At the heart of the Fleurieu



Dear families,

A huge thank you to our incredible students, dedicated staff, and supportive school community for making this term truly action-packed. We've had so many memorable highlights, and it's wonderful to celebrate these events and achievements through our newsletter. I've thoroughly enjoyed seeing our students shine in the Royal Adelaide Show, Jam Band, the Book Week parade, and the Star Lab incursion, just to name a few. We're thrilled to offer such a range of opportunities for our students to engage in unique and enriching learning experiences.

Planning for 2025

It is that time of the year again where we are looking at enrolments, developing the timetable structure and planning for next year. I am so proud of the positive feedback we are receiving about our school and this is certainly evident by the high number of enrolment enquiries we are receiving. We have a strong commitment to our local community, so are continuing to primarily keep enrolments to those families in our catchment area. To help our planning for 2025, if you are aware of families in our local area who are looking to enrol at Mount Compass, could you please suggest they make a time to meet with me as soon as possible for a school tour. In addition to this, if you are intending to enrol your child in another school in 2025, could you please let us know.

2025 staffing

Andrew Cousin's tenure as our Deputy Principal is concluding at the end of the year and we have recently completed the recruitment and panel process for this position. We would like to congratulate Sam Blake who has won the Deputy Principal position at the school for the following 5 years. Sam will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to this role and we look forward to working with Sam as our Deputy. I would like to thank Andrew Cousins for his commitment and work at Mount Compass Area School over the past 10 years and look forward to celebrating his time at MCAS towards the end of the year. We have also been making decisions about teaching positions for 2025 and it is my absolute pleasure to let our community know that Hannah Stewart has now been appointed permanently to our junior school. More staffing news coming in the next few weeks as we work to secure our SSO positions and teaching contracts.

Mayor's Short Story Challenge

It was my absolute please to attend the annual Mayor's Short Story Challenge Presentation at Yankalilla library last week. We had 5 talented students shortlisted for their outstanding short stories. Congratulations to Amaya in year 2, Eira in year 3, and Flynn, Chelsea and Sienna in year 10 for their entries with a special mention to Amaya who won a \$50 book voucher as the winner of her category. Thanks to our teachers for supporting our student's creativity and entering them in this competition.

Continued.....

Early finish last day of Term 3 Friday, 27th September 2.15pm

Term 4 Begins Monday, 14th October

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

Junior School Assembly Wednesday, 6th November Thursday, 12th December

Year 12 Formal Friday, 15th November

Whole School Morning Walk Monday's in Home Group

Student Free Day—Term 4 Friday, 29th November

Principal Lucie Walke

Deputy Principal Andrew Cousins

Inclusive Education Leader R-12 Bre Bradley

Student Wellbeing Leader Vincent Nizzola

Junior School Coordinators Hayley Clarke

Middle School Coordinator Sam Blake

Senior School CoordinatorSamantha McEntee

Governing Council Chair Andrew Bradley

Parents & Friends President Janelle Paech





Continued......

Baby news

Congratulation to Vince and Megan Nizzola on the arrival Joey Fernando on the 7th of August and to Callie-Ann and the Evans family on the arrival of Beau August on the 27th of August. Our very best wishes to you all and we can't wait to meet the new additions to our 'school family'.

Food sustainability grant

Earlier in the year we were successful in obtaining a Food Security Grant through our department, for \$4000, to install vegetable garden beds near the Home Ec. classroom. This enhances the work we do in Agriculture and contributes to the important learning for students about healthy food choices, how to grow vegetables and then how to use fresh produce to make a range of healthy food options. Many thanks to Compass Tanks for the garden beds and we look forward to planting, growing and cooking with some delicious produce.

Year 10 Work Experience

Work experience provides valuable insights into the professional world, helping students develop skills, confidence, and a clearer sense of future career aspirations. Our year 10's are currently completing a week of work experience in a range of interesting businesses and vocations including child care, real estate, engineering, primary teaching, construction, support work and retail. We appreciate the support of our community to enable these experiences for our students.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out and thanks again for all your work and support as we strive to provide the best education and opportunities for our fabulous students at Mount Compass Area School.

Regards Lucie

Mount Compass Area School Principal

What's been happening?

2024 SNOW TRIP

The MCAS 2024 snow trip, held during the second week of the July school holidays, was a huge success. Over 20 students attended, supported by 5 staff members. The group travelled to Hotham by coach and stayed on the mountain at The Ski Club Lodge. Students experienced skiing and snow boarding, including a daily lesson and then free time on the slopes in the afternoon, retuning to the chalet in the evening for a chef cooked meal. The silent disco and night ski were also highlights of the trip.

The trip provided a remarkable experience for the students and staff who thoroughly enjoyed their time on the slopes, with the added benefit of creating connections, learning new skills and overcoming challenges. The group consistently displayed positive behavior, encouraged each other and were an absolute pleasure to take away on this trip. Special thanks to the staff for supporting this opportunity.

We look forward to the 2026 snow trip!











JUNIOR AND MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCO

Our Junior and Middle School disco on Friday, 9th August was a huge success and loads of fun. Thanks to our amazing Parents & Friends Committee for organising the event. A big thank you to our Year 12 students for their fantastic management of the music and games, and to our staff and volunteers for their invaluable help at the stalls.

JUNIOR SCHOOL UPDATE

Congratulations to the following students who received School Values awards for Respect (R), Kindness (K) or Integrity (I) at the following assemblies.

Week 4, Term 3

Class / Teacher				
Rec Davis	Sunday C (K)	Anderson C (I)	Finn N (I)	
R/1 Steimanis/Coleman	Bailey M (I)	Dimona F (K)	Charlotte M (R)	Georgie A (I)
1/2 Gillett	Axel P (K)	Billie S (K)	Jasmine K (R)	Jackson P (R)
2 Stewart	Emily B (K)	Henry C (I)	Will H (R)	
3 Clarke/Harrland	Delilah D (I)	Charlotte J (R)	Zahlia D (K)	Adelaide K (K)
3/4 Foster/Harrland	Emme C (I)	Ebony A (I)	Billie P (I)	Gracie H (R)
4 Axarlis	Maddy P (K)	Abby C (K)		
4/5 Becker	Harry M (R)	Will W (I)	Willow N (K)	
5 De Zilwa	Hamish E (R)	Hayden B (R)		

Week 8, Term 3

Class / Teacher				
Rec Davis	Callum C (I)	Holly C (I)	Isaac J-F (I)	Isla W (I)
R/1 Steimanis/Coleman	Maya H (I)	Oliver C (K)	Eli B (I)	
1/2 Gillett	Oliver R (K)	Milah J-F (K)	Khloe F (R)	Laylah L (R)
2 Stewart	George K (I)	Billie L (K)	Charlotte H (R)	
3 Clarke/Harrland	Alanah A (R)	Henry H (K)	Cruz B (I)	
3/4 Foster/Harrland	Mason L (I)	Bella P (I)	Christian Q (I)	
4 Axarlis	Allana D-D (R)	Tyler Q (K)	Stella D (K)	
4/5 Becker	Willow C (R)	Sofia S (I)	Bailey S (I)	Maya B (I)
5 De Zilwa	Dan H (R)	Laura C (I)	Jade K (I)	







Senior Student DJ's





Book Week celebrates the joy of reading



BOOK WEEK 2024

Week 5 saw us celebrate Book Week. The theme this year was 'Reading is Magic'. Wednesday was our dress up day where we all got creative and took on a character from a well-loved book. The rain forced a late change to our parade, and it was moved to the gym. Students from Reception to Year 10, and staff had the opportunity to share their costumes. It was fabulous to see so many families attend. Throughout the week students completed a range of activities and spent some time with their buddies sharing a book. A few weeks prior, the Junior school students saw a Book Week performance held in the gym. The performance was "Maybe a Miracle" and showcased the finalists for the 2024 Book week awards.

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCAITION OF SOUTH AUSTRAIA (MASA) QUIZ NIGHT

On Wednesday 14 August, 28 of our students from Years 6-12 attended Victor Harbor High School for the annual MASA Quiz Night. Teams of 4 students competed in a range of maths, general knowledge and logic questions. Competing against students from Victor Harbor High School, Investigator College and Encounter Lutheran College, we had a number of teams in each of the Junior (years 7 and 8), Intermediate (years 9 and 10) and Senior (years 11 and 12) categories. We were proud of our students' efforts and team camaraderie, in what was a long and challenging evening. At the end of the night, two of our teams came away with a win in the General Knowledge rounds for their age group. Congratulations to Ella, Kiara, Melissa and Mitchell from Years 6-7 (Junior general knowledge winners), and Lochie, Cooper, Jamie and Buddy from years 8-9 (Intermediate general knowledge winners). We'd like to thank all students for representing the school in such a positive way, and all parents for transporting their children to and from the event.

PEDAL PRIX

On Saturday, 3rd August a team of Middle School students competed for the second time in a Pedal Prix event at The Bend Motorsport Park at Tailem Bend. The students were phenomenal on the day, covering an impressive 225km over 66 laps. They came in at 31st out of 49 in our division and 135th out of 194 overall. This was a fantastic result for their second race. As an extracurricular activity, students involved in Pedal Prix events learn hands-on skills like changing tyres and installing speedometers, while also mastering racing lines through corners and understanding the significance of race track flags.







Staff dressed up for Book Week!

MASA Quiz Night





PERFORMING ARTS MUSINGS

I have to say that 2024 has been an eye-opener for me. Whilst our classes have been filled with learning music and now drama, it is the students who have stepped outside of their classroom environment to demonstrate their enthusiasm for the Arts that have impressed me.

Over the past few months, I have:

- Attended the student SALA exhibition which showcased student artwork from schools across the Fleurieu including several panels of Mount Compass student work.
- Attended a combined schools Brass and Woodwind workshop at Brighton High School with our students who learnt several new songs and performed in the 100 strong ensemble to families and friends
- Attended a strings ensemble workshop at Victor Primary where students were mentored by Brighton High strings teachers/conductors along with some of the Instrumental Music tutors. They performed their songs to a large audience of parents, family and friends and several classes of students from Victor Primary.
- Auditioned 10 choir students for solo parts in our upcoming performance at the Southern Metro Music Festival with
 one being successful. A huge congratulations to Ashlee will be singing solo at the concert.
- Taken our choir to a combined training session with McLaren Flat PS to hear and feel what singing with other students is about and receive more training.
- Watched Riley (year 12) lead primary students in learning guitar during lunch time guitar club and performing in front of his peers and teachers as part of his Y12 Community Studies.
- Listened to and watched a myriad of students prepare themselves for class auditions for the upcoming Compass Has Talent Show. The Semi Finals will be held at school in weeks 8 and 9 with the finalists performing in the Week 10 assembly.

What I have witnessed is students strongly conveying our school values of Integrity, Respect and Kindness. Showing resilience in situations outside of their normal daily routine, accepting and taking head on challenges with enthusiasm and being supportive of each other to become better. Most of all, I've seen students being proud of themselves and their abilities. For those of you who would like to see some of these qualities in action, our choir is performing on Thursday November 7th at the Woodcroft Revival Centre in a combined Southern schools performance. Keep your eyes peeled for ticketing information which will be available at the end of Week 1, Term 4. A flyer with a QR Code for tickets is included in the Newsletter.

Michael Hansen (Music Teacher)

CANTEEN NEWS

Thank you for supporting the MCAS canteen. You may notice some changes in the menu as we move towards Rite Bite healthy eating. We encourage parents and students to make healthy choices - healthy eating grows healthy minds and bodies. QKR reminder: Please order by 9am. Due to the increasing number of late orders, emergency orders will only be taken up until recess otherwise student will receive an emergency cheese or vegemite toasted sandwich; \$4 each. Senior students are encouraged to download the QKR app and order by 9am for guaranteed food choices and availability.

Riley and Will's Performance











Olympic Donut Sales!

vorkshops provide students with hands-on learning



STEM ABORIGINAL LEARNER CONGRESS

This year the STEM Aboriginal Learner Congress in Adelaide, included a Welcome to Country by John Lochowiak, an Acknowledgement of Country by Antony Yates, Key note speakers Tiahni Adamson who is a Wildlife Conservation Biologist, and Arthur Ah Chee who has worked in many gaming developments. The congress was closed by a performance from Dem Mob and Bronwyn Milera the Director of Aboriginal Education in the Department for Education.

Our first workshop involved climbing many stairs to the top of the Botanic Gardens seed area. We were introduced to the many different techniques involved to find and collect seeds of plants native to South Australia. We looked at different seeds under a microscope and saw the process used to separate seeds and to freeze them for future generations. We have around 3600 species in South Australia and students also viewed the seeds and plants using 3D glasses. We only had a short walk into the gardens to see the seeds that were starting to grow.

The next workshop was called Our Place in Space. In this workshop, we learnt about different locations on the West Coast using an Ipad, including that they have the Southern Right whale visit as we do on the Fleurieu. We also had to remember facts for the Kahoot quiz which Emily, Ahnikah and Miss Foster came first in.

The final workshop was on making musical instrument sounds using various native plants, straws and water. Callum showed his musical flair in this section by playing the straws while tapping the water in the class to make music. The students had a wonderful time and enjoyed the experience of listening to and working with other successful Aboriginal people in the area of STEM. The STEM Congress not only exposes the students to the world of stem including the different careers and future options, but also strengthens friendships between peers, provides the opportunity to meet students from other schools, and provides knowledge of our culture, in many different ways.

Yvette Foster and Marli Stanley (Aboriginal Education)

YEAR 3 ADARE CAMP

Our Year 3 students had a fantastic first camp at the historic Adare House, Victor Harbor. Highlights included fun at the Skate Park, Playground, Tribal Games, and the Beyond Limits Relay, the water obstacle, a quiz, a night walk, and a movie before sleeping in the castle's top-floor dorms.

Have a read of what some students had to say about their experience:

"The best thing about the camp was the water obstacle course and the shelter building. My favourite part was when you had to throw the sponge to each other. We also had to crawl under a rope and make puzzles and find the right keys for our chest. In the shelter building we had to make a triangle tent and put a rope around sticks and try not to break it." Keely











Continued.....

"At Adare Camp, Miss Foster, Mrs Harrland and Mrs Clarke's Year 3 students got to Adare and dropped off our bags. It was a tall fancy place, and I could tell I was going to have fun. At the playground we ate our recess and played together before going back to Adare. It was a long walk back to camp and my feet and legs hurt but finally I saw the tall tower and was really relieved. One reason I liked Adare was because of the dorms. They were so cool and fun to go in. I L.O.V.E.D it so much! Billie, Bella, Me, Keely, Eira, Everly, Gracie and Penny were in our dorm. We woke up because one person sneezed and two people said 'bless you'. We got up to watch the sunrise. I was really tired on the bus back to school, but I learnt how to play table tennis at camp, and I loved it. I asked Dad if we can get a table. The Amazing Race was the biggest challenge, and the camp was amazing as it pulled everyone together." Ella.

My favourite part of camp was sleeping because it was relaxing and I was tired. I woke up at 5:50am as my friends were chatting and we got up at 8:00am. I had toast and coco pops for breakfast." Kai

"I loved that we had to show teamwork and dedication. We had a great group name, 'The Nuggets.' My friends were in my dorm, and we had fun together and the meals were great. We watched a movie and went to bed. We had free time and did the obstacle course which was my favourite. For lunch on Thursday, we had a packed lunch and for dinner Thursday we had dinosaur nuggets, corn, peas, baked potato, and water. It was fun!" Billie.

"The highlights of the camp were the obstacle course because my team worked together. My team got saturated and had so much fun. I loved the Amazing Race, it was so much fun. I liked waking up at 6.00am to watch the sunrise." Everly.

TLC NEWS

It's been a busy couple of terms for everyone in the TLC. Earlier in the year we held a Biggest Morning Tea event selling cakes, desserts and plenty of games, activities and music for all to enjoy. Through this the students gained valuable experience and managed to raise over \$200 for the Cancer Council of Australia. The students have also hosted an Appreciation Lunch where they planned, practiced and prepared a variety of amazing dishes, inviting a special someone along as a way of saying thank you. There were parents, friends, and staff members who attended this event and the atmosphere was fantastic.

We've taken part in several Reclink activities throughout the year including kayaking at Port Noarlunga and conquering some of our fears at the Kuitpo Tree Climb. We've also visited the city to hike along the Torrens, and attended the Royal Adelaide Show where the students developed key life skills such as navigating public transport, planning an itinerary and budgeting. We also took part in a guided tour of the (supposedly haunted) Old Adelaide Gaol.

More recently the folks at GooRoo Animations came to our class and delivered a full day stop-motion animation workshop. They went through the process of planning, filming and editing a stop motion film, then the students took this knowledge and created a series of their own short films using Lego, all of which are available to view on the GooRoo Animation YouTube channel.

Rick Foster (TLC teacher)











TLC Kayaking



AGRICULTURE UDATE

At the 2024 Royal Adelaide Show, Mount Compass Area School was represented by nearly 100 students, who showcased 26 animals across various categories including poultry, dairy, goats, pigs, and steers. The event proved to be a tremendous success, marked by numerous achievements throughout the show.

Across all the animals; poultry, dairy, goats, pigs and steers the students conducted themselves professionally and were able to showcase our school to their best ability. The students showed great professionalism and did a fantastic job representing our school. It was clear how much effort went into training the animals, with students putting in their lunch breaks, after-school time, and weekends to feed and train them.

We are privileged to have a supportive community that plays a crucial role in our agricultural show program. The generous contributions from members of our school community and local businesses enable us to provide this exceptional experience for our students. Additionally, the animals are donated by breeders from across the state. Without their generosity, our students would not have the opportunity to compete at a high level in the show ring. We extend our sincere gratitude to these breeders for their invaluable support.

The students exemplified pride in both their school and themselves, delivering a truly impressive representation. Throughout the show, there were numerous instances where students confronted their fears, overcame nervousness, and stepped outside their comfort zones. They demonstrated remarkable integrity, perseverance, and resilience.

In terms of success we were fortunate enough to be rewarded with Ribbons and Prizes (including just over \$5,000 in prize money), however across every team, regardless of whether there was a ribbon attached, the students did extremely well in presenting all their animals, and should be immensely proud of themselves.

The agriculture program would not be what it is without the students support, they are what we call our "Ag Army". They are the absolute backbone to the success of the program. So, thank you to the students, especially for their very long hours at the show, also their parents for allowing the students to attend the show, and the teachers for taking the teams to Adelaide. We look forward to the 2025 Royal Adelaide Show and the learning opportunities it will bring our Agriculture students.













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
- Type your school name into the search THEN select Mount Compass Area School

DAYMAP and BYOD

Digital technologies are an important part of our learning environment and we have made some changes to support better access to IT, ensure consistent devices for students and also provide more equitable and affordable options for families.

The department's Digital Strategy is rolling out over the next few years and this is enabling us to purchase additional laptops and iPads for classroom use. From 2025 this will also enable families with students in **years 7** and **10** to purchase laptops at a slightly reduced price (with 3 years insurance), through the department and with payment plan options available.

If you need to purchase a computer for your child (and they are not in year 7 or 10), we would ask that you source the same computer we are purchasing through the department to support our aim for consistency across the school.

This will be a slow roll-out so as not to disadvantage families financially and there will more info coming soon.

2024 MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGE

The 2024 Material & Services Charges are now due! PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY CASH, EFTPOS or via the QKR! app

PAYMENTS BY INSTALMENT CAN BE ARRANGED

Easy direct debit payments can be made with the CBA's secure payment portal BPoint.

A payment plan can be put in place where a nominated amount can be directly paid from your chosen bank account or credit card on a weekly/fortnightly or monthly basis.

Forms are available at the school or can be emailed out on request.

2024 SCHOOL CARD SCHEME

To be eligible for School Card, your family's income must be below a specific limit and depends on how many children are in your care (table below).

Number of dependent children	Combined gross family income limit for the 2020/21 financial year	Gross weekly school card income limit
1	\$70,994	\$1,365
2	\$72,262	\$1,390
3	\$73,530	\$1,414
4	\$74,798	\$1,439
5	\$76,066	\$1,463
Each additional dependent child	\$1,268	\$25

The rates are based on your income for the 2022/2023 Financial Year, not your current income.

Closing date for applications: 29 November 2024

You can apply online at www.sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard or request a form from the school.

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY ASSISTANCE

Please contact the school on Ph.8556 8219 or email dl.0289.finance@schools.sa.edu.au

Community Notices









Please contact the school if you have any relevant community events that you would like to promote through our newsletter.

"Children flourish when they know they are surrounded by a community that believes in them. It gives them the courage to dream big and the confidence to achieve those dreams." — Unknown