

Meningie Area School News



Principal's report from Fiona Haselgrove

Friday 13th December 2024

As 2024 comes to a close, Meningie Area School has plenty to celebrate and plenty to look forward to. There is a whole school culture developing and having the whole school celebrate together at the "Achieving our Way" night is evidence for this. From the updated Logo, motto reflected in our uniforms, on our website and around the school, to staff collaboration on cross age learning, the school has a positive vibe.

Our school values are reflected in our work. Collaboration between Meningie Kindergarten has strengthened with joint projects, excursions, and the transition program. The transition from Raukkan Aboriginal School has also strengthened with fortnightly visits. At the secondary end the Coorong Mallee Partnership is coming together to plan learning opportunities across the partnership to enhance secondary options. This kicked off with a "pre-SACE" camp bringing year 10 and 11 students across the partnership at Cantara Homestead on the Coorong. We are also planning Year 7-10 STEM days and Arts days to bring together students with common interests to explore learning and pathways.

When I asked staff for their highlights for 2024 the vast majority of responses were about camps. Junior primary sleep overs, primary camps, Noorla-Yo Long camp, the pre-SACE camp, and Canberra. The reason that these learning activities are highlights is that we see our students in a new environment, how they come together and respond to challenge. We see our students developing their determination, showing kindness to each other and respect for those supporting them in their learning. The staff have come together to plan a schedule for camps to optimize these opportunities for students across the year levels. I was fortunate to attend the Canberra Camp and the way students from 7-12 came together with the great team of staff was incredible. Students made the most of every learning activity during the week and didn't complain too much about the loooong bus journey.

The new Enterprise subject (year 8-10) showcased at the Enterprise Expo in August was certainly a highlight. The sun shone and students beamed as they brought together their work from the semester. The learning in the subject is based on entrepreneurial skills and capability development. This has tied in with our work in the SACE Capability Pilot – a project to develop ways of recognizing student achievement

Term 1 Diary Dates

JANUARY

	Book Room Open
Mon 27 th	Australia Day Public Holiday
Tues 28 th	First Day of Term 1 2025
Thurs 30 th	Whole School Assembly

FEBRUARY

Mon 10 th	Meet & Greet BBQ
Friday 14 th	Interschool Swimming Carnival @ Murray Bridge
Friday 21 st	Sports Day
Thursday 27 th	Whole School Assembly

MARCH

Monday 10 th	Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
Mon 17 th	School Photo Day
Mon 26 th to Wed 28 th	SAPSASA Softball

APRIL

Mon 7 th	SAPSASA Swimming in Adelaide
Friday 11 th	Last Day of Term 1 Early Dismissal 2.05pm Buses Depart 2.15pm

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education



beyond a number. It also folded the Show Team into a “subject” to recognize the work and skills developed in being part of the Show Team.

Schools are dynamic and there is always a lot going on. We have farewelled some long serving staff: Wendy Starling, Katrina Hood, Barb Mann, and Sarah Chandler – we greatly appreciate their commitment to Meningie Area School over the years. We have also welcomed new staff – some starting their teaching careers: Matt Lillis, Ben Scharfbillig, Caitlin Angel, Amy Stott, Jessica Hankin (feels like she has been here for years!) and Prue Boland. While change is challenging, these comings and goings create opportunities to see the school from new perspectives, bring in expertise from other sites and continue to build our good practice. In 2025 we will be focusing on two areas of the Department for Education Strategy: Wellbeing and Effective Learners. In the area of Wellbeing, we want to increase the sense of belonging in the school which will include a focus on resilience and attendance. In the area of Effective Learners, we will focus on feedback to support students to improve achievement.

We are farewelling a few of our contract staff:

Rhian Griffith - Rhian has been with us for 2 years and provided excellent support in our Junior Primary area. She has shared excellent understanding of working with students with special needs and has also worked on the literacy project in 2025. Her calm and professional manner has been greatly appreciated. Rhian is returning to Adelaide and will be returning to her passion - working in a special school.

Jacob Weiss - Jacob joined us this year in Term 2 for Secondary English/HASS. He provided great support for the senior students to complete their SACE English. He has enthusiastically participated in a range of camps with students including Canberra. We wish him well in his next endeavours.

Sarah Potts - Sarah supports students as an SSO. She has a calm and quiet response which students and staff greatly appreciate. Sarah is moving from the area and will be an asset in a school if she chooses to pursue an SSO role.

Thank you to our senior students for sharing your learning journey with us – you certainly did it “your way”. Wherever your journey takes you in 2025, we wish you well. Remember to look for opportunities and be ready to step outside your comfort zone and try new things.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Governing Council. We have diverse representation on the council and all members are very committed to their role. They bring parent/family perspectives to me and the staff, contribute to the budget process and support school functions such as lunch services etc. Thank you for the support you have shown me this year and I look forward to working with you over the next few years. We would like to thank Freshies for providing a lunch service for Meningie Area School over the past 2 years. Governing Council have been working with Breeze Café to provide a service for 2025.

I would like to congratulate our award winners, well done on your endeavor in your learning. To all our students, thank you for your fantastic efforts over the year – you make us proud, make us laugh (sometimes cry!) and remind us, each and every day why we work in education. We do have a great job and while our staff work hard, the rewards are worth it. Thank you to our parents and families for supporting your children and working with us to help students succeed.

I wish you all well over the summer break, I hope you can enjoy family time and relax to be ready for 2025.

2025 School Captains

Secondary – Millie Cunneen



Primary – Mya Kartinyeri



Uniform Purchase/Book packs

2025 Uniforms Purchases can be made Tuesday 21st January 9am – 12pm & Friday 24th January 11am – 3pm.

If you are unable to make those days, you can purchase on the 1st day back at school.

Remember that Hats are required for Term 1.

Student Book packs will be given to all students in the classroom on the 28th of January and will not be given out prior to that – Surplus stationary will be held by the Teacher to be given when needed. This is paid for out of the M & S Fees payable by the end of Term 1 2025.

Admin Staff will be in the office from Monday 20th January for any enquiries.

School card Forms for 2025 will be available online mid-January

sa.gov.au/education/schoolcard

and will also be available in paper copy from the office.

If you wish to set up a direct debit for your school fees, forms will also be available.

M & S Fees invoices will be sent out early February.

School Uniform

If your child is not returning in 2025 and would like to donate your new or old uniform to the school, we would appreciate any donations.

The well-being grant that funded a new polo shirt and jumper for every student has been spent.

Donated uniforms are useful to support new families moving to the school or when students require a spare shirt or jumper during a lesson.

thank you

Meningie Area School

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the team at Freshies who have been providing the school lunches since Term 4, 2022.

In 2025 our new lunch order provider will be Breeze Cafe. Lunches will be available on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

The link will be shared during Week 0

R/1 Monarto Trip

On the 28th of Nov, the Reception / Year 1 class joined the Meningie Kindergarten on a trip to Monarto Zoo!



R/1 Swimming



DUKE OF EDINBURGH YEAR 8 NOORLA YO-LONG CAMP

The collage features several photographs of students participating in various activities:

- Communication:** A photo of students sitting around a table in a classroom setting.
- Thrill Seeking:** A photo of a student climbing a tall, narrow tower structure.
- Team Work:** A photo of students gathered around a table, possibly in a workshop or meeting.
- Exploring:** A photo of students walking along a path in a wooded area.
- Problem Solving:** A photo of students participating in a team-building exercise on a wooden structure.
- Safe Risks:** A photo of students participating in an outdoor activity on a wooden structure.
- SOLUTION:** A central graphic with a puzzle piece icon and the word "SOLUTION".
- Other photos:** A group of students on a path, a beach scene, and a student on a trampoline.

Decorative elements include a green arrow with a flag, a blue wave, a blue and orange parachute, and several colorful speech bubbles.





Friendship



Comfort Zone



Challenge



Culture



Fun



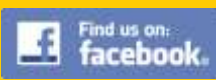
Adventure



Experiences



WITH MR WEISS, MRS MASON AND MISS HATTAM



Year 6 Sailing

Each morning of Week 7 the Year 6 students took part in learning how to sail with the help of volunteers from the Meningie Sailing Club



I enjoyed my week of sailing and especially practising the capsizing because I liked getting wet and being in the water.
By Eddie



I liked being out on the water sailing and not having to do school work.
By Jackson



TERM 4 SAILING

Wednesday
Twilight Sailing
5.00 pm - 6.00 pm
6th November
20th November
8th December

Saturday
Come and Try Sailing
11.00am - 12.00pm
9th November
30th November
21st December

All Welcome!

Boats, PFD's and other sailing gear is all available for use at the club

If you are in Year 5 or up at Meningie Area School and interested in participating in Team Sailing please see the front office, Mrs Wright or Tim Wright. Practice times will be arranged once a team is formed.

Congratulations

ANNE WRIGHT

Anne has been recognised by the Children's University Adelaide Team as one of the top 10 coordinators in the state. Anne was chosen because she has supported the program in one or more of the following ways

- Championed the program
- Showcased best practice
- Hosted visits from interstate and international partners
- Piloted new CU initiatives
- Supported the CU school holiday program
- Facilitated the program in more than one school location
- Developed and grown the program in a regional setting



The Year 7/8/9 class joined Mannum, Tintinara & Coomandook for Super 8 Cricket on Tuesday 10th December. We had been practising during HPE lessons. The competition was strong but agreed we all enjoyed hitting sixers and being part of the partnership!

Thank you, Paul McNiccol for umpiring and scoring Meningie !!

THANK YOU!



Achieving our Way Awards Night

The evening started with the Primary Celebration including performances from each class. This was followed by the Year 6 graduation. We had class awards, subject awards and Special Awards. There were also student performances on the Ukulele and the beginner and senior band performed songs. There was an amazing display of student work at the back of the hall for families to look at and we had an ex student Dr Tracey Henderson as our guest speaker.



2024 Year 6 Class

Front L to R: Hugo Swan, Eddie Love, Levi Marles, Doug Greenwood, Amber Robertson, Jasmine Wright.
 Back L to R: Jackson Irving, Ruby Cunneen, Iesha Kartinyeri, Archer Cunneen, Samzon Oliver, Brooklyn Long & Charlotte Denew

Year 4 – 12 Class Awards

Class awards have two categories - Merit and Engagement.

- Merit award is based on academic achievement
- Engagement award is based on upholding school values, school service and leadership

Class	Achieving our Way – Merit	Achieving our Way – Engagement	Sponsor
4/5	Ollie Marles	Elsie Cunneen	Meningie Area School
5/6	Levi Marles	Mya Kartinyeri	Meningie Area School
7	Melissa Burnett	Lincoln Jeffery	Meningie Area School
8	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Clara Swan	Meningie Area School
9/10	Millie Cunneen	Gabrielle Swan	Nick McBride MP
11/12/13	Danica Hunter	Addison Mammone	Nick McBride MP



Secondary Subject Awards

These awards recognise academic achievement in a particular subject.

The awards are presented according to the areas of study and are sponsored by local businesses and community organisations.

Subject	Winner	Sponsor
English	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Van Den Brink Contractors
Mathematics	Koby Pratt	Tony Berry Builder
Science	Katelyn Hunter	Swan Farm Machinery
Arts	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Meningie Bakery
HASS	Katelyn Hunter	Swan Brothers
HPE	Millie Cunneen	Ipose Yoga
Agriculture	Addison Mammone	Coorong Ag
Percussion Music	Lincoln Jeffery	Lake Albert Learning Ctr
Woodwind Music	Jasmine Wright	Lakeside Quality Butcher
Language	Scott Long	Rita Lindsay
Design /Materials Tech	Lyla Jeffery	Meningie Gypsum
Child Studies	Addison Mammone	Meningie Pharmacy
Exploring Identities & Future	Gabrielle Swan	Meningie Sailing Club
Research Project	Danica Hunter	Coorong Cottage Industries
Enterprise – Most Profit	Elliott Hurle, Jordan Willment and Bohdi Meldrum and Zoii Oliver	
Enterprise – Most Collaborative	Katelyn Hunter & Marissa Farren	
Enterprise – Best Presented	Christopher Blackett	
Enterprise – Most Creative	Lily Lewis & Clara Swan	



Special Secondary Awards

Award	Winner	Sponsor
Barker Shield Academic Achievement	Millie Cunneen	Tony Pasin MP & Tailem Bend Rotary
Barker Shield Community Service & Spirit	Llyanna Hughes	Tony Pasin MP & Meningie Progress Association
Barker Shield Vocational Education & Training	Danica Hunter	Tony Pasin MP & Meningie & District Lions Club
Sports Award	Jacobe Griffiths	Adrian Pederick MP
Ampol Best Allrounder	Addison Mammone	Happy Daise & Coorong Realty
Long Tan – Year 10	Winter Pona-Rose	Australian Defence Force
Secondary Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yanun	Kalisha Sumner	Coorong District Council
Primary Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yanun	Brooklyn Long	Moorundi Health
Reconciliation Award	Brooklyn Long Winter Pona	Meningie Uniting Church



Our Guest speaker this year was Dr Tracey Henderson (nee Stephenson), Tracey graduated from Meningie Area School in 1995 and shared her memories of time at school, her passion for animals, wanting to become a Veterinarian and how she became a Veterinarian and where her work has taken her. Tracey shared some words of wisdom for the graduates of 2024 and they were:

- Feel the fear and do it anyway
- Believe in yourself
- Prioritise your mental health
- Continue your hobbies
- Redefine your vision of success
 - Health
 - Family
 - Career





SWIMMING CARNIVAL



KUNGGARI

NO:RI





SWIMMING CARNIVAL



KUNGGARI

NO:RI



2024 Medalist's



Maggie Martin & Anna Cameron



Tatum Pratt & Albert Greenwood



Macey Ridley & Kelsey Mitchell



Doug Greenwood & Hugo Swan



Lincoln Jeffery & Elliot Hurlle



Lily Lewis & Clara Swan



Gabby Swan



Tyeron Denew & Joshua Parsons-Averay



Best Outfit



Oscar Jeffery



Meningie School Community Library

Wishing all our patrons best wishes for this festive season. May 2025 bring you good cheer, health and lots of good reads indeed!

LIBRARY HOURS OVER HOLIDAYS

OPEN Tuesday to Friday 8.30am to 4pm
OPEN Thursday 8.30am - 6pm

Closed Mondays during school holidays
 Closed 12-12.30 for lunch
 Closed public holidays

and closed from
 4pm Friday 20/12/24

Reopen 8.30am Tuesday 07/01/25

New books have arrived

Beat the boredom borrow a board game these holidays

[HTTPS://MENINGIEAS.SA.EDU.AU/LIBRARY/](https://meningieas.sa.edu.au/library/)



FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES IN THE LIBRARY

Christmas Movies & Children's Watercolour Workshops DECEMBER



- Tues 17** 10 am - Prep & Landing
1pm - Prep & Landing Naughty vs Nice
- Wed 18** 10 am - The Santa Claus Brothers
1pm - 2pm Water Colour Class
- Thur 19** 10 am - The Nutcracker and the Mouse King
1pm - Christmas is here again

Movies & Children's Watercolour Workshops JANUARY



- Tues 7** 1pm - Moana
- Wed 8** 1pm - 2pm Water Colour Class
- Thur 9** 1pm The Chronicles of Narnia
the lion, the witch and the wardrobe

- Tues 14** 1pm - The Chronicles of Narnia - Prince Caspian
- Wed 15** 1pm - 2pm
Water Colour Class
- Thur 16** 1pm - The Chronicles of Narnia - The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

- Tues 21** 1pm - The Aristocats
- Wed 22** 1pm - 2pm
Water Colour Class
- Thur 23** 1pm - Despicable Me

Water colour for school aged children Aged 8+, Must be accompanied by adult. All materials supplied, Maximum of 8 participants.

Bookings essential. 08 8575 1681 or meningie.library@gmail.com

Pre- SACE Camp

In week 6 students from Meningie, Lameroo, Karoonda and Coomandook attended a 3-day camp at Cantara on the Coorong.

It was designed to provide students with an immersive experience focused on **connection, belonging, and culture**. The camp aimed to foster leadership capabilities, develop critical skills like communication and problem-solving, and create opportunities for collaboration between schools.

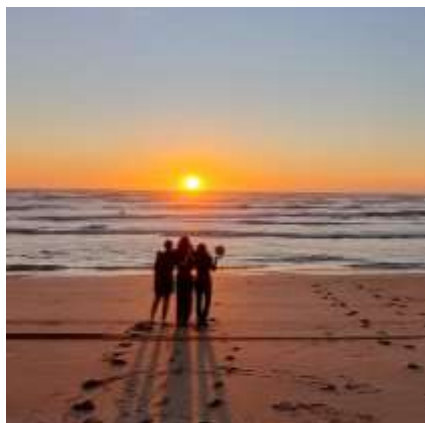
This purpose was not just about preparing students for their SACE journey but also about laying the groundwork for a stronger regional identity among our schools and equipping students with the tools they need to thrive in their education and future aspirations.

Student Feedback and Reflections

The camp achieved much of what it set out to do, with students sharing overwhelmingly positive feedback. Here are some key takeaways:

- **What Students Enjoyed:**
 - Building new friendships and connecting with peers from other schools.
 - Engaging in diverse activities such as sandboarding, Aboriginal weaving, swimming, and leadership challenges.
 - Disconnecting from devices and engaging with nature in an immersive, hands-on way.
- **Key Learnings:**
 - Students recognised growth in their communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.
 - Many students connected the activities to their future aspirations, identifying the skills and capabilities they need to develop further.
- **Quotes from students:**
 - *"We are at the beginning of a new legacy—this will shape the Mallee forever. I loved the camp!"*
 - *"This camp showed me that life is better when you're with your mates out doing something interesting."*
 - *"I really loved this experience, and it gave me great opportunities, loved meeting everyone."*
 - *"My experience about this camp was good, everything about the camp I will remember and take into the real world."*

The Coorong and Mallee partnership has been driving to connect students. We have successfully created multiple opportunities through sport and are now looking to create more camp, excursion and learning opportunities to build on our senior students' capabilities. We can't wait to participate in the pre-SACE camp in 2025.



Year 8/9/10 Agriculture in Term 4

AGRITECH EXCURSION

Students visited businesses in the area to explore how technology is used to increase efficiency in Agricultural Industries. They recorded notes from each visit and made a Website Blog, sharing their thoughts from each industry visit.

Swan Farm Machinery



Students visited Swan Farm Machinery to learn about the latest agricultural equipment. They saw a variety of tractors and implements used in farming, including a blue tractor with a front loader and a rear-mounted implement. The staff explained how these machines are used to increase efficiency in agricultural operations.

Longridge Olives



Students visited Longridge Olives to see the olive harvesting process. They learned about the different types of olives and how they are processed into oil. The staff showed them the machinery used for harvesting and the steps involved in producing olive oil.

Fishers Dairy



Students visited Fishers Dairy to learn about the dairy farming industry. They saw the cows in the paddock and learned about the different breeds and how they are managed. The staff explained the process of milking and how the milk is processed into various dairy products.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO SPEAK WITH US!

Swan Farm Machinery



Longridge Olives



Fischer's Dairy



Michael spent lessons with us, teaching about germination rates, soil health, stages of growth & fertilisation.



thank you

Thank you Michael Camac & Platinum Ag Coorong for your time!



RECRUITING NOW..



SA Country Fire Service currently has vacancies for Volunteer Firefighters & Operational Support Members.

Are you community minded?
Would you like to be part of a dynamic team where you learn new skills and put them into practice?

Then CFS could be for you!



cfs.sa.gov.au | 1300 364 587

Congratulations to Steve Starling and Jeff Wright on their Citizen of the Year Australia Day Awards.

Over the years both Steve and Jeff have supported the school sailing program by volunteering their time and expertise through the sailing club. They have both also contributed their expertise in lighting and sound at our various school productions in the past.

You might like to show your support and appreciation by attending the ceremony in January.

Saturday 25 January 9:30am

Meningie Celebrate what's great!

Awards Ceremony & Morning Tea
Meningie Lions Park

Citizen of the Year Meningie: Stephen Starling & Jeffrey Wright
Narrung: Louise Sanders

Event of the Year
Meningie & District's Memorial Hospital 55th Anniversary Celebration

COORONG
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS
Select Award Categories



1st Day Coffee Meet

Tuesday 28th January
After school drop off, from 8.45 am in the
Music Room
enter via hall entrance

All new MAS parents welcome
and younger siblings



Little Athletics SA January School Holiday
Clinic details and registrations via website
<https://salaa.org.au/dream-believe-achieve-athletics-holiday-development-clinic-january/>



08 8552 8133 | littleathletics.com.au/holidayclinics

DREAM.
BELIEVE.
ACHIEVE.

LITTLE ATHLETICS HOLIDAY CLINIC

14 January & 15 January 2025
\$80 a day | \$120 for 2 days
9am - 1pm | SA Athletics Stadium

Registrations close 7 January 2025



SCHOOL HOLIDAY VOLLEYBALL CLINICS

Nippys SPIKE SQUAD
National Volleyball

- ✓ Technique development
- ✓ Skill exercises
- ✓ Strategy & teamwork exercises
- ✓ Fun games & practice matches

15 - 24 JANUARY

Primary	Secondary	Play like a pro
7-12 years old Fundamental Skills	13-17 years old Advanced Technique	7-17 years old Intensive 3-day training

The Lights Community & Sports Centre
Brighton Secondary School
Heathfield High School
Parruna Spencer Newton Centre (Scotch College)

Have a question for us?
madeeha@volleyballsa.com.au



REGISTER HERE

VOLUNTEERS

Term 1
Induction
Thursday 13/2/25
Time TBC

What a school volunteer looks like:

- Governing Council parent representative
- classroom support for reading, activities
- attends excursions or camps
- helps at school events
- offers skills or cultural knowledge
- assist in the library

REQUIREMENTS

- Complete Application Form
- Current Working With Children's Check
- Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse & Neglect Training
- Induction

Note: All Free and fully supported to complete by school staff using the computers in the library

For more information or to register your interest in volunteering, please contact Emma Swan 8575 1106 or emma.swan773@schools.sa.edu.au



PARENT and CARER SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP (PaCSS)

PaCSS will be active again in 2025

- ✓ Meet other parents or carers
- ✓ Get your questions answered
- ✓ Opportunity to engage with students and the school
- ✓ Opportunity to engage with your child and their peers through learning activities.
- ✓ Be as actively involved to suit your needs

Wednesday 12th February
Time 8.45am
Casual catch up in the library

All Welcome

If you would like to join PaCSS please contact

Parent Contact - Kirsty Cowan

☎ 0457 314 438

School Contact - Emma Swan or Front Office

☎ 8575 1106

Tailem Bend Community Centre

2024 Static Display

Come and Experience a magical interactive display at the Tailem Bend Community Centre
141 Railway Tce, Tailem Bend

Free Entry

10am-2pm
Wed 4 Dec - Sun 15 Dec
Open Daily

