

Friday 12th December 2025

I am extremely proud of the work of our students, staff, and families over the 2025 year.

Firstly, Teaching & Learning, as a staff we have developed our school learning plan over the year. In November we reviewed the goals.

Goal 1: Wellbeing – improve student sense of belonging and resilience. Our Wellbeing & Engagement data showed improvement in happiness and connectedness indicating that our work with the Berry Street Education Model that provides a framework for consistent approaches for a calm learning environment is progressing.

Goal 2: Effective Learners – improve student metacognition through feedback strategies. The Wellbeing & Engagement data showed significant improvement in cognitive engagement and academic self – concept which is encouraging.

We will continue to work on these goals in 2026.

2025 saw the introduction of “Student Led Conferences” changing the emphasis from adults talking to students talking and leading meetings with teachers and parents. The survey results from students, families and teachers were very positive. Governing Council has approved these conferences occurring on one day in 2026. Lessons will be suspended, and students attend for their conference. This will allow teachers to be focused on the conferences. They will be held Term 2, Week 2, Wednesday.

Staff and Governing Council also finalised a Homework guideline. This is a guide for teachers, students, and families. We are keen to use the guideline and the Homework Club more in 2026 for students to consolidate learning and take responsibility for meeting due dates. In 2026 we will also be providing guidance for students on the use of AI. The Department for Education has developed “EdChat,” a safer platform for students to learn to use AI as a tool.

2025 also saw the restructure of the Student Representative Council with the appointment of one secondary school captain and one primary school captain. This has reinvigorated the SRC with greater engagement from the primary members. The Council have run many events over the year with secondary students working with primary students consolidating peer relationships between the primary and secondary. Thank you to Prue Boland Assistant Principal Wellbeing and Millie Cunneen and Mya Kartinyeri – our school captains for leading the council.

Diary Dates

TERM 1

JANUARY

Tues 20 th	Uniform Shop Open 9.30 am – 12.00 pm
Thurs 22 nd	Uniform Shop Open 1.30pm – 3.30pm
Tues 27 th	First Day of 2026

FEBRUARY

Mon 9 th	SAPSASA Softball Trial
Fri 13 th	Interschool Swimming Carnival @ Murray Bridge
Fri 20 th	Sports Day
Thurs 26 th	Secondary School Sport Swimming @ Marion

MARCH

Mon 9 th	Adelaide Cup – PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tues 10 th	Interschool Track & Field @ Karoonda
Fri 13 th	Team Sailing @ Goolwa
Mon 16 th	School Photo Day
Mon 30 th	Track & Field @ Mile End
Mon 30 th to Wed 1 st April	SAPSASA Softball Carnival

APRIL

Fri 3 rd	Good Friday – PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Mon 6 th	Easter Monday – PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Wed 8 th	SAPSASA Boys Football Trial
Friday 10 th	Last Day of Term 1

We did have feedback from families that our communication is still not meeting needs. We have plenty of communication (Edsmart, Community Portal, FROG, Facebook, Newsletters, Noticeboard) but I suspect the concerns are around which communication is used for what purpose and helping families navigate this. FROG Journals will provide a way to communicate students learning with families in a confidential way. This will also be useful for students as the Social Media ban comes into effect. We will do more work on communication to help families stay connected in 2026.

A highlight of the year was the Kids in Space performance. The staff and students had great fun preparing for and presenting the performance. The year 7's shone in their roles with the primary classes enhancing the performance. Congratulations to all involved. Similarly, students in the Festival of Music choir and band revelled in their performances. The band performance in Murray Bridge was joyful to watch as the students improvised with their great teachers Mr. Helps and Mr. Frears. Once again, thank you to our instrumental music teachers for your commitment to regional students in the arts.

A vast array of student work was showcased at the Coonalpyn Show with many students taking out awards. In the inaugural school challenge "decathlon" Meningie Area School took out the event scoring 68/80 points, including first in the Principal Photo section.

Moving into 2026 we have successfully recruited and will welcome three new teachers to consolidate our teaching teams. In an exciting development the Limestone Coast Technical College is opening. Six year 10's and one year 11 will access vocational courses at the LCTC to personalize their learning plans.

This time of year, brings endings. I would like to congratulate Wendy VanDenBrink on her long service at Meningie Area School. She has provided outstanding support for our students but is also a strong advocate for the school and that Meningie Area School and regional schools can provide an education that can take students anywhere. We will also farewell Matt Lillis and Kelsey Tynan. Matt is returning to Adelaide to take up a position with the SANFL and Kelsey has taken a position in Victoria. Thank you both for your work and we wish you well in your new positions.

In closing I would like to thank the Governing Council for the work they have done throughout the year. They provide connection between families and the school to ensure the school truly reflects the values and needs of the students. It would be great to see some more new members in 2026, please consider nominating for the council.

I hope you all enjoyed the celebration of our students work over 2025. We look forward to continuing this work in 2026. I hope that everyone in our school community has a relaxed break filled with fun, family, and friends.

Uniform Purchase/Payment of Fees

Uniforms will be available for purchase on **Tuesday 20th January from 9.30am to 12.00pm** and on **Thursday 22nd January from 1.30pm to 3.30pm** from the Front Office Book Room. Payment of school fees can also be made.

If you are unable to make those days, you can make purchases on the 1st day back at school or anytime during school office hours 8.30am to 3.30 pm from front office.

Remember hats are required in Term 1 and are also available from the front office. For \$5 or \$10 each depending on the style.

Books and stationery items packs will be given to the students by their Home Group teachers on Day 1 of 2026.

School Card Applications open on 12th of January 2026 [SA.GOV.AU - School Card scheme](https://www.sa.gov.au/school-card)

2026 Student Leadership

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Secondary – Gabrielle Swan



Primary – Flynn O’Leary



HOUSE CAPTAINS

NO:RI

KUNGGARI

Secondary
Shayla Hera-Singh



Primary
Elsie Cunneen



Secondary
Elliott Hurle



Primary
Imogen Hurle



Mount Barker Medicare Mental Health Centre

Advice and support when you’re down, stressed or overwhelmed.

Unit 9/2 Cameron Road, Mount Barker Phone 1800 595 212

Free services, no appointment necessary, no Medicare card needed. Just walk in.

For people over 18 years

Monday-Wednesday: 9am – 7pm,

Thursday-Friday: 9am-9pm

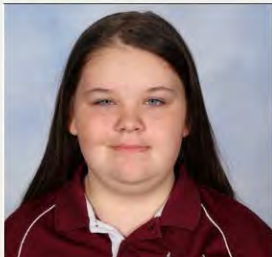
Saturday-Sunday and public holidays: 12pm-8pm

[Mount Barker Medicare Mental Health Centre | Medicare Mental Health](#)

Achieving Our Way

Presentation 2026

Year 6 Graduates



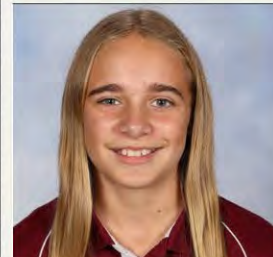
Ruby Edson



Albert Greenwood



Elise Hera-Singh



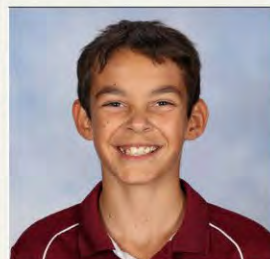
Summer Hera-Singh



Mya Kartinyeri



Riley Keen



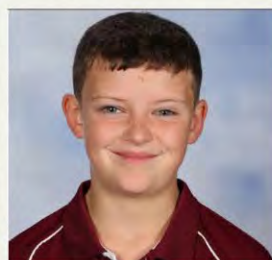
Kodi Koolmatrie



Avayah Love



Kelsey Mitchell



Tatum Pratt



Ciara Rigney

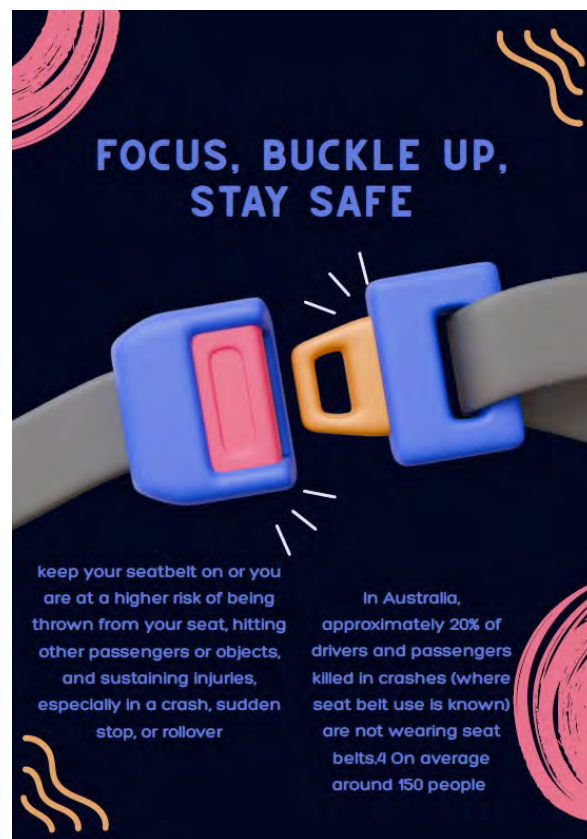


9/10 ROAD SCIENCE TERM 4

Task: design a poster that encourages seat belt use explaining inertia and momentum



Aiden



Jordan

Task: what did you learn about road science? Why do we have reduced speed limits in school zones?

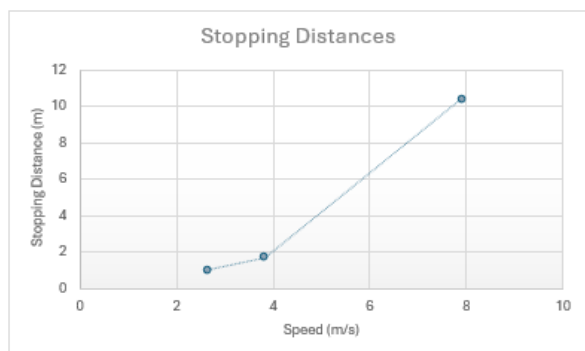
Charlie

Road Science:

During semester 2, Term 4, we have learned about road science. I have learned many things about road science, such as calculating speed, velocity, inertia and stopping distances. A car is moving at 80 km/h, and the passengers inside the vehicle are also moving at 80 km/h, however when a force interferes to stop the vehicle, the passengers inside continue to move at that speed. This is called inertia. Inertia can depend on the mass of the vehicle, for example a bus has more mass than a car, therefore the bus has more momentum than the car.

This is why seatbelts are necessary, as they help to stop the force of the passengers when the vehicle stops. This supports the passengers, and ensures they don't get severely harmed, initially saving their lives. Wear seatbelts, it's really not that hard.

When a car is moving fast, such as 60 km/h, the car will keep moving, even after they press the brake pedal, as it will take longer to slow down and stop. Whilst, if a car is travelling at a slower speed such as 25 km/h the stopping distance will be shorter. The speed zones are different around schools, so that cars and vehicles will travel at a slower speed when children are around, and if they were to suddenly stop, their stopping distance will be short, and this will help to keep the children of the school, and the driver safe and protected.



Year 9/10 Science

3/12/2025

Tylerone

What have you learned about road science?

I have learned about speed, time, stopping distance and how to graph the average stopping distances and average speeds. This includes the results for slow, medium and fast.

Why are seat belts compulsory?

Seat belts are compulsory, because it's a safety reason. Seat belts can save you, if you crash.

Why speed zones are different around schools?

Speed zones are different around schools because kids cross and if you're doing 50km per hour, you don't have time to brake.



5

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WEB: www.meningieas.sa.edu.au



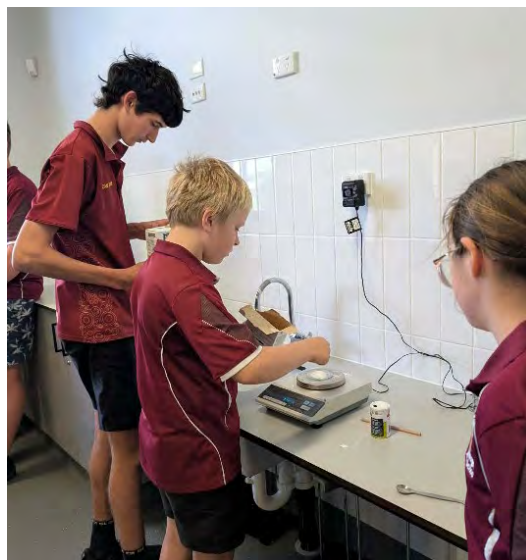
Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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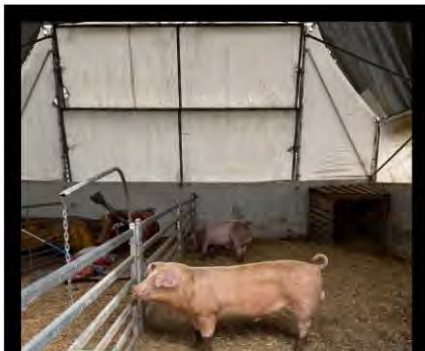
9/10 SCIENCE TERM 4

The year 9/10 class shared their learning of reactions with the 4/5 class. They guided the year 4/5's through 2 practicals:

1. "an endothermic reaction – how cold can you go?"
Students found bicarbonate soda and citric acid react and the temperature decreases to approximately -6°C .
2. and "impact of concentration on reaction time" Students found as concentration decreased, reaction time increased.



AUSSIE & BACON



AUSSIE AND BACON



We got two pigs around the time we had the Ag Expo. The 5/6 class named them Aussie and Bacon.

What I liked about the pigs was that the longer we had them, the more friendly they became.

Mrs Rieck asked us to research and design a pig toy. The toy I designed has a long stick with a chain connected to a plastic ball with holes like a pickle ball. The holes have rope tassels with knots on the end of each rope.

I chose this toy because when we studied their behaviour, they had an interest in the ball on a stick and a hessian bag.

By Lincoln Jeffery



Tug of War with Bacon and Lincoln

Tiah made a toy that extracts honey when rolled - this was their favourite special treat!

Thank you to Braden & Lisa Cocks from Cocks Proprietors for donating the pigs and feed! The Year 8 class has loved getting to know them, by playing with them every week and seeing what kind of toys they liked most - from these interactions the students made their own pig toy designs! A special thank you to the Harvey Family at Lakeside Quality Butcher for preparing them for sale!



THANK
YOU



Thank you to Brody
Vandenbrink and
Braden Cocks from
Cocks Proprietors for
seeding and baling
our school hay!

Year 4/5 Jallarah Visit

On Thursday 4th of December, the year 4/5 class, Miss Giles and Mrs Wright travelled to Jallarah Homes in the new school minibus and the school ute. A cool smooth ride with all of our goody bags and wreaths.

We have spent the year writing to our Jallarah Friends at least twice a term. Each child in the class has one or more Jallarah residents (friends) to communicate with. The class has written letters, made postcards, painted artworks and created many other great things for the residents to have in their rooms.

The students have grown to know about their friends' interests and histories. Many students this year and over past years have developed great relationships and friendships with people who have lived and shared different backgrounds to them. Very valuable experiences indeed.

The students have visited Jallarah twice this year.... Everyone needs to be healthy and able to mix to keep everyone safe.

This visit, we did our dance, "Nutbush City Limits", sang "We wish you a Merry Christmas" and we all shared our Christmas Giftbags. The students had made a great collection of Christmas gifts, and a personalised card and note for each resident. The residents then played a game of Keepy-uppy and chatted.

We then spent times taking about ourselves and sharing what we have been doing and what we hope to do in the holidays.

The students represented themselves and their school and families well. They were polite, listened well and spoke clearly and in a caring way. Many thanks to Jallarah for welcoming us to their homes and lives.



Achieving our Way Winners

CLASS AWARDS

	MERIT	ENGAGEMENT	SPONSOR
Year 4/5	Ollie Marles	Piper Robertson	Meningie Sailing Club
Year 5/6	Kelsey Mitchell	Ruby Edson	Meningie Sailing Club
Year 7	Jasmine Wright	Ruby Cunneen	Nick McBride
Year 8	Tiah Butcher	Caitlen Saraspe	Nick McBride
Year 9/10	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Gabrielle Swan	Nick McBride MP

SUBJECT AWARD WINNERS

SUBJECT	WINNER	SPONSOR
English	Katie Watson	Van Den Brink Contractors
Maths	Tiah Butcher	Tony Berry Builder
Science	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Swan Farm Machinery
Arts	Leyah Short	Meningie Bakery
HASS	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Swan Group
HPE	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Ipose Yoga
Agriculture	Gabrielle Swan	Coorong Platinum Ag
Music - Percussion	Lillie Kartinyeri-Rigney (Clarinet)	Lake Albert Learning Ctr
Music – Woodwind	Levi Marles (Trombone)	Meningie Licensed Post Office
Language	Khaliyaa Foster-Rigney	Rita Lindsay
Design /Materials Tech Woodwork	Shayla Hera-Singh	Meningie Gypsum
Home Economics	Khaliyaa Foster-Rigney	Coorong Cottage Industries
STEM	Leyah Short	Breeze Cafe
Environmental Ag	Millie Cunneen	Van Den Brink Contractors
Scientific Studies	Millie Cunneen	Lakeside Quality Butcher
Outdoor Education	Gabrielle Swan	Coorong Realty

**Thank
you!**

TO OUR
AMAZING SPONSORS

SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARD	WINNER	SPONSOR
Primary Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yanun	Mya Kartinyeri	Moorundi Health
Children's University	Flynn O'Leary	Governing Council
Student Success Award	Alaric Rigney	Jeff & Lesley Bubner
Secondary Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yanun	Brooklyn Long	Coorong District Council
Duke of Edinburgh	Charlie Nankivell-Watkins	Jemma McQuinn
Barker Shield	Millie Cunneen	Tony Pasin & Tailem Bend Rotary
Academic		
Barker Shield	Lincoln Jeffery	Tony Pasin & Meningie Progress Association
Community Service & Spirit		
Barker Shield	Serenity Booth	Tony Pasin & Meningie & District Lions Club
Vocational Education Training		
Sports Award	Hugo Swan	Adrian Pederick MP
Reconciliation Award		Meningie Uniting Church
Aboriginal Student	Mya Kartinyeri	Ngarrindjeri Lands and Progress Association Corporation - WOC
Non-Aboriginal Student	Gabrielle Swan	

Click the link to check out the photos of the winners in our [Special Newsletter](#)



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

KUNGGARI NO:RI



2025 Medalists



Sub Junior
Violet Richards & Elsie Cunneen



Sub Junior
Sabaai Lund & Flynn Cameron



Junior
Kelsey Mitchell & Imogen Hurle



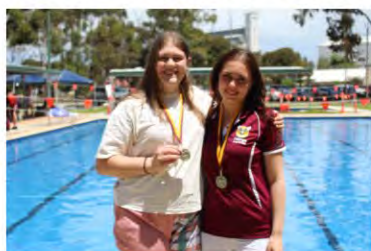
Junior
Doug Greenwood & Albert Greenwood



Intermediate
Samzon Oliver & Hugo Swan



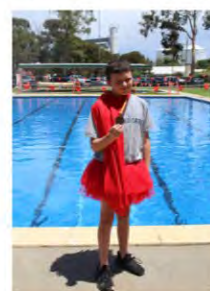
Intermediate
Tiah Butcher & Macey Ridley



Open Girls
Gabby Swan & Katie Watson



Open Boys
Elliott Hurle & Jordan Willment

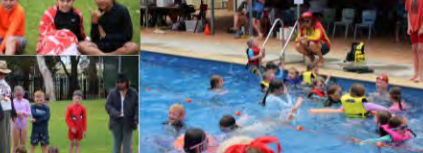


Best Outfit
Tatum Pratt

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

KUNGGARI

NO:RI

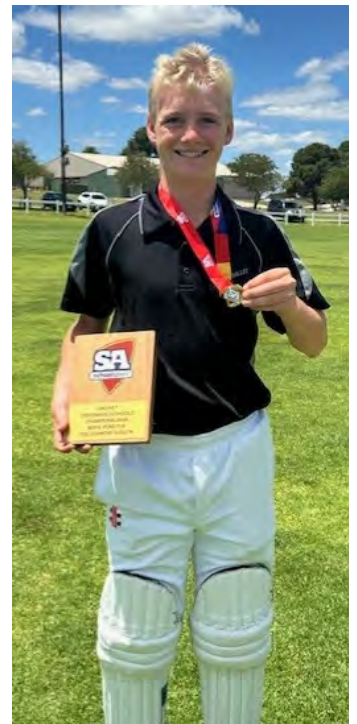


River Mallee District Cricket

I was selected in the Year 7/8 RMD Cricket Team. Our first game we played was at Tintinara against Bordertown High School. We won, so we went through to the next round which was played in Bordertown against Grant High School from Mt Gambier.

From this we were into the grand final against Cornerstone College which was played in Murray Bridge at Wanders Cricket Club on Wednesday 26th November and it was the grand final.

We won the GF, which was very exciting and I had fun playing with friends I met in SAPSASA and made new friends from Keith and Mannum. By Hugo Swan



SAPSASA Cricket

On the 24,25 and 26 of November there was SAPSASA cricket carnival in Adelaide. Over the 3 days, I scored 30 runs and 6 wickets throughout the 3 days. We lost one game against Pirie and won the rest. It was so fun I got to play on turf wickets like the Adelaide Oval. The schools in my team were Tintinara, Lameroo, Karoonda and Coomandook. By Flynn O'Leary



SAPSASA Cricket was really fun and everyone was really energetic. On Monday and Tuesday we played 3 games of 20/20 and then on Wednesday we play a 36 over game. Out of all the games we played we only lost 1.

The part I liked most was getting some wickets and batting. I made new friends and caught up with some friends I played SAPSASA footy with from our region. I would recommend for Year 5 & 6 students to try a SAPSASA sport if they can because it was a great experience. By Tatum Pratt



Blue Light
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

WED 21 JANUARY 2026

Summer SPECTACULAR

VENUE
Murray Bridge South School
54 Joyce Street, Murray Bridge
Meet at the undercover basketball court.

TIME 10am - 1pm
AGES 7-14 years
COST \$10

Cost includes: water strategy games and play, water pistol to take home, lunch.

CONTACT
Further details please phone: 8535 6345

TICKETS
Scan QR code for tickets or visit:
www.bluelightsa.org/event-details/summer-spectacular-murray-bridge

INFORMATION
Supervision provided with maximum capacity of 60 children (adults are not to remain on site).
Be quick as ticket sales close 10pm on 19 Jan 2026.

BRING
Hat, drink bottle, sunscreen, towel, footwear, dry clothes.

Logos: SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE SAFER COMMUNITIES, Government of South Australia

Coonalpyn Pool

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

We are looking for passionate volunteers to support our community pool

Do you have a few hours a week or simply a desire to make a difference? Join our amazing team and help keep this vital facility open for everyone to enjoy.

Be a part of a friendly, supportive team, learn new skills with full training provided and make a impact in your community. Whether you're a seasoned swimmer or just passionate about helping others, your time and energy can help us keep the pool running and accessible for all.

Contact Coorong Council - we would love to hear from you.




Coorong District Council
1300 785 277
council@coorong.sa.gov.au



Meningie Sailing Club invite you to

Come Sailing Week

Monday 12th to Friday 16th January 2026

10am to 12.30pm daily

\$50 for 5 sessions

Children under 10 will need a supervising adult

For bookings and more information contact
Jeff Wright 0428 755 029

A TRIBUTE TO THE FARMERS "PETALS TO PERSEVERANCE"

A Christmas Display



10-21 DECEMBER 2025
141 RAILWAY TERRACE
TAILEM BEND 5260

OPEN HOURS
10AM - 2PM DAILY

FREE EVENT



Meningie School Community Library

Wishing all our patrons best wishes for this festive season. May 2026 bring you good cheer, good health and lots of really good reads indeed!

LIBRARY HOURS OVER THE HOLIDAYS

OPEN Tues to Fri 8.30am to 4pm

OPEN Thursday 8.30am - 6pm

Closed Mondays during school holidays

Closed 12 - 12.30pm for lunch

Closed Public Holidays

Closed from 4pm Friday 19 Dec 2025

Reopen 8.30am Tuesday 13 Jan 2026

Every Thursday - Knit & Yarn 3pm - 4 pm

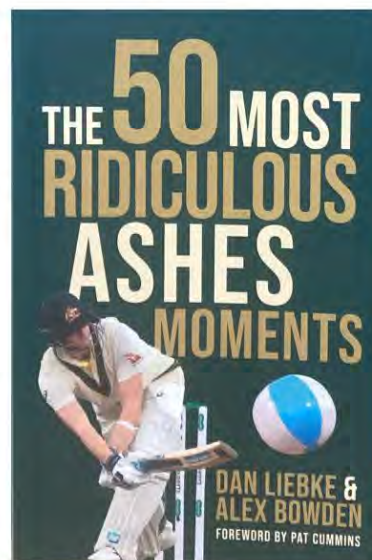
Recommencing 29 Jan 2026

Chair Yoga ~ 4pm - 4.45pm

Techelp ~ 5pm - 6pm ~ All welcome!

Email: meningie.library@gmail.com

PH: 85751681



FREE ACTIVITIES @ THE LIBRARY

EVERY THURSDAY

KNIT & YARN 3PM - 4PM ~ BEGINNERS WELCOME!



FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES IN THE LIBRARY

Christmas Movies & Children's Workshops DECEMBER 2025

- Tues 16** 10 am - The Search for Santa Paws
1pm - Santa Paws 2 - The Santa Pups
- Wed 17** 10 am - Elliot - The Littlest Reindeer
1pm - 2pm Folded Book Christmas Tree
- Thur 18** 10 am - All I Want for Christmas is You
1pm - Charlie's Christmas Wish
- Fri 19** 10 am - The Three Dogateers
1pm - Arthur Christmas

Movies & Children's Workshops JANUARY 2026

- Tues 13** 1pm - The Reef
- Tues 20** 1pm - Storks
- Wed 14** 1pm - 2pm > Upcycling
Tea Light Jar Workshop
- Wed 22** 1pm - 2pm > Upcycling -
Create a Book Lantern
- Thur 15** 1pm - Flow
- Thur 23** 1pm - Surf's Up

School aged children Aged 8+ must be accompanied by an adult. Bookings essential for workshops 08 8575 1681 or meningie.library@gmail.com

All materials supplied, Maximum of 8 participants.