physics, Renewable Energy, and Wetland Ecology.

Date: 30 September—2 October, 2015
Time: 9:30-4:00pm
Cost: $195 for 3 days of workshops and course materials. Special financial consideration may be given to country students and students who would be precluded by financial constraints.

Cost for family or school members of GTCASA: $160 (GTCASA membership number will be required).

To register your interest: please send the following details to youthworkshops@live.com.au
- School/family name and postal address
- Contact name, e-mail and telephone number/s
You will be sent a nomination form plus detailed information about the range of workshops being held.
Alternatively, register online here:

Gifted and Talented Children’s Association of SA
Phone: 8354 1858  Website: gtcasa.asn.au