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Newsletter

Important Information

Issue: 1

Week 3

13/2/24

Crossing Training

14/2/24

Meet the staff BBQ

Week 4

21/2/24

Leaders Induction
Ceremony 9am

Week 5

28/2/24

Governing Council
AGM 6.30pm

29/2/24

Sports Day

1/3/24

School Closure



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Be Ready ■ Be Engaged ■ Be Respectful
Positive Behaviour for Learning

CONTACT US

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Governing Council Chair Person

Mr Ricky Mackereth

M: 0439 862 080

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Beth Hector

Principal

Wendy Williams

Assistant Principal

Samantha Schultz

Assistant Principal

Rachael Clarke

Teaching & Learning Coordinator

Tyson Wait

Teaching & Learning Coordinator

Sonia Perkins

Students with Additional Needs
Coordinator

Helen Moloney

Student Wellbeing Leader/FLO

Jane McCauley

Student Wellbeing Leader

Principal's News

Welcome to the 2024 school year. It has been a fabulous start with many new families joining our school community, not only due to Reception class enrolments but through the movement of new families into Moonta. Staff have created welcoming learning environments and we have plans for further improvements to grounds and facilities. During the Christmas break the outside of the Art Room was painted and inside part of the Primary block, where orders have also been made for new pinup boards throughout. We have plans for further improvements to grounds and facilities, including outdoor learning areas and the refurbishing of all the main building windows.

New staff who are settling in well and already making their mark at MAS are Georgia Downard in Year 7, Emma Perry across Years 5 & 6, George Hewitson as our Aboriginal Education teacher and Riley Williams, who will be working alongside Karina Kay in the Wildu class. We also welcome Kelly Harris back from leave and teaching Year 6. Along with every other staff member at Moonta they will be working to address our 2024 Site Improvement Plan Goals. We are promoting a culture of learning and consistent high expectations across the school.

I encourage all families to take the opportunity to view classrooms and meet the staff on the evening of February 14th. Please refer to the details shared in this newsletter.

Nominations and voting has occurred for the student leadership positions, with announcements to made in the next few days. I look forward to our Induction Ceremony on February 21 and working with our young people to hear their perspectives and ideas for improvements at MAS in the year ahead.

On Wednesday February 28th at 6:30pm The Moonta Area School Governing Council will be holding its Annual General Meeting.

Nomination forms will be distributed this week.

You may be wondering, What does a Governing Council do?

Governing Councils work with the principal to help set and monitor the direction of a school. It meets regularly, usually twice per school term. Our Governing Council meets in the evening of the 2nd Wednesday of each month, where possible, or on other dates as negotiated.

Meetings are part of Governing Council but it's not only that. In your role on the council you might be on a committee with Community Links, Grounds and Facilities, Sport and Rec or Out of School Hours Care [OSHC]

You do not work alone when on the council. We work together to involve the local community, develop and approve local policies, set the broad direction and vision of the site, monitor and review the Site Improvement Plan and as the employing authority of the Out Of School Hours Care service.

Thanks you to our Governing Council who have again granted a School Closure Day on Friday March 1, following our traditional Twilight Sports Day on February 29. This event holds such a special place in the hearts of many of our community members and there is already a great vibe in the school as we prepare for it.

Our canteen service this year is being managed by Café Moonta. As of Monday Feb 12 orders will be accepted via the Spriggy App or lunch bags placed in classroom bags. Recess options will also be available for over the counter purchases from our beautiful canteen facility. Thank you to Café Moonta who will be running this service 5 days a week.

I look forward to a strong year of learning and student success at Moonta Area School, especially with our whole school commitment to Positive Behaviour for Learning. Our reward system is linked to House pride - Keep an eye on Facebook and our electronic sign for the weekly win !

Each newsletter we will share with you the routines and processes in place that are already having an impact.



Beth Hector
Principal

MEET THE STAFF

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14 2024



Collect a map from the front office and get 5 stamps by visiting various areas of the school between 5-5.30pm to go in the draw to win a prize!

SCHOOL PHONE
88 252 088

Teachers will be in their classrooms from 5pm - 5:30pm

At 5:30pm we invite you to join us for a free sausage sizzle by the Well-being Centre



To assist with catering please contact the school if you plan to attend by Monday Feb 12

Welcome to our new staff in 2024



Emma Perry

I am an early career teacher with a background in Contemporary Art and a Masters of Teaching, I find joy in spending time outdoors and expressing my creativity. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the primary team, by nurturing an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students. I am excited to join the wonderful community at Moonta Area School in 2024.



Georgia Downard

I am really excited to be working at MAS. I am experienced teacher, spending my first few years in the Murraylands and most recently in Whyalla. I have really loved working in the country, and look forward to continuing my teaching career at MAS. I have always been involved in the local netball clubs and I am extremely passionate about being involved in sport and supporting the community wherever I can. I'm really excited to develop positive relationships with all the students and be involved in the wider-school community.



Riley Williams

My name is Riley Williams, and I'm really excited to return to Moonta Area School this year. I love my footy, cricket and basketball, as well as playing guitar and drums in my spare time. I'm looking forward to teaching and working with the wonderful students and staff at MAS again in 2024!



George Hewitson

I am happy to be back again at MAS. I am doing the role of Aboriginal Education Teachers this year, and am looking forward to working with staff, students and families.

"We acknowledge the Nharangga, Peoples the Traditional Owners of this land and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging."

Positive Behaviour for Learning

Moonta Area School Behaviour Expectations

Be Ready like the Wildu (eagle)



Be Engaged like the Widhadha (shark)



Be Respectful like the Wawi (female kangaroo) and Garrdi (emu)



*Artwork by Azalia Hickman

PBL Teaching Expectations Term 1

Every student will be explicitly taught each expectation.

Week 1 & 2

We wait to be invited into the learning space.

We will have mobile devices off and in lockers.

Transitions.

Week 3 & 4

We wear our school uniforms correctly.

We have our hats on when required.

Week 5 & 6

We move quickly to class.

We report concerns or issues to an adult or via Stymie.

What is PBL?

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is an evidence-based framework that brings together the whole-school community to contribute to developing a positive, safe and supportive learning culture. The framework assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

PBL focuses on teaching behavioural skills through explicit instruction. Through this approach, PBL is both preventative and responsive to the needs of children and young people.





Moonta Area School PBL Cup



Who will win?



E

F

M

How to earn a ticket

Be **Ready**
Be **Engaged**
Be **Respectful**

Tickets

Drop your ticket into your house jar at the front office before school, recess, lunch and after school.

Monday Morning

Check the School Sign and DayMap for the leading house!

Last Day of Each Term

The winning house will choose a reward/activity for the last day of school that everyone gets to enjoy.

Wear your team tshirt and wear it proud!!!!

End of the Year

The winning house will be presented with the PBL Cup.

MOONTA AREA SCHOOL



CANTEEN



WEEK 3 OPEN AT SCHOOL

From Monday 12th Feb

We are thrilled to have Cafe Moonta providing a **recess** and **lunch** service from the canteen building located at school.

You can now order via your child's class lunch bag or the Spriggy app. Food & drinks will also be available over the counter.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club was a huge success for 2023 and will return in 2024. Breakfast Club is held in the Wellbeing Centre and is open from 8:30-8:45 am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. KickStart kindly donates breakfast items. Please join the Wellbeing Team for a yummy piece of toast for breakfast.



Story Dogs



Story Dogs is taking place at MAS again in 2024. Marley and Mrs McCauley visited R-6 classrooms on Friday. Students were excited to see Marley, and Marley was very excited to receive multiple pats and belly rubs. The Story Dogs Reading Program will commence each Friday afternoon with selected students reading 1:1 to Marley and Mrs McCauley in the Wellbeing Centre. The Story Dogs program is helping students become lifelong, confident readers. When children read to a dog, the outcomes are amazing. The Moonta Lions Club kindly sponsors Marley and Mrs McCauley.



Breathing Buddies

Brave and Able are breathing buddies and have been kindly donated by The Moonta Collective to MAS for Wellbeing support. Brave and Able are fabulous self-regulation tools to help children develop slow, strong breathing skills that will help them become their most magnificent, brave, and able selves. Slow, controlled breathing skills are the most widely used, first prescribed coping technique in managing anxiety. Students in R-6 are enjoying Brave and Able visiting their classrooms. Thank you to The Moonta Collective for this beautiful donation.



Welcome Receptions



Our Class of 2024

We would like to wish our Year 12 students a successful and fulfilling final year at MAS! Embrace the challenges, celebrate your achievements, and remember that we are here to support you every step of the way.



Reception and Year 6 Buddies

Each week our Year 6 class participate in a buddy lesson with the Reception class. These lessons include buddy reading, craft activities, games and much more. On Friday, they had their first buddy lesson, which involved some buddy reading and a play on the playground so that they could get to know each other. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces and wonderful encouragement from our Year 6 buddies.



2024 IMPORTANT DATES

SCHOOL CLOSURE
Friday March 1

PUPIL FREE DAYS

Monday April 29
Tuesday June 11
Monday September 9
Friday November 29

Creating life long literacy learners

DID YOU KNOW?

A Phoneme is a single sound in a word.

DID YOU KNOW?

A Grapheme is a letter or a group of letters that represent a single sound.



To ensure consistency of Literacy learning across the Primary Years, all students will participate in daily literacy lessons from the R-2 DFE Phonics and Spelling Scope and Sequence and the 3-6 DFE Spelling Scope and Sequence.

Materials and Service Charge

M&S and performance/events invoices have been posted to families and are now due. Please contact the Business Manager to arrange a payment plan or apply for School Card. Payments can be made at the front office or online.

BSB: 105013, A/c: 080086740, Ref: Family Code



Library Corner

At Moonta Area school, we believe in creating a **welcoming environment** for our students to explore the **vast array of books** available to them. To ensure everyone has a positive experience, we have a few simple expectations to follow:

Aligning with our schools focus **Positive Behaviour for Learning**'

Respect the Space: We kindly ask that all students respect the library space by using quiet voices and walking calmly while inside. This helps create a peaceful atmosphere for everyone to enjoy.

Return Borrowed Books: When borrowing books from the library, students are responsible for returning them by the due date. This allows others to have access to the same materials and keeps our collection circulating.

Library Bags Are Helpful: Encourage your child to bring a library bag to school to safely transport their borrowed books. This helps prevent damage and ensures they can easily carry their selections to and from home.

During lunchtime, our library comes alive with bustling activity! Students can participate in a variety of engaging activities, from quiet reading corners to interactive story sessions. Our dedicated **library staff** are always on hand to recommend books, assist with research projects, or simply engage in conversation about the wonderful world of literature.

Whether your child is looking for a quiet space to unwind or a lively group activity to join, our school library has something for everyone during lunchtime.

We invite all students and families to make the most of our **School Community Library** resources and activities. By **embracing the joy of reading** and exploration, we can foster a **lifelong love of learning** that will serve our students well throughout their academic journey and beyond.

Opening Times
Monday 9-12
Tuesday to Friday
9-5.30
Closed Public
Holidays

Our children's
Programs for 0 to
preschool aged
children are
Read and Rhyme Time
Tuesdays at 10am,
Rhyme and Play Time
Thursdays 10.30

Our adults
programs
include Crafter's
and Bookchat
ring the library
on 88251511 for
more informtion!



MAS Out of School Hours Care

We welcome children from all local schools.

Once again, a new year has started, our OSHC has welcomed new families this term and sadly said goodbye to others. We wish those departing families and children well on the next step of their respective journeys. We look forward to providing a fun and engaging child-led program for both before school and after school this term.

We have started the year with the theme of Belonging, focusing on creating a nurturing environment that prioritises and promotes positive relationships between all, cultural sensitivity, community connections, and a sense of identity and inclusion.

We had an absolutely fabulous vacation care period, filled with exciting excursions that brought us closer to our community. One of the highlights was our visit to a tumble clinic with YP Mid North All Stars, where laughter and somersaults filled the air as we tumbled and rolled our way to fun and fitness. Another standout was the Sweet Pedals excursion, a unique and interactive activity that blended fitness, sustainability and nutrition. Pedaling our way to delicious smoothies, we not only had a blast but also learned about the importance of a healthy lifestyle in a fun and engaging manner.



Moonta Area School OSHC is open before school 6.30am – 8.30am, after school 3.05pm – 6.00pm and during the Vacation Care period. We accept children from all schools and currently have openings for both regular and casual bookings. Please contact our OSHC team on 0439 817 475 or email dl.1488.oshc@schools.sa.edu.au for more information.

CALLING ALL PROSPECTIVE HOMESTAY FAMILIES!!!

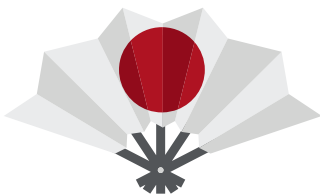
Once again MAS plans to host a group of students from **Meiji Nakano Hachioji High School, Japan, in Early Term 3!**

Our guests will stay for 2 weeks, from **July 31st to August 14th!**

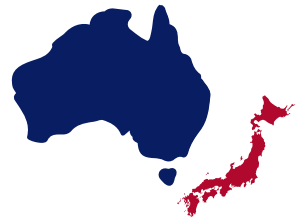
By day, the Japanese students will attend a school program to improve their English. By afternoon and night, we need some **awesome families** to make them feel welcome and help them experience Aussie family life!

The 15 and 16-year-old students are looking for **Moonta buddies** to show them the ropes! It is a terrific opportunity for families and students to learn, share cultures and build international friendships. It takes a bit of bravery, but those who have done this in the past have really enjoyed the experience.

If your family is interested in hosting a student this year, there is a simple accreditation process which will happen early next term. Please call us at school on 8825 2088 if you would like more information or fill out the reply slip and return to Mrs Swan via the front office.



Thank you,
Jane Swan



JAPANESE HOMESTAY 2023 - Expression of Interest Reply Slip –
(*Please return to Mrs Swan or front office*)

Our family is interested in the possibility of hosting a Japanese high school student from the end of July for 2 weeks as a part of this year's homestay.

Parent Name/s Student Name/s & Class Daytime Phone No.

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy Information for parents and carers

- All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in Australia do NAPLAN tests in March each year.
- NAPLAN tests students' skills in reading, writing and maths.
- The test questions are presented in Standard Australian English dialect.
- Students read some of the questions and listen to others with headphones.
- The tests will get easier or harder, depending on how students are going in the test.
- Students do four different tests. The names of the four tests are:



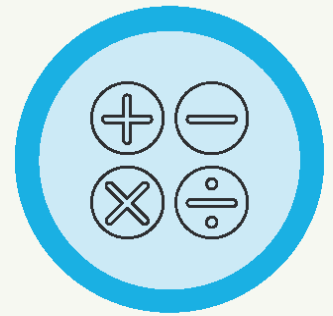
Writing



Reading



Conventions of language
(spelling, grammar and punctuation)



Numeracy

- Students in Year 3 will do the Writing test using pencil and paper. Year 3 students will answer the other test questions on the computer.
- Students in Years 5, 7 and 9 will answer all their test questions on computers.
- Teachers will help students get ready for NAPLAN tests.
- Schools will get their students' results. The school will then give parents/carers a report showing their own child's results.
- Parents/carers can talk to the teacher about these results.
- NAPLAN shows how students are going all over Australia. People who work in the Australian Government, state and territory education authorities and schools use NAPLAN results. The results let them see which schools are doing well and which schools might need help.

Talk to your teacher if you have any questions about your child doing the tests.
For more information on NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Notices

“
**YOU’LL SEE IT
WHEN YOU
BELIEVE IT**
”


stymie.
#saysomething

BUILDING ATTENDANCE HABITS

How to help your child build a habit of going to preschool or school every day.



regular evening and bedtime routine and enough sleep



limit the use of electronic devices in the evenings



help your child be organised in the morning to get them to school on time



arrange alternative transport in case something unexpected happens



take family vacations during school holidays



make appointments outside of school hours or in school holidays



talk positively about school



show interest in what your child is learning, their progress and their friends



regularly communicate with your child's teacher

If you are in Year 5 -12, please consider training as a

CROSSING MONITOR

What do you need to do?

- attend a short training in Week 3
- show up for duty when rostered on, from 8.25 - 8.45 in the morning and 3.00-3.15 in the afternoon

What's in it for you?

- a canteen voucher at the end of your rostered week
- being part of a team - the more monitors we have, the less work everyone has to do
- documented experience in volunteering, working as a team and being independent
- knowing you are helping everyone at MAS to be safe on the road

TRAINING

13/2/24
12.00PM

PRIMARY HILL



SCHOOL DRESS ORDERS

If you would like to order a school dress, order forms can be collected from the front office.

Orders with payment are due
Monday February 26th.

MAS 2024 CHOIR COME AND TRY SESSION

Interested students in Years 4-8 are invited to come to the Music Room straight after lunch next Thursday, February 15th!

