



22nd March 2024
Term 1

Mount Compass Area School Newsletter

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From the Principal

Dear Families,

Welcome to our first newsletter for the year. You may have noticed a slight change in the schedule of our newsletter, as we have decided to provide one newsletter per term, instead of our previous two per term.

The year is off to a flying start and it is hard to believe Easter is nearly here, with school holidays two weeks after that! We have had so many successes already this year, with our students engaging in a whole range of exciting activities and opportunities, showcased in this newsletter. We also have some more exciting things on the horizon including a colour run, snow trip, peer support programs, Intro to Trades course, 3-way conferences, Life Ed program and so much more.

Communication

Parents and carers are the first educators of children and are valued partners in education at our school. This relationship is so important and fosters greater connection to school, increased trust, opportunities to share hopes and aspirations for your children, greater capacity to understand and support learning and progress, and ultimately better outcomes for students. At the heart of this is clear communication and ensuring families have a voice and feel heard. We do this through surveys, different school events, student conferences, Daymap, school stream, chats with staff, information sessions, diaries and communication books, morning teas and a whole range of other ways. We also have a feedback procedure on our website, and we strongly encourage you to make a connection with your child's teacher, and also the relevant sub-school leader if you have any questions, ideas, information to share, or of course, any concerns.

Our sub-school leaders are:

Reception - Year 5: Callie-Ann Evans and Hayley Clark, Junior School Leaders
Year 6 - Year 9: Sam Blake, Middle School Leader
Year 10 - Year 12: Sam McEntee, Senior School Leader

Fleurieu Swamp and Forest

Good news...the arborists have finally completed the work in our forest and we are now able to use this space again. They have even created a lovely rustic seating area for the classes when they are over there for forest school and other learning opportunities. Some other exciting news is that we were fortunate to win a Grassroots Grant from the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board which is enabling our students to complete a revegetation project in our swamp and expand the habitat for the endangered Southern Emu-wren. Sincere thanks to our very passionate and knowledgeable Environment and Conservation Committee and our student Swamp Ambassadors, who will be leading this project.



Continued...

DIARY DATES

Junior School Assembly
Wednesday, 27th March 9.00am

Early finish Last day of Term
Friday 12th April 2:15pm

Term 2 Begins
Monday, 29th April

Reading Army
Tuesday-Thursday 8:30-8:50 am

Reading Doctor
Tuesday-Friday 8.30-8.50am

Breakfast Club
Monday-Friday 8.30-8.45am

Whole School Morning Walk
Monday's in Home Group

Student Free Day—Term 2
Tuesday, 11th June

Principal
Lucie Walker

Deputy Principal
Andrew Cousins

Inclusive Education Leader R-12
Bre Bradley

Student Wellbeing Leader
Helen Fonfe

Junior School Coordinators
Callie-Ann Evans/Hayley Clarke

Middle School Coordinator
Sam Blake

Senior School Coordinator
Samantha McEntee

Pastoral Care Worker
Billie Jo Cook

Governing Council Chair
Andrew Bradley

Parents & Friends President
Janelle Paech



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



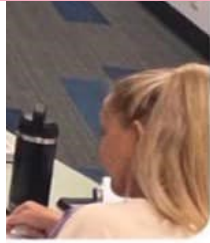
From the Principal

In addition to the revegetation work, the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) will be conducting a prescribed burn in a small section of the swamp in the coming months. There are many ecological benefits of such a burn including regeneration of plants, improving the habitat for threatened fauna and increasing biodiversity. More info coming soon.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe Easter break and looking forward to continuing to work with you all in the education and care of your children.

Regards

Lucie
Principal Mount Compass Area School



Achievement is a thing done successfully with effort, skill or courage.

What's been happening?

MCAS YEAR 12'S OF 2023

A huge congratulations to our graduating class of 2023. We had 100% SACE completion with 75% of subject results in the A and B grade, which is a sensational achievement for our students and school. All of our students who applied to university received their first preferences in the first round of offers. The university courses included Agriculture, Digital Forensics, Education, Design, Science, Physio, OT, Medical Imaging and Business Management to name a few.

A special congratulations to Chelsea Stathi on receiving DUX of the school. We are very proud of you all.

GOVERNOR'S CIVICS AWARDS 2023

On 28th December, 2023 (Proclamation Day) held at The Old Gum Tree, Glenelg, Indi received the Governor's Civics Awards for schools 2023. Ella received a Merit Award for the same awards. The Governor's Civics Awards for Schools is a cross-sector initiative to develop student awareness and skills as active and informed citizens in a multicultural and democratic society. Congratulations to both girls on this achievement.

CONGRATULATIONS
MCAS YEAR 12S OF 2023


Students Achieved their SACE **100%**

DUX: Chelsea Stathi **94.9**

A & B grades **76%**

Uni Entrance Scores in the 90s **33.3%**

Multiple pathway opportunities achieved, including:
University, Apprenticeships and Employment






MORNING WALK

This term we have started each week with a morning walk. On Monday morning home group teachers mark the roll and then head to the town oval to walk a lap. The Middle and Senior School students walk clockwise, and the Junior School students walk anti-clockwise. At this time, we ask students to say good morning to each other as they pass by, to connect after a busy weekend. What a great way to get some fresh air and participate in a whole school event.

BUDDY CLASS

The 2023 Student Leaders wanted to improve the whole school sense of belonging and as a result we have modified the school timetable to ensure that each Home Group has their pastoral care lesson at the same time. Once a term, we have timetabled opportunities for the classes to meet and build relationships. Some classes had their faces painted, others read books, some created playdough sculptures, danced and played games. Thank you to the older buddies for their energy and enthusiasm, making this so successful.

YEAR 12 RETREAT

DAY 1—The Amazing Race Year 12 Retreat Day 1 was entertaining for all of the Year 12's. We met at the Seaford train station and were put into groups and staggered the train times to get into the city. With clues, riddles and places to meet we ran and walked through the city completing challenges, including a military matchstick group task, polling balled and speech at parliament house, a very hard puzzle, buying carrots, stacking cups, making a latte, face painting, food eating, paper plane making and throwing, and plunging into a bin full of ice-cold water! There were many mixed feelings and emotions but all in all we persevered and were rewarded for our long and hard day looking weird in public and completing each challenge to the best of our abilities.

Hannah Year 12

DAY 2—Day 2 of the amazing race was just as bust as day one. We focused on year 12 and what it would look like, and looked at the option of home study. The morning was an emotional one, part of the requirements for the camp were our parents writing a letter to us on how proud they are, and how they are there for us. There were many tears, laughter and more throughout the morning which set the mood for the day. Throughout the day we looked at the different aspects Year 12 would take us through, and how there are many different types of support around us, and how we can access this support. When looking at the aspects of support, we wrote letters to the new reception students about school and the overall experience, as well as how it could be rough but fun. These letters would be read to the new receptions by the Year 12's within the following weeks.

Abbie Year 12



By walking your child to school, you can reap the benefits that walking brings as well.





What's been happening?

SECONDARY SCHOOL SPORTS - TENNIS

Congratulations to our Year 7-9 students who participated in the SA School Sports Tennis competition at Happy Valley in February. Well done to Tom and Ruby, who won their event for the second year in a row!



YEAR 6 WOODHOUSE ADVENTURE DAY

Our Year 6 students had an absolute blast at Woodhouse Adventure Park at the beginning of February, tackling challenges, strengthening friendships, and soaking up all the fun vibes in the sun!

JUNIOR SCHOOL UPDATE

We held our first assembly for 2024 in Week 4. It was great to see so many of our family members attending to support student achievements and public speaking opportunities. Congratulations to our Week 4 award winners who received their certificate for demonstrating our school values of Respect (R), Kindness (K) or Integrity (I).

Our next assembly for Term 1 will be on **Wednesday, 27th March, Week 9, at 9am** in the Gym. All welcome.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Rec Davis	Jordan E (R)	Delilah A (I)	Scarlett K (K)	
R/1 Steimanis/Coleman	Esther B (R)	Quinn P (K)		
1/2 Gillett	Matilda R (R)	Cedar D (I)	Cole A (K)	Brodie E (K)
2 Stewart	Willow P (K)	Max Y (I)	Ted W (I)	
3 Clarke/Morgan	Chloe H (K)	Xander D (I)	Marlowe T (R)	
3 Foster/Morgan	Everly E (I)	Ella K (R)	Clay C (K)	Tao D (I)
4 Axarlis	Eunice F (I)	Eva S (I)	Amelia D (K)	
4/5 Becker	Eliza H (K)	Saxon H (R)	Willow C (I)	
5 De Zilwa	Nevaeh K (I)	Oakley D (I)	Cooper C (R)	

School camps: where lessons extend beyond the classroom, friendships flourish, and memories are made.



What's been happening?



BUSH TUCKER GARDEN MURAL

Exciting news! Our Bush Tucker Garden Mural is now adorning the fence behind the garden. Huge thanks to Josh and Shae Townley for skillfully blending students' artwork and adding the final touches. Featured artists are Aiden, Iggi, Maci, Elroy, Monique, Eleanor, Jade T, Scarlett L, Anna, Jasmine C, Hayden, Jessica E, and Jessica G who painted their selected sections. Special thanks to Roy, Tyler, and Jett for installing the boards on the fence. Lastly, a huge thanks to Yvette Foster for all her hard work in making this happen. Make sure you check it out next time you're at School!



YEAR 6 AQUATICS

Our Year 6's had a blast last month with perfect weather and serene seas during their aquatics day. They dove into the excitement of windsurfing, explored underwater wonders while snorkeling, mastered stand up paddle boarding, and navigated the waters with kayaking, at Port Noarlunga. It looked like such fun!



YEAR 7 AQUATICS CAMP

At the end of February it was our Year 7's turn to spend two days away at their Aquatics Camp in the Murraylands. The Year 7's learnt to sail, tried kneeboarding, and cast a line or two for some fishing. The camp was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen friendships and overcome challenges along the way. The students enjoyed learning new skills, connecting with each other and starting the year in a fun and positive way.



Aquatics gives your child the life skills around the water and how to survive in water if an accident occurs.



What's been happening?



SPORTS DAY 2024

Congratulations to Wangami for their impressive win in our 2024 Sports day. Here's to the thrill of victory and the spirit of sportsmanship. Congratulations to all our students on such a fun and successful day. Below is the list of winners for each age group, year level and Tabloid. Congratulations to all our students, and a huge thanks to all the staff for their hard work leading up to Sports Day, and on the day.

U9 Oliver	Monique	MS Tabloid Boys Jett
U10 Harry	Eliza	MS Tabloid Girls Ella
U11 Hamish	Scarlett	SS Tabloid Boys (not enough)
U12 Cooper	Chloe	SS Tabloid Girls Teelefa
U13 Bailey Jessica		
YR8 Mikey	Marley	
YR 9 Stirling	Ebony	
YR 10 Hunter	Chelsea	
YR 11 Cruze	Ella	
YR 12 Duke	Ami	



Young children benefit from singing in a choir: socially, cognitively, musically and culturally.

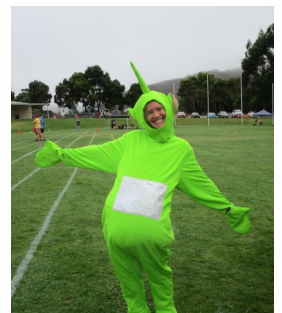
THE MUSIC ROOM

Term 1 has been very busy in The Music Room. We have expanded our Instrumental Music program with more students now learning strings, woodwind and brass. Keep your eyes out for some performances in Term 2. With the support and tutelage of Indra Benson, we have begun a 4/5 Choir with the aim of performing at the Southern Metro Music Festival in November. We have 16 keen students who are learning to sing the songs from the Festival of Music. We are hoping to perform at assemblies and community events. In the classroom we have been focussing on keeping time whilst playing a beat, composing and performing repeated patterns – Ostinato's using untuned and tuned percussion instruments.

Why Music is Important.

Music is arguably the most life-enriching academic subject of them all. A universal language that triggers emotional responses and kickstarts creativity.

- 1. Improve Language capabilities** - Musical training stimulates and trains the same part of the brain that deals with understanding language. Children who have some exposure to musical education will, therefore, have a greater understanding of tone and how different segments of speech align. It can also be incredibly useful if your child is learning a second language.
- 2. Better Cognitive Abilities** - Playing an instrument increases the use of your neural network. When compared to those who don't play an instrument, there is some suggestion that musicians have a larger growth of neural activity.
- 3. Better Maths Skills** - Children who undertake music in education are also enhancing their maths ability. A link between music and better control of spatial-temporal tasks, means children are better equipped to learn key mathematical skills.





What's been happening?

STUDENT LEADERS CAMP

For the first time, our elected Student Leaders had their training at the Adelaide Zoo. This involved a train to Adelaide and overnight stay at the zoo that included a night walk that gave student an opportunity to meet nocturnal animals that only come out at dark. Some of the older students were invited to sleep in tents on the rooftop where the animals kept them awake for most of the night.

This training camp is used to prepare the students for their responsibilities as student leaders, role models and advocates for their student population. With the leadership of our Year 12 School Captains, we made a plan for activities and initiatives the students wanted to achieve this year. Thank you to Cindy Rice, Taras Mair, Helen Fonfe and Kirsten Ford (Mugsy) who helped make this a reality, and an awesome experience for our Student Leaders!



SAPSASA SWIMMING

On 29th February, Amelia, Ava, Gus, Maya, and Indiana participated in the Southern Fleurieu SAPSASA Swimming Carnival at Strathalbyn. Congratulations to all swimmers for their outstanding efforts. A very Special congratulations to Gus for securing 1st place in the 10-year-old boys' 50 Freestyle and butterfly, and 2nd place in the 10-year-old boys' backstroke.

Gus has now been selected to represent Southern Fleurieu at the SAPSASA Swimming Championships on Monday, 8th April. We wish Gus all the best for his 10yr old boys 50m Freestyle & Butterfly, as well as the 10 yr old boys Freestyle relay. Good Luck Gus!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Over the weekend of 16th/17th March Bailey competed in the South Australia Surf Lifesaving Championships for his club of Port Elliot. Bailey won Gold in the U13 Sprints and Gold in Flags. He will now be heading to Queensland in April to compete in the Australian Nationals. Congratulations Bailey on a wonderful achievement.



Competitive swimming builds character, resilience, and a lifelong love for pushing boundaries both in and out of the water.





What's been happening?

AGRICULTURE UPDATE

On the 19th March the Senior school Agriculture Students attended Ag Fest at the Yankalilla show grounds. This event is in its second year and is a fabulous way for students to engage with people within the agricultural industry.

The students completed a "dirt road trail" which took them through all the stall holders and businesses. The students were able to try out new technologies and products within the local agricultural industries. Following on from their dirt road trail, the students went into the Ag hall to meet and listen to chef Matt Evans who resides in Tasmania, and hear about his involvement with Agriculture. They were given the opportunity to be exposed to a careers panel which included a wide array of careers that some students would not have known were possible such as; anthologist from Kangaroo Island, Soil Microbiologist, Marine Biologist, Dairy Extension Officer, Agricultural Entrepreneur Advisor, and Research Officers.

In the afternoon the students participated in a range of hands on workshops. A meat master class was first, which was definitely a favourite for the group. Some local beef and lamb producers donated the meat and Chef Todd Steele cooked it up to perfection. The students then had to sample the meat, and give it a rating score. They then had the opportunity to meet the farmer. The students were split into two different groups. One group who were interested in a tertiary career pathway attended a talk on the University degree and Vet Science, whilst the other group attended a spinning yarn work shop and learnt the fundamentals of using alpaca and wool fleece to make a beanie.

KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

Knights of the Round Table tasks are designed to challenge critical and creative thinking and are based around individual student interests. This term the students did a challenge where they had to put 19 cups into a tower and couldn't use their hands. They could only use four pieces of string.

Jayden: It was really easy to stack it once we worked out how to turn the cups over.

Taj: It was tricky to use the string to turn the cups.

Ava: It was easy when people weren't doing their own thing, and we worked as a team to get it done. It was hard when it fell down a lot.

The best thing about being in the knights.

Jayden: The best thing about being in Knights is to be with Miss Foster and to do the Quizzies. I also liked the challenge of the connect the dots task and the creative one with the egg shape. I also like working on my passion project to learn more about the world.

Taj: The best part is the quizzies and the creative egg shape task to see how creative we are.

Ava: The best part of Knights is that I like doing the quizzies and trying to remember the pictures in the total recall game.



Helping others not only brightens their day, but also enriches our own lives with a sense of purpose.



Things you might like to know



Let's raise money for playground equipment with our first ever Colour Explosion Run4Fun next month. Most students have received their sponsorship information booklet and can now create their online profile at www.australianfundraising.com.au

Just remember when creating your profile, to search for 'Mt Compass' and also select your class number/teacher

Big prizes are up for grabs! Unlock your first incentive prize simply by raising \$10 online. The more your child raises, the more prizes they will receive.

Rather donate to a Cause? Not a problem! Once donations close and ordering opens you can choose to send all your donations to one of five causes - Carbon Neutral (tree planting), Great Barrier Reef Foundation (coral planting or turtle protection), The Smith Family (reading support) or OzHarvest (providing meals).

SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT ZONE

Please can the community be reminded that it is 25km when children are present on Arthur Road, School Road or the Town Oval. Alexandrina Council are considering extra safety measures which can be put in place for Arthur Road because it has become especially dangerous when students are walking to the school farm or the boardwalk on Arthur Road.



SCHOOL STREAM FREE APP

Mount Compass Area School uses this fantastic app called School Stream. Parents/caregivers can receive instantaneous information, class news, newsletters, alerts, forms etc right on your phone.

1. Download the app to your mobile device,
2. Agree to push notifications
3. The administrator will then approve the account
4. Once approved, open the app
5. Type your school name into the search THEN select Mount Compass Area School



Autism Acceptance Day (April, 2nd 2024) and Autism Acceptance Week (Term 1, Week 10, 1st-7th April).

During the next few weeks our Primary classes will have a visit from our onsite Autism Inclusion Teacher who will share her lesson 'We all think and sense the World differently.'

We will also celebrate the week with some lunchtime activities on Tuesday, 2nd April.

Some great resources for families wishing to have a further conversation with their child about Autism can be found at;

- <http://www.officeforautism.sa.gov.au/>
- <http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/>
- <https://www.autismawareness.com.au/>


There are also some excellent books to share with your child on building an understanding of neurodiversity, available for borrowing at our library.



Community News

South Coast Chamber Orchestra
PRESENTS A
Charity Concert

fundraising for
Victor Harbor



Refugee Support Group

from 2:30 to 3:30pm Sunday April 7th 2024

Victor Harbor Lutheran Church,
21a Adelaide Rd, Victor Harbor

Adults \$10 Concession \$7.50 Children 12 and under free
Pay at the door



FREE
Light Refreshments Provided

FRIENDS Resilience Program

FOR ALL CHILDREN AGED 7-12

The FRIENDS Resilience Program is a 10-week early intervention/prevention program for children. It uses an evidence-based, FUN approach to support children to:

- Develop peer learning and build support networks and positive role models
- Develop life skills to effectively cope with difficult and/or anxiety provoking situations
- Normalise the emotional state of anxiety
- Build resilience and problem-solving abilities
- Promote self-confidence and empower children and families

LOCATIONS

ALDINGA
3:30 -5:00pm on Wednesdays (weekly)
Aldinga Payinthe College
150 Quinliven Road, Aldinga

SEAFORD
3:30-5:00pm on Thursdays (weekly)
Seaford Community Centre
Beechwood Grove, Seaford

HACKHAM
3:30-5:00pm on Fridays (weekly)
Hackham Community Centre
72 Collins Parade, Hackham

BOOKINGS
Please call Nicci at Hackham Community Centre on 8392 3080 or email nkilner@junctionaustralia.org.au

*Program runs during school term

JUNCTION COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN
FRIENDS RESILIENCE
communities children **ANGLICARE SA**

Communities for Children is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services
Visit www.dss.gov.au for more information



Child Safe Environments Training - Through their eyes

Fleurieu Families is providing Safe Environments-Through Their Eyes training, free for the community

This is the full day course, if you require the refresher course, please contact Fleurieu Families

Where: City of Victor Harbor- Encounter Room, 1 Bay rd Victor Harbor
Date: April 9th 2024
Time: 9.30am- 4.30pm

Contact for bookings-
fleurieufamilies@victor.sa.gov.au
08 8551 0500

Fleurieu Families Parenting Connectors
Government of South Australia
human services

Safe Environments for Children and Young People
"Through their eyes"

ANZAC Dawn Service
THURSDAY, 25th APRIL 2024 AT 6:00am
Mt Compass Memorial Hall
School Road
Mount Compass

