Principal’s Report
Andrew Stockley
23.3.16
Dear Parents/Caregivers

It’s hard to believe that Easter is upon us, it means the term is almost done and we are already a quarter of the way through the year. It has been a great start to the year and all students and staff have settled in well. It’s been fantastic to see so many actively engaged in their learning and wanting to achieve high levels of success. Staff should be congratulated on the learning programs they have developed and are delivering and students are to be commended for the positive way they have approached their learning. Personally I have enjoyed not only teaching and interacting with my Year 9 English class but also the conversations I have been having with senior students about their progress to date and their plans for the future.

Today sees our team heading off to Interschool Athletics at Grant High School. No doubt our team will continue with the success they had at Interschool Swimming and bring home a swag of firsts, seconds, thirds and personal bests. This team will also be representing Penola High at Adelaide Athletics at the start of week 11 and I’d like to take the opportunity on behalf of the school community to wishing them all the best of luck. A thank you also to Chloe Long and Mark Heyn for the commitment they have given to training three days a week.

In addition to thanking Chloe and Mark, I’d like to acknowledge all staff who have been involved in extra-curricular activities this term. Term one is always hectic but the time and energy staff have put in, particularly with out of school hours activities should be recognised and applauded. Without this commitment many of our students would miss out on very worthwhile and rewarding experiences.

Last Monday saw our Annual General Meeting held in the Community Library. It was good to see so many interested and committed parents involved and thanks to those who have offered to serve on Governing Council for either the next twelve months or two years. A huge thank you to Brian Tonkin, who after 8 years on Governing Council, 7 of those as Chairperson, has chosen to step aside. I know I speak for Kirsty, Fleur and Kirsty when I say that his contributions have been greatly appreciated by all members of the school community and that his working relationships with the principal have always been positive and fruitful. I would also like to welcome Allan Kain as the incoming Chairperson for at least the next twelve months.

Finally, staff are in the middle of writing reports for term one. These go home on the last day of term, Friday 15 April 2016. It isn’t too late for students to make that last ditch effort in order to improve their results. A conversation with the teacher is always the best starting point and the best way to identify the best way forward to continued success. I hope everyone enjoys, or enjoyed, their Easter break and comes back ready to tackle the last few weeks of this term.

Kind regards

Student Absence SMS (only)
Notification number: 0400 134 993
Please make sure you include the reason for the absence, ie. illness, family etc.
Y 11 Outdoor Education & Yr 12 Kayaking
Mark Heyn

Last week the Year 11 Outdoor Education and Year 12 Physical Education classes ventured to Murray Bridge for an intensive 4 day aquatics camp. The Year 11 students had a taste of a variety of different aquatics activities, including sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, rowing, skiing and knee boarding. They were required to plan the menu for the camp, and purchase and cook the food; as well as keep a journal and research the history and environment of the Murray River.

The six Year 12 students who attended the camp completed eighteen hours of sailing. This forms a third of the practical component in the Year 12 PE course. The course required students to learn the basic skills required in sailing, such as tacking, gybing, sailing into and with the wind, and adjusting sails based on the wind. Students were also required to complete more complex skills such as capsizing and rescues. The Year 12 students were unfortunately faced with fickle or no wind which limited their exposure to sailing. However, the instructor commented on the group’s ability to pick up new skills quickly and was also impressed with the positive interactions amongst the group.

The camp was once again a huge success with the Year 12 students achieving excellent results to go towards their course, as well as the Year 11 students developing skills of organisation in planning for the camp.

Year 10 Geography Field Trip
Rob Thornett

This year, the Year 10 Geography class chose to study ocean environments as the case study in the AC unit on Environmental Change and Management. The class took the opportunity of undertaking a field study of Beachport as an example of a changing environment, and with the help of some local resource people, gathered information about the local fishing industry.

Their field study report will answer the question:
To what extent is the fishing industry located at Beachport, South Australia, an example of a sustainable industry?

We would like to thank the following Beachport identities for taking the time to provide the class with some of their local knowledge and expertise: Peter Halton, Director of Engineering Services, Wattle Range Council – the Beachport Boat Ramp, Chris Amezdroz and Darryl Cowan, PIRSA (Fisheries) Officers who spoke about the role of PIRSA in regulating SA fisheries and John Atkinson, Beachport Southern Ocean Rock Lobster fishing representative who works in the Beachport fishing industry.

Thanks also to Jo Skeer who provided an extra pair of hands and sensible head when needed. (And not mentioning the unnecessary detour to Millicent on the way there).

LOST PROPERTY

The Front Office is currently housing a large volume of lost school uniform items. If your child has misplaced an item of school clothing, please have them see Sarah in the Front Office.
Penola High School Governing Council News

Newsletter Issue 3 informed parents of the Agricultural program currently being offered to Year 9/10 students of Penola High School. Tom Sutterby attended the most recent meeting of Governing Council where he disseminated information on the physical improvements/changes that will be needed to embark upon the Cows Create Careers program currently being offered by Dairy Australia. These improvements will require the assistance of the wider school community. Following Tom’s presentation, a sub committee was formed - Mark Colbert, Simon Gartner, Allan Kain, Darren Skeer and Tom Sutterby. Improvements will take place to the area that originally housed the school vineyard. Work required will consist of fencing, ploughing and reseeding as well as stockyard and stall refurbishment. To date the students have removed obsolete items from the shed and repaired the southern fence line. We now call upon the parent body to assist with future developments. If you have time, expertise, use of equipment that you can offer to the students please contact Mark Colbert on 0428 838 785 or the school on 8737 0000.

Cows Create Careers

Tom Sutterby will be in contact with Dairy Australia to invite industry advocates to visit Penola High School to discuss and implement the Cows Create Careers program. The project framework includes:

- delivery of 2 calves for a 3 week period to the school.
- supplies and curriculum materials are provided to the school at no cost
- students work in teams to complete assignment and assessment tasks
- the industry advocate provides face-to-face information to students about their career pathways
- final presentation and awards ceremony
- media coverage throughout the project

Everyday Counts

Suzanne Gray

In South Australia it is compulsory for all school age children to attend school. Parents or guardians are responsible for making sure children go to school. At Penola High School we understand that some absences are unavoidable, however, parents or guardians are responsible for explaining absences so that student attendance can be monitored and documented. Therefore, if your child is absent from school we request that you let the school know as soon as possible.

Students need to attend school regularly in order to participate fully in and gain maximum benefit from the educational experience. There is a direct relationship between regular school attendance in school and learning outcomes. The effects of absence also accumulate over time. Absence from school relates to academic achievement in numeracy, reading and writing not only in the current year, but in future years as well.

If your child does not want to go to school, or is missing school without your knowledge, please contact the school for assistance and support.

Interschool Athletics Carnival

Chloe Long

On Wednesday 23 March 2016, Grant High School played host to the 72nd Annual SESSSA Athletics Championships. Competitors, officials and spectators were able to enjoy a little sunshine in the morning, with the later overcast conditions not allowing the sun to pour out too much heat during the day.

Many Penola High School students experienced individual success and were a credit to themselves and the school community, regularly chatting with their competitors and congratulating them on their performance. Their friendliness and sportsmanship was very pleasing to see, and they should be very proud of their efforts. The day was an excellent rehearsal for the SSSSA competition which will be held in Adelaide on Monday 11 April, where Penola High will compete against other schools of similar size.

Penola High School students who experienced individual success with a top 3 placing were:

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<th>Student</th>
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<td>Tom Abbey</td>
<td>2nd High Jump</td>
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<td>2nd Long Jump</td>
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<td>3rd 400m</td>
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<td>Jesse Martin</td>
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<td>3rd Triple Jump</td>
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<td>Imahgen Hecht</td>
<td>3rd Shot Put</td>
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<td>Gorgia Robbie</td>
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<td>Josh Currie</td>
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<td>3rd High Jump</td>
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<td>3rd Long Jump</td>
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<td>Ella Kain</td>
<td>3rd 1500m</td>
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<td>Bailey Walker</td>
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Stuart Banner is a French teacher who enjoys sharing his passion for the language and culture with students.

His classes are engaging and interactive, allowing students to explore various aspects of French culture and language. He encourages students to practice speaking and writing in French, which not only improves their language skills but also helps them gain a deeper understanding of the culture.

Whether it's learning about French cuisine, exploring French history, or participating in cultural activities, Stuart's classes provide a rich and immersive learning experience. His enthusiasm and expertise make learning French an enjoyable and rewarding experience for his students.