Principal's Report
Andrew Stockley

Dear Families

The year is definitely off to a fast start, it’s hard to believe we are already approaching the end of week 4. This means we are already a third of the way through this term!

All year levels have settled in well and it has been great to see so many students across all years engaged in and enjoying their learning. When I have had the chance to visit classes it’s been fantastic to see such high levels of engagement and motivation. As would be expected the Year 12s have been leading the way with their application, especially in regards to their approach to independent study.

This week has seen the Year 8s depart on their annual camp to Cape Bridgewater. These camps are always good for team and relationship building and I am certain that all the staff and students involved will have not only an enjoyable time, but also a productive time as they get to know each other better in an out of school context. Probably the only down side to the camp so far was the heavy rain that our region received yesterday.

Our 2016 Student Representative Council has been elected and they will be presented, along with House Captains, at an assembly early next week. I am impressed with the large number of students volunteering to represent both the school and their peers and I am sure they will enjoy a successful year.

Next Thursday is Penola High’s Athletics Carnival and after the success of the Swimming Carnival I am looking forward to another fun, but competitive day. I’d like to say a quick personal thankyou to the parents who have already offered to help and support on the day. These days can’t happen without the support of the school community and it’s great to see so many volunteering their time.

Kind regards

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Materials & Services Charge & School Card
Vicki McDonald-Burgess

Families who were eligible for School Card in 2015 MUST re-apply for School Card in 2016. Application forms are available from the 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.
Interschool Swimming

Chloe Long

On Friday 19 February 2016, fifteen Penola High School students, along with Ms Long and Mr Reece travelled to the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre to compete in the annual SESSSA Swimming Carnival. As usual, Penola students made up the majority of the Combined Team, with the rest of the team made up of students from Naracoorte, St Martins and Millicent. Students representing Penola High School were Ryan Zerk, Nathan Rowe, Alana Winter, Sarah Stokvad, Hannah Klemm, Tom Walker, Ella Kain, Josh Currie, Nick Rowe, Emily Winter, Jack Kain, Brooke Hutchesson, Tom Abbey, Jesse Martin and Gerrard Merrett.

The day began with Bordertown and Tenison Woods dominating early. Once again this year our team continued to show great improvement with many of our swimmers making an impression in the pool and placing in the top three, resulting in a higher overall score at the end of the day. The great swimming on the day saw combined schools finish fourth over Mount Gambier High School. Some late withdrawals from other schools meant that our students were relied upon to fill many events, and it was pleasing to see our students do this cheerfully and experience success. The final places were as follows:

1st Tenison
2nd Bordertown
3rd Grant
4th Combined Schools
5th Mount Gambier High School

The following Penola High School students swam exceptionally well against tough competition and were rewarded with a blue, red or green ribbon:

Relays
- 2nd U/14 Female Freestyle Relay
- 3rd U/15 & U20 Female Medley Relay
- 3rd U/14 & U15 Male Freestyle Relay
- 3rd Open Female Freestyle Relay

Ryan Zerk
- 3rd U14 Freestyle

Jack Kain
- 3rd U14 Backstroke

Brooke Hutchesson
- 3rd U15 Breastroke

Hannah Klemm
- 3rd Open Freestyle
- 3rd Open Breastroke

Sarah Stokvad
- 2nd Open Butterfly
- 3rd Open Backstroke

Agriculture & Horticulture Studies

This year a group of Year 9 students have opted to study Agriculture, while a Year 10 cohort have also chosen to undertake Agriculture as a component of the Science curriculum.

As part of the course this semester/year, the students have chosen to play a leading role in the development, installation and implementation of improvements to the schools agricultural facilities.

Currently the agriculture/horticulture site contains a shed that houses raised shearing stalls and assorted objects. As part of the plan, the school would like to refurbish the current shearing stalls, place 3 fence lines within the boundaries of the site and design and install a set of small yards next to the shed to accommodate future work with stock.

Students will require some assistance with the placement of rounded fence posts for swinging gates and straining fence-lines, plus advice on how to plan effective and efficient stockyards. Initial planning will be presented to the school’s Governing Council during this term. Please watch this space for further developments and possible requests on how you may assist the students to complete this project successfully.

Penola Community Library
Opening Hours
43 Cameron Street PENOLA 5277
Phone 8737 2838

Sunday  CLOSED
Monday  CLOSED
Tuesday  8.30am - 4.00pm
Wednesday  8.30am - 7.00pm
Thursday  8.30am - 4.00pm
Friday  8.30am - 4.00pm
Saturday  9.30am - 12noon

Please note the Penola Community Library will no longer be open on Mondays, opening hours for 2016 will remain as per above.
11 February 2016

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, English and/or Science competition for 2016.

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 areas for development. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

Dates for competitions:

- Science – 31 May 2016 ($8.80)
- English – 2 August 2016 ($8.80)
- Mathematics – 16 August 2016 ($8.80)

To enrol your child in ICAS, please contact Mr Heyn for a registration form by Thursday 24 March 2016.

Yours sincerely

Mark Heyn
Science Teacher

Endorsed
Andrew Stockley
Principal
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 7 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 29 February in preparation for the AGM Monday 21 March 2016 7.00pm in the Library.