Dear Parents/Caregivers

Penola High School has continued to excel on a much wider stage. Our Science and Engineering Challenge team were in Adelaide for the state finals of competition over the last two days. While results didn’t go exactly to plan, to be able to successfully compete against schools and colleges up to ten times our size says a huge amount about the ability, resilience and problem solving skills of our students. 7th in the State is an amazing accomplishment and congratulations must go to all members of the team. Thanks also go to Winsley Wighton, Scott McCulloch and Silvana Stephens for giving up their time and managing the team over the two days.

Yesterday saw the annual visit from Nangwarry Primary School students. This was a great opportunity for primary students to see our school and experience some of the fantastic teaching and learning that goes on here. The Year 2-4s who I worked with for two lessons were energetic and eager to learn new things and the comments from other staff clearly shows what a worthwhile and successful endeavour this is. Talking to students at the end of the day revealed many of them didn’t want to return to primary school and were ready to start their Penola High journey sooner rather than later.

Over the last two weeks our Year 9s have been involved in some NAPLAN testing in preparation for 2017. Next year these tests will be conducted online rather than in paper format and it has been important to ascertain the school’s capacity to deliver this. Despite having to undergo more NAPLAN style tests, our Year 9s worked through two lots of tests and helped compile the required information, both for the actual conduct of the test, and for us to know that the school can successfully deliver these tests online next year.

Last Thursday the South Australian Police were here to present to our Year 10, 11 and 12 students. All 3 presentations were tailored to suit each year level and the feedback from students has shown that the programs were valued and appreciated.

Last night was the first step in our course counselling/subject selection journey for this year. Thank-you to the parents and students who attended the information session and thanks also to Jason Plunkett for the work he put into organising and then presenting to parents and students. From discussions I had with parents the information was both useful and well presented. Next Thursday is our main session with Year 10 and 11 students coming out of classes in the afternoon to attend pre-arranged meetings and select subjects for 2017. I understand a letter will arrive home soon and parents will be receiving a phone call from the school to arrange an appointment time. I look forward to seeing as many parents and students as possible.

Lastly, a reminder that Friday 2 September 2016 is a Student Free Day at Penola High School. The timing might have worked out nicely with the Adelaide Show and I hope anyone taking advantage of the timing has an enjoyable and safe trip.

Kind regards

Andrew Stockley
Girls Knock Out Basketball
Chloe Long

On Thursday 18 August 2016, Miss Long, Sarah Walker and 7 excited students travelled to Adelaide for open Basketball Pool C SSSSA State Finals. After a good night’s rest and an early start the girls started the day strongly. Aliza Pfitzner and Ella Kain worked hard from the start showing consistent shooting and pressure down the court to give the girls a strong lead. Alana Winter and Romi Eckermann showed their toughness and strong skills throughout the day setting up plays across the court. Hannah Klemm, our secret weapon in attack, showed the competition that even a netballer can do a layout to score points. Emily Winter was a stand-out all day, showing leadership and enthusiasm and even showing the rest of the girls how to shoot 3s. The girls won the first two games showing the competition we were one of the teams to beat. During the Final our girls came up against a strong Portside college team. However, pressure down the court and team work showed Portside that we were just as tough. The girls held a lead for most of the game. However, Portside came away with a narrow win of 10 points. The girls did a fantastic job to win the local round and move on to compete in Adelaide, their hard work and dedication paid off and they should all be proud of what they achieved.

Vietnam Veterans Day
Rob Thornew

On Thursday 18 August, Year 8 Penola High students took part in the Vietnam Veterans Day commemoration at Penola War Memorial Park. This marked the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan. The ceremony was organised by the Penola-Coonawarra branch of the RSL, with Neville Dixon and Peter Degaris running the service. SRC Presidents, Alana Winter and Cory O’Connor laid a wreath on behalf of the students and staff. It was very pleasing to see a number of Year 11 students make the effort to voluntarily attend the ceremony. All those attending behaved in an exemplary manner bringing credit to both themselves and their school. Staff attending were Ms Allen, Mr Sutterby, Mr Thornew and Mr Plunkett. Congratulations to all involved.

Cafe 43 Catering
Jodie Allen

On Wednesday 24 August 2016 Café 43 students prepared, cooked and served a range of canapés at the Women’s Health ‘Stomping Ants’ evening held at the Penola Sports Club. The students showed great initiative and flexibility adapting to the environment of a new kitchen and successfully catering for a large number of people. The students offered a great variety of food choices which met a range of dietary requirements. The menu read as follows: Smoked Salmon Blinis, Homemade Sausage Rolls, Cocktail Meat Pies, Antipasto Platters, Marinated Chicken Skewers and Seasonal Fruit Skewers. The students utilised lesson time during the week to complete advance preparation allowing final preparation to be easier on the night.

All Café 43 students should be proud of their efforts on the night, not only for the quality of the food, but for the way they conducted themselves in a professional manner when serving guests. Audience members greatly appreciated the food and service and much positive feedback was received.

Cafe 43 Re-Opening

The Penola High School Cafe 43 will re-open on Tuesday 6 September 2016 for the remaining 4 weeks of Term 3. Opening hours are 11.00am-2.00pm. For bookings please phone Penola High School on 8737 0000.
The 2016 Year 9 Initiative culminated in a showcase of students’ work on Friday 19 August 2016. Students presented a range of final products and spoke about their learning journeys, discoveries and developments throughout the production process. Planning for the Initiative began in Learning for Life sessions early last term with students identifying an area of interest or passion. Over the next six weeks students were assisted to narrow this into a focus area and develop inquiry questions for investigation during the Initiative week. The range of areas that were investigated included Graphic Design, Aeronautical Engineering, building a range of household furniture items, Engineering and Mechanics, Neurology, Game Design and Coding, welding a metal fire pit, Landscape and Car Photography, Cake Decorating, Computer Animation, Hairdressing and Professional Make-up, and learning a classical piece of piano music by Beethoven.

Phoebe Tregenza explored learning one of Beethoven’s most famous musical piano pieces, Fur Elise, a very original topic. Through her research she dissected the elements of music, performance techniques and how to apply them to learning a new piece of music, which she then performed as her final presentation. Kate Skeer studied Professional Make-up artistry and spent a day before the Initiative week with a professional make-up artist in Mt Gambier, who showed her a range of different styles and techniques. Another outstanding presentation was made by Sam Gartner who spent the week building a fire pit with his own personal laser cut design. For his presentation he lit the pit, which created an awesome atmosphere which was much appreciated by his peers. Sam Klemm studied sports journalism, where he creatively designed several sports articles, took his own sports photos and presented them in a range of newspaper styled finishes.

James Krieger and Henry Berkin spent the week developing their knowledge of motorbike and car mechanics, with James Krieger’s final presentation being a hilarious video showcasing the highlights of his week, to some extremely funny music. Jack Kain researched the beef cattle industry, while Skylar McGrath and Ally Jones created some wonderful photographs for their nature and car photography topics.

Brooke Hutchesson wowed her audiences with some very funny food puns and cake tasting, presenting a range of cakes, which she had decorated with elaborate and detailed icing techniques. Cheyenne Faux was outstanding in her presentation on Neurology and how different parts of the brain affect our nervous system and also all of our general body functions and moods. Her presentation was extremely informative and featured some very graphic images of the brain dissection she had done during the course of the week. Many students spent a lot of time developing coding and computer drawing skills, enabling them to develop some very worthwhile skills for the future.

Many students undertook visits to different sectors of community as a part of their research. Brooke Hutchesson worked with Rosalia Faux to create some cake decoration masterpieces. Cheyenne Faux worked closely with SSO Silvana Stephens to dissect a sheep brain in science. James Krieger spent a day at OGR working closely with the car mechanics and Sam Gartner visited a metal laser cut centre in Mt Gambier where he created his own laser cut design for his metal fire pit. The local community provide an endless resource for students to advance their knowledge and skill development.

The students were supported by their mentor teachers throughout the week and I would like to thank both community members and mentors very much on behalf of the students. The calibre of students’ presentations this year was excellent and each student who participated grew through their experience in the Initiative.
SSO Week
Andrew Stockley

The week of 15-19 August 2016 was PSA/CPSU National Recognition Week for School Services Officers. These wonderful staff members were celebrated with a morning tea and certificates. At our school we are very fortunate to have a terrific team of support staff helping to care for and educate your children, and run our school. Most parents will have met some of the support staff, however the full team is:

- Vicki McDonald-Burgess - School Administration Officer
- Louise Clayfield - Student Information Manager
- Sarah Walker - Receptionist
- Silvana Stephens - Laboratory Technician
- James Braddy - Network Manager
- Jo Skeer - Student Support Officer
- Dave Vannini - Student Support Officer
- Karen Jackman - School Support Officer
- Jan Marcus - Library Support Officer
- Ali Bond - Library Support Officer
- Heather Stone - Library Support Officer
- Emma Dear - Canteen Manager
- Justin McDonald - Groundsperson

Please join us in thanking these staff during PSA/CPSU National Recognition Week. We’d be lost without them.

SAPOL Visit
Winsley Mighton

SAPOL’s Road Safety Section representative, Michael Lord recently attended our school and delivered three road safety presentations to our students. ‘A Guide to Obtaining your L’s and P’s’ was presented to Year 10 students, while Year 12s learnt about ‘Getting Home Safely’. The Year 11 session focussed on ‘The Fatal Five’. These presentations combined straight talk and video material, and pulled no punches. This forms a valuable part of our Pastoral Care program.

There are a number of websites which may be of further value to you and your child:

- raa.com.au
- mylicence.sa.gov.au
- sapolice.sa.gov.au
- howsafeisyourcar.com.au

For any further information on Road Safety please feel free to contact the Road Safety Section on 82076586 or by email on SAPOL.RoadSafetySection@police.sa.gov.au

Nangwarry Transition Visit
Sarah Walker

On Wednesday, students from Nangwarry Primary School attended a day at Penola High School as part of their transition program. Nangwarry visit annually and were eager to take part in High School lessons again. Students took part in an Art lesson with Art teacher, Kristen Bence, observing the Art work of Claude Monet and how he used colour to create an image of different seasons using the same theme. Students then created their own landscape reflecting one of the seasons. Students also enjoyed a Tech Studies lesson with teacher, Tom Sutterby, where they learnt woodworking skills, producing their own whistle. The Junior Primary students also enjoyed a Beebots lesson with Mr Plunkett giving the Beebots instructions and boosting their enthusiasm for experimentation. They then went on to enjoy a Physical Education lesson, under the guidance of Chloe Long, playing several games involving speed and coordination. Other lessons included History, Science and IT. The students were very engaged and had a wonderful time. Special thanks to our staff without their support we could not undertake activities such as transition visits.

Science & Engineering - Rotary Visit
Winsley Mighton

Gorgia Robbie, Phoebe Tregenza, Jack Walker and Joe French along with Winsley Mighton attended a meeting of the Lakes Rotary Club in Mount Gambier where they were warmly welcomed. In view of our success at the Mount Gambier Science and Engineering Challenge, the students were invited to talk about their experiences there. The students represented us in fine style, speaking well and handling questions with aplomb.
Stage 2 Health Education

As part of the Stage 2 Health Education course, student Cody Faux, took on the challenge of raising awareness of Child Abuse in the community. Cody sold cupcakes at Toffee n Treats for a gold coin donation and also created the poster that you see below to help raise awareness for this important cause. Cody raised $145.00 which she donated to The Australian Childhood Foundation.

Science & Engineering State Finals

Winsley Wighton

Our team of thirty Year 9 and 10 students travelled to Adelaide to represent the Limestone Coast in the State Finals of the Science and Engineering Challenge. The Titanium Basketball Stadium at Findon made an impressive setting for the eight teams who competed. Many of the activities provided were similar to those seen at Mt Gambier, but some, such as the catapult, were new to the students. Team membership was determined before leaving Penola, but students only discovered which activity they would be undertaking when a ‘lucky dip’ was held at the start of the Challenge. This put the emphasis squarely on students’ participation, team work, innovation and resilience rather than on specific pre-event preparation. All the activities had been modified to increase the level of challenge. Our students embraced the activities enthusiastically with some fine individual and team performances. Overall, the team finished seventh.

Work Experience

Kathleen Phillips

Our year 10 students went on work experience, September 15 - 19 as a part of the Personal Learning Plan. This opportunity allowed our students to ‘trial’ what it is like to work in their chosen career pathway. Many of our students worked in businesses in Penola, Naracoorte, Mount Gambier and Adelaide, in a wide range of careers, such as Laboratory Work at Flinders University to mechanics, graphic designing and primary school teaching to name just a few. Feedback from employers was very positive about our students’ enthusiasm. A big thank you to all businesses which took on our students for work experience.

Gold Represents Power, but to a Child that Ring Symbolises Family & Trust

Child abuse betrays your responsibility as a mother or a father and trust is forever lost. Stop the violence today & keep your family together, remembering that you are your child’s role model and that those scars never fade.

When reporting child abuse call the South Australia Hotline: 13 14 78

nurturing individual successes
The benefits of Yoga for Teens are MANY and some include –

- Reduce stress and anxiety
- Improve focus and school performance
- Improve self-esteem, self-worth and body image
- Increase confidence
- Help develop self-discipline and willpower
- Improve fitness and physical and mental health

**Tuesdays**
Yoga for teens at Penola High School
straight after school finishes.
3.30pm – 4.30pm
$8.00 per class – mat provided – all fitness levels!
Please phone call Bec 0428398002 (bookings are essential)