INFORMATION BULLETIN
FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers

This week is volunteers week and it’s great to acknowledge the many volunteers who either work in our school or who support the school through their community groups:-

We acknowledge our 23 canteen volunteers, our 13 community mentors, our 2 neighbourhood school watch volunteers. Parents who help with reading, parents who volunteer to be Governing Councillors and on school committees. Students who volunteer to be in CFS and other community activities. Our service clubs - Lions, Rotary, Kwanis and community members who put in the time organizing, coaching and transporting our students so that living in, or near Mannum means that there are positive experiences for young people in out of school hours. Volunteering is a long validisation and part of the fibre of our community and Australia would not be where it is today without the efforts of so many past volunteers: I would encourage everyone to give volunteering in our Mannum Community a go.

NAPLAN Completion

It does take time and energy to facilitate the three testing sessions over Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. I thank all of the students and staff for working together to conduct the tests: we also arranged to have a catch up time so that students who were unwell on the first test day could complete the booklet of questions. We acknowledge the right of parents to withdraw their children from the NAPLAN. This is done within the required protocols and as a result of a shared conversation between parent / teacher / sectional leader. This year the writing genre / text type was not announced before test day. Teachers at MCC have a good knowledge of the full range of genres, a ‘map’ of which genre to teach and when, due to the development of learning needs of children. We will analyse our results and discuss teaching strategies (and any specifics) after the results are posted. Parents are welcome to seek clarification of these results.

Legal Services Commission Seminar for Year 10, 11 & 12

Ms Ella Pakpoy presented a thought provoking and relevant information session for Senior Students covering legally acceptable use of mobile phones and internet, taking and sharing of sexually explicit materials, age of consent, work and the law and changes to the driving laws for L plate drivers. Ella discussed the ‘intention’ behind sending explicit images, offending and being outside of the law, keeping safe, making good choices and trust. She talked about the role of a family member as supervising driver and the curfew-time. Home Group teachers showed the film ‘Trusted Moments’ on Tuesday so the scene was set for the presentation on Friday. Thank you to Ms Bamford, Secondary Counsellor for coordinating the Pastoral Care lesson time and arranging for Ella to come to our school. Students listened well and asked sensible questions.

Website Update

Our new webpage has gone ‘live’. Colleagues from two other sites have commented very favourably. A big Thank You to Mr Bill O’Brien for the hard work and persistence to renew this valuable communication tool. It will continue to improve with additional reports, policies and photos.

Introducing:

Middle School Home Group Teachers

Year 6/7 Teacher

- Creates a welcoming and safe classroom
- Strong advocate for choir, instrumental music and performing arts
- Teacher mentor
- Organises the Science PLC for Middle Years
- Respected by her students.

Year 6/7 Teacher

- Enjoys working with students in Middle Years
- Great advocate for sustainability
- Co-teacher for Operation Flinders
- Committed to Pedal Prix
- Great team member.

Year 8 Home Group Teacher

- Presents interesting Food Technology lessons
- Great supporter of extra-curricular activities requiring catering
- Inspires dip thinking during Child Studies classes
- Very caring and fair minded teacher.

Year 9 Home Group Teacher

- Strong advocate of student well-being
- Very skilled in IT applications
- Builds students’ understanding of past and how it influences the present
- Very creative classroom teacher.

Kind regards

Leonie Falland

Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal.

Henry Ford
**JUST A REMINDER**

DECD has a ‘No Dogs on School Grounds’ rule so please help us by not bringing or having dogs at school, even on leads.

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**Little Things Matter**

Goodness what a busy start to the term!

The Junior School teaching team are continuing to develop our skills in Mathematics and supporting children with reading difficulties. Each fortnight we are involved in a 4 hour workshop and online activities in between – no wonder we are busy.

I continue to be impressed with the behaviour of the students and again I thank parents for their support. We will always try to let you know if there has been an issue but please make an appointment to see me if you feel that something needs to be addressed. I am available most mornings and after school.

Please remember to jot a note in your child’s diary if they are away or late - it wastes a lot of time in the morning following up absences and late arrivals if there is no note.

This week we are judging the portrait competition. Look for entries being displayed on the wall in the office.

We would like to develop a natural play area and will be looking for several large logs and boulders. If you have either, and the means to transport them, that would be great. We might be able to get a few parents to help position them. Let me know if you are willing to help.

NAPLAN has finished and the behaviour of the students was excellent. It can be very daunting for them to open up page after page of questions but most gave it their best and didn’t give up. There will be a catch up session for those who missed a test due to illness.

Hope to see you in the yard – please say hello.

*Michele Holloway*

Junior School Senior Leader

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**INFORMATION FOR YOU**

**MANNUM COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**PLAYGROUP**

**When:** 9:30 - 11:00am Wednesday mornings

**Where:** Performing Arts Room, Mannum Community College

**Cost:** $2.00 per family

Please bring a healthy snack to share at snack time.

Contact Bindi Barker on 85691503 for more information.

The weekly session will enable the school and families to develop partnerships around learning prior to children beginning their education (kindergarten and school) and support families’ engagement in their children’s numeracy and literacy development.

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**Come & Try Scouting**

**20th MAY**

**EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Aroona Scout Group

Will be meeting at the Mannum Showgrounds from Term 3 2014

**PUBLIC MEETING**

All welcome Come & Find out about Scouting and the opportunities for YOUTH in the Mannum area.

Special Guests from Scouts Australia -SA Branch will be talking about Scouting and answering questions

**DATE:** Tuesday 20th May 2014

**TIME:** 6.30 PM - 8.00PM

**PLACE:** RSL & Rowing Club Rooms

Super Provided

Scouting Activities will be provided for Children

For more information & RSVP Contact: -

SCOUTS 1800 726 887

or Kelly Johnson 0410 041 222

Joeys 6 & 7 year olds

Cubs 7½ - 11 year olds

Scouts 10½ - 15 year olds

Venturers 14½ - 18 year olds

Rovers 18 - 26 year olds
Do you want to assist your children with their school work?
Are your reading, writing and maths skills a little rusty?

**TAFE SA can help you!**

Contact us to find out how; you may even be eligible for free accredited training.
*Conditions apply.*

TAFE SA Murray Bridge
Contact: Peta Gregory
Contact Number: 8535 6571

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**DENTAL BENEFIT SCHEME**

The Federal Government has recently introduced a dental benefits scheme for all children aged 2 years to 17 years for eligible children to be seen by a private dentist.

It gives eligible children $1,000.00 each for treatment over a two year period. It allows you to take your child/children to a private dentist and Medicare will pay the account. Provided the dentist bulk bills Medicare (which is the case with Mannum Dental Surgery) then there is NO gap. All treatment is paid in full by Medicare. It covers the following services:

- Examinations
- X-rays
- Cleaning
- Fissure sealing
- Fillings
- Root canals
- Extractions

Parents do not need to register for the scheme. All eligible families will receive a letter from the Federal Government advising them of their entitlement of $1,000.00 per child for private dental treatment.

If you wish to take advantage of this scheme you need to contact the Mannum Dental Surgery – 93 Randell Street Ph: 8569 8175 to make an appointment. Remember to bring your child’s Medicare card and approval letter to the appointment so that the dentist can submit any claims for payment electronically.

Dr Graham Parry
Principal Dentist
Email: reception@mannumdental.com.au
Ph: 08 8569 8175 Fax: 08 8569 8193

**SCHOOL BELL TIMES**

**JUST A REMINDER:**

There is a bell at **8:40am** each morning to remind students that it’s time for Home Group.

At **8:50am** the bell sounds for the first lesson to start.

Students who arrive after **8:40am** need to sign in at the Front Office (with a parent or a short note to avoid an SMS).

**SMS PHONE NUMBER:** 0427016623

The Home Time bell is at **3:05pm**.

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**ABSENCE DUE TO ILLNESS!**

The school and the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) regularly monitor absenteeism. Prolonged absenteeism may be referred to the Student Attendance Counsellor in the Regional Office.

As with all absences, if your child is away sick it is important to notify the school. For a **prolonged absence of three or more consecutive days** it is advisable to obtain a **doctor’s certificate** to be sent to the school for our records.

Health Care Plans may need to be developed in consultation with your doctor to enable the school to provide safe, appropriate health support.
LIBRARY NEWS

ONECARD SYSTEM

We are busy in the library preparing for the swap over to the “ONECARD” library system. This has involved barcoding and re-cataloguing all of our items. WE GO LIVE on May 29th! This will allow patrons of the library to borrow items from across the state with their Mannum Library card. Patrons will need to come into the library and re-register for their new card after May 29th.

Information about the ONECARD system can be found on www.libraries.sa.gov.au

Jo Dunn
Teacher Librarian

*Please note: Ms Barnes 4/5A class borrowing time is now Thursdays just before lunch.

FROM THE CANTEEN

Volunteer helpers are the most valuable resource in our canteen. Without your commitment we would have difficulty in providing a reliable, nutritious, profitable food service to our school community. On behalf of our School Body THANK YOU for your support and we recognize and appreciate your efforts.

Carol Mobbs,
Canteen Manageress

LOCKED AND LOADED
LASER GAMES

From 4pm until 6pm - 23rd May

At the Mannum Community Hub

All welcome from Year 6 and up plus families

Then music, food and games until 8pm

Joy Marks
Christian Support Worker