NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4  08 JULY 2016

Principal's Report

It has been a very busy time since our last newsletter with a wide range of activity including:

- Year 12 Drama Performance
- Music and Dance Performances
- Sorry Day Assembly and Activities
- US Marines Visit
- Power Cup AFL Events
- Variety of Camps and Excursions
- Many Sporting Event
- Year 12 Formal

It is also worth pointing out that the student free day on June 27 involved Port Augusta Secondary School teachers working with teachers from all of the Public Primary Schools and Preschools in the town. This continues the development of the Port Augusta – Quorn Partnership with all schools and centres working together to improve educational outcomes for our students.

A key focus of the Partnership work is developing curriculum which promotes higher order thinking skills in our students to better equip them for their future opportunities. This is important work because collaborative problem solving, persistence in working through complex problems and high level numeracy and literacy skills are becoming critical dispositions for employees in the twenty first century. We need to ensure that the teaching and learning approaches that students experience throughout their schooling experience is consistent and is developing the dispositions and skills in our students we know are becoming more and more important.

With any focus on improved academic success, attendance is critical and has become a clear focus in our school. Research clearly shows that regular school attendance is a fundamental characteristic of success at school and post school. Although attendance rates have improved over the last few years it is still an area requiring further focus and support from parents and caregivers.

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<tr>
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<th>PASS Whole School Attendance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 1 2011</td>
<td>73.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 1 2012</td>
<td>74.57%</td>
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Growth Mindsets
Our student leadership together with teachers and Governing Council have been looking into the idea of “Growth Mindsets” and characteristics of an expert learner and how these dispositions can be developed in our young people. A leading researcher in this area is Professor Carol Dweck and we have been having a close look at some of her key findings especially relating to feedback and praise. Professor Dweck has some clear messages for both teachers and parents. I would highly recommend the link below.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PVhUdhZxbG1

I have provided some important facts relating to school attendance below.

Why Regular Attendance is Important – A Message to Students
The more you attend, the more you will learn and the greater likelihood of you being successful.
Getting the maximum benefit from school will improve your options for your future life.
Attending school regularly will develop skills and attitudes such as: self-discipline, punctuality, and improved time-management.
You will learn and practice the necessary social skills to live and work successfully with others.
People will be more positive about you if you have a good attendance record.
Attending school provides opportunities for socialising with your friends and will help you to maintain relationships over a length of time.

Does my Child have to Attend School Every day? – A message to Parents/Caregivers
YES, unless:
You have provided the school with an acceptable reason preventing your child’s attendance, such as:
• Your child is too sick to attend
• Your child has an infectious disease such as chicken pox, scabies, measles or head lice
• Your child is incapacitated by injury preventing movement around the school
Parents are required to contact the school so that all student absences are explained.
We trust we can all work together to further improve the attendance of our students and their prospects for the future.

Paul Billows
PRINCIPAL
Port Augusta Secondary School

Power Cup - 2016
On Wednesday 26 May, 24 eager students from Port Augusta and Leigh Creek travelled down to the 9th annual Aboriginal Power Cup carnival. The carnival which is organised by the South Australian Aboriginal Sports Academy (SAASTA) and Port Adelaide Football Club is the practical component of the students Stage 1&2 Power Cup subject. Throughout the subject students are required to complete a number of theory tasks related to respect, their culture, identity, cultural war cry and team guernsey design which they complete at the carnival. Points obtained from these tasks are combined with the students overall win/loss record from an 18 team (city/country) round robin competition as well as their student career workshop participation over the Thursday and Friday of the carnival.
On Saturday over 400 students completed a cultural dance as the curtain raiser to the Port Power vs West Coast Eagles twilight game. Overall the week was a success with students demonstrating a high standard of football and leadership throughout the carnival representing themselves, their school and their town exceptionally. The Power Cup gives students a fantastic opportunity to catch up with friends from previous years and make new ones whilst playing football and exploring the many career opportunities available to them whilst at school and once completed.
Year 8/9 Boys Knockout Football

8/9 Boys Knockout Football was held on Wednesday Week 5 at Chinnery Oval. Despite a large amount of interest in the lead up to the game, only 17 boys turned up on the day to play in the three teams round robin competition. With an undermanned side, the boys played hard in their first game against Samaritan College, but unfortunately went down 2.3.15 to 13.10.88. The second game for the day was Whyalla High vs Samaritan, with the result an absolute blow out – Whyalla High 16.13.109 defeated Samaritan by only one point!

Coming up against an obviously well-drilled Whyalla High team in the final round of the day, the boys put in a strong effort and for the majority of the game, played as a team, but some simple mistakes limited our scoring opportunities. Kallan Warren and Declan Dadleh were solid in defence which helped keep Whyalla High’s score down, but unfortunately the boys came away with only one goal to Whyalla’s 11.12.78.

Special mention to the boys who helped out with goal and boundary umpiring during our bye game, and to the year 9 boys who took charge and led the team.

Knockout Sports – RETURNING CONSENT NOTES

There has been an increasing trend of students signing up for a sport, collecting a note, and then not returning their note, which is leaving our teams short of players, and potentially taking spots from other interested players.

If you take a note but something happens which means you can’t play (injury, absence, change of mind), you MUST let Miss Kondraciuk or the organising teacher know so a replacement can be found.

If you have already returned your note, encourage your friends to as well, so that we can take full sided teams and be competitive.

Aboriginal Student Cook Up

Once a week Food Bank collects perishable and overstocked food items from a variety of sources and retailers throughout our region that is then delivered to a number of social welfare and Educational Service Centres. PASS is fortunate to have the culinary skills of ten years plus Aboriginal Education veteran, Corina Jenkins, who is from a huge family and knows what cooking for a mob is all about.

The foods our kids have enjoyed so far have ranged from soups, vegetable based bakes, roasted vegetables, pasta dishes, scones, damper, fruit desserts, pies and stewed fruit that is as close to a Mother’s love through home-style cooking as you will ever get. Ably assisted by David, Natalie, Aunty Kae, Aunty Kathy and Owena. The kids bellies are rumbling and tumbling with goodness.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ART WORKSHOP

ART FOR LIFE

AEROSOL ART WORKSHOP

This FREE program will be held at The PT AUGUSTA YOUTH CENTRE, 2-5 Hobby Street, Pt Augusta on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th July 2016, from 6:30pm – 10:30pm.

Event Flyer and Parent/Guardian Consent forms are available at Student Services or the Youth Centre
Open Boys Indoor Soccer Jamestown

On 7 June, Port Augusta Secondary School sent away a team of boys trying to repeat the efforts of the 2014 soccer team and win the local competition before taking their skills to Adelaide. Matched against Jamestown in their first game the boys started strong scoring two quick goals through Joel Riding and Slade Petry. But a resistant Jamestown stuck around after the initial barrage and pulled the score back to 2-2 by half time. The team were industrial in their approach to the second half but some poor finishing and stout defending left the score locked at two all with three minutes remaining. Cue Oscar Maule to the rescue as he scored two goals and Joel Riding added another to give our boys a 1-0 record.

Confidence was high going in to the second game against Peterborough and that was shown in the slick ball movement and all round play of the team as a whole. The team managed to put away 4 goals to nothing before allowing Peterborough back into the game slowly. A couple of lucky goals brought the score back to 4-2 but it was Slade Petry to the rescue who finished the game with 5 goals, Oscar Maule added another goal to his tally and Zane Sard scored his first goal for the competition. Final score 7-4.

Having won both of their lead up games, our team came up against the equally positioned Edward John Eyre High School. In a grand final as such we started slowly as Edward John Eyre scored a couple of lucky goals that Stefan Horner could do little about. The second half was a completely different ball game as the boys played themselves into a position where they could win the game but Edward John Eyre scored a counter attacking goal to put it beyond their reach. Final score 5-3.

Year 12 Examination Drama Performance

‘Away’ makes it to the stage!

After many months of rehearsals, and a number of major issues with the cast, Michael Gow’s acclaimed play entitled ‘Away’ was presented by the Year 12 Drama class to a very responsive and public audience on Tuesday May 31.

It's the summer of 1967 and the Christmas holidays have descended on three different families. Tom and Meg have just performed in their school production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream and have taken a liking to each other. However, bags and cars need to be made ready for the yearly adventure of the Christmas holidays with their separate families.

It seemed that the mischievous fairies were part of the opening scene of the play, (danced by members of the Year 9 Dance class, presenting the audience with a play-within-a-play), were weaving their spells throughout the rehearsals when the cast had to be changed twice in a very short time leading up to the performance week, convincing Mr Lambert of the need to take to the stage to help the students, by taking on the role of Roy, husband to Coral, played by Ebony Janiak. Jai Gericke and Ben Cugley then stepped up to take on the huge responsibilities of lighting and sound respectively, with members of the Year 11 Drama class stepping up to the role of stage crew, ensuring that the Year 12 students had every opportunity to succeed in their Examination Performance. We were very grateful to a number of staff from PASS, as well as some of the cast’s family members who donated 1960’s clothes and props to create an authentic 1960’s feel to the performance. Director, Dr Robyn Hewitson’s role was to grade the students on this performance as well as during the following day, when two SACE Guest Moderators visited the PASS Theatre to examine the students in their roles.
Bell Shakespeare Company visits PASS

...the ultimate love story grips pass Drama and English students
The famous Bell Shakespeare Company, based in Sydney, visited Port Augusta Secondary School on Wednesday 22 June, as part of their 5 month long tour of rural Australia. Lucky to gain a booking, the PASS Theatre was filled with our students from Years 8-12 keen to engage in the live performance and eager to become more familiar with one of the greatest love stories of all time – Romeo and Juliet told through the adaptation by Matt Edgerton and Joanna Erskine, entitled ‘Such Sweet Sorrow’.

In the creation of Such Sweet Sorrow, the writers had the complex task of editing the original text down to 50 minutes, whilst including all important characters, plot points and adding contemporary text that discussed and analysed the play. The always-engaging themes of love, hate, revenge, joy, brawls, weddings, life and death, were all included in this action-packed presentation. The exciting journey of the rebellious teens from their youthful innocence to their tragic conclusion was a hugely successful and interactive experience for our students that kept them on the edge of their seats, from first sight to final breath.

A ‘Q&A’ was the final part of the presentation that enabled our students to ask questions and pass on feedback. Senior Drama students were provided with extra time to chat with the four professional actors, with some insightful advice passed on by the performers, particularly valuable to those students who are considering the performing arts as a possible career.

10 tips for using your card at school and keeping it safe

1. Don’t give out your account number at all.
2. Don’t let anyone have or hold your card. You mum will be so proud.
3. Never write your account number or PIN on anything. Grandma doesn't need to know your PIN.
4. Don’t let friends persuade you to buy their lunch. What are you, a bank?
5. Carry only the cards you need, especially when travelling, going on excursions or camps. To clarify: you may need 1. You will not need 3.
6. Save receipts. Pretend they're old concert tickets.
7. Always check receipts against your monthly statements. If anything looks fishy, report it your financial institution. Unless you actually bought fish with your card, in which case, don't report it.
8. Make a list of card numbers, expiration dates and the toll-free numbers of your card companies. Keep this record in a safe place, separate from where you keep you cards. Use this information if you ever have to report your card lost or stolen.
9. Never lend you card to anyone, and don't leave cards or receipts lying around your room or schoolbag, no matter where you live.
10. Report a misplaced or stolen card to your financial institution immediately.
Kayne raises funds for Cancer Council

By Chloe McPherson

YES Centre Community Studies student, Kayne Lloyd-Freer, raised $155.45 for the Cancer Council at an Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser. The fundraiser was held in the YES Centre meeting room during lunch break on Thursday, May 26 and outside in the main courtyard during recess.

With the help of Mrs Belinda Myles, who delivers the Hospitality program in the YES Centre, Kayne, 17, researched recipes, planned the event, cooked food to sell, organised set up and decorations, and sold food on the day. He also counted proceeds and organised for the funds to be banked. Food on sale at the morning tea included cupcakes, scones with jam and cream, sweet and savoury muffins and savoury tart.

Donations were a gold coin or $5 for a plate of food. Kayne hosted the morning tea as part of his Stage 2 Community Studies subject. He said hosting the morning tea helped with his confidence. He said at first when people started coming in he felt a bit awkward, but by the end his confidence had grown.

Community Studies teacher Mr Clayton Crabbe said Stage 2 students are required to complete 60 hours in projects serving the community and through work experience. He said Kayne achieved about 30 hours of his requirement through this fundraiser and may now pursue work experience in a food-based workplace to complete his 60 hours. “Community Studies is a subject that gets students to do a project that engages with the community,” Mr Crabbe said. “Obviously Cancer Council raises funds for a good cause and for an issue that’s prevalent in the community.” Mr Crabbe also said Community Studies provided a good insight for students into how workplaces operate and how it is in the workforce.

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea is a Cancer Council fundraising initiative to help its vital work in cancer research, prevention and support service programs. In Australia, one in two people will be diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85. Last year Cancer Council raised over $13.6 million through its biggest morning tea fundraiser. Its aim this year is to have more than 38,000 people host a morning tea around Australia with a fundraising goal of $13.8 million. Cancer Council is the largest independent funder of cancer research in Australia. In 2015, research grants through Cancer Councils totalled more than $70.5 million.

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RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE SCREENING

During Week 3 of Term 2, the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute SAHMRI came to PASS to conduct Rheumatic Heart Disease Screening for our Aboriginal Students. The Heart Screen Team conducted a series of examinations on our students to detect early signs of heart disease and to screen students for exposure to Rheumatic Fever.

SAHMRI were very pleased with how our Students contributed to the screening and it was deadly to know that SAHMRI did not find any issues with our Students and their health that could cause concern.

PASS and the Aboriginal Education Team thanks the families whose students participated and the students for their contribution and participation.
Serina aiming for a career in beauty

By Jessica Kotz

A career in beauty is Year 12 student Serina Emonds’ ambition and in a step towards that goal she has hosted two salon days in the YES Centre this year.

Serina has been studying Beauty in the YES Centre since 2014 and has completed a Certificate II in Retail Skincare and Make-Up. The Vocational Education Training (VET) course is delivered by Mrs Kristy Kuhn, who helped Serina organise the salon days. She offered full and mini manicures, full and mini facials, eyebrow tints and eyelash tints. Serina said she enjoyed the experience.

“I had 18 clients in the two days,” Serina said.

“Clients were charged a small fee which covered the cost of products used.”

Mrs Kuhn said Serina performed well during her salon days. “Serina's confidence within herself has developed tremendously over the course of the salon days,” Mrs Kuhn said. “She independently prepares and completes all required treatments she has offered. “Her communication skills are continually growing as a result of her hard work.

“Well done Serina it’s been wonderful working with you.”

As well as assisting with her ambition to secure employment in the beauty field, the salon days were also a way for Serina to complete hours for her Stage 2 Community Studies subject. Stage 2 Community Studies students are required to complete 60 hours in projects serving the community and work experience. Over the two salon days, Serina completed 10 practical hours. Serina has also completed work experience at Nat’s Spa and Beauty, Port Augusta.

For the remainder of the year Serina will be assisting the Introduction to Hair and Beauty students in the YES Centre, to gain more experience and continue to develop her skills in the beauty field.

SORRY DAY 26 MAY 2016

This year, National Sorry Day was celebrated by an acknowledgement to country by the Aboriginal Education Assistant Principal Angela Hancock.

Our Adnyamantha Language Cultural Specialist Aunty Kay MacMillan beautifully recited two Aboriginal lullabies of the Adnyamanthanha people.

"The Wayanha" about the shadow cast off Mount McKinlay with the Bellbird whistling, is a story of how children should stay close to family and always tell parents where they are going.

"The Viliwarunha" about Reaphook Hill, is a story of the Old Woman and the lost children and how a little girl wearing a long wallaby skin dress had left her footprints in the sand.

CANTEEN NEWS

New Canteen price list can be found on School Stream
Senior Drama students visit State Theatre Company’s performance of ‘GORGON’

All senior students are required to write a review of a performance as part of their Drama curriculum, and there is nothing better than having a live performance to review rather than a videoed performance. And even better is when the live performance comes to Port Augusta, as happened when the State Theatre Company brought their performance entitled ‘Gorgon’ to the Institute Theatre on 25 May.

Playwright, Elena Carapetis wanted to write a piece that explored what happens when boys are taught to 'man up' - when they shut down their vulnerability and are shamed for being weak if they express their feelings. The drama piece presented our students with some fairly dark concepts but Carapetis realised that just because you're young, doesn't mean that you don't experience the dark sides of life, and that being young doesn't protect you from bad experiences. She tried to honor the resilience of young people in society, through her play, ‘Gorgon’.

A number of schools attended the performance, and at the conclusion of the play, our Year 12 Drama students participated enthusiastically in the ‘Q&A’ session. At the conclusion of the session, our Year 12 students were privileged to meet the two main actors, James Smith and Chiara Gabrielli who played the three roles in the play of Lee, Maz and Lola. There was no doubt that all our students enjoyed an up-close experience with professional actors. Thank you to the State Theatre Company.

On June 6 The ATSI Family Voice meeting was held at PASS with dinner provided to our attendees. The message this time around was all about Cyber Safety and Cyber Bullying provided by Community Constable’s Alex Janiak, Shirreen Jackson and Bradley Amos.

The information they provided was priceless and clearly outlaid the risks associated with Cyber Technology that is evolving faster than the laws to police and protect our kids.

Our aim will be to continue providing a Family Voice forum for the families of our students. It help's shape our children’s future through education, knowledge and awareness of what is great about community and how we can steer a course around what is not so great out there in our community.
PASSPORT TO SAFETY—SAFETY 101

PASS has recently acquired a training tool that helps the Aboriginal students gain some underpinning knowledge of how to work safely and also about workplace safety. Passport to Safety 101 was provided by Dan Lee, ably assisted by Natalie Giles.

The aim of Passport to Safety 101 is to ensure that when our students undertake work experience or transition to part time or full time work, they will be prepared and ready to deal with the hazards that can occur in most workplaces.

The students were presented with a certificate of completion of Passport to Safety — Safety 101 Training in recognition for their achievements in learning about WHS.

US MARINES VISIT PASS

On 23 June, 6 members of the U.S Marine Corps visited PASS to share the experience they have had during their service in the USMC.

The Marines were taking part in a major training exercise with Australia Defence Forces in and around the country between Port Augusta and Whyalla.

On 24 June the Australian Defence Force held a Careers Day at Central Oval with their noisy arrival punching the skies with reverberating thumps of the Chinook and the Tiger Assault Helicopter. It is interesting to note that the Army only have 7 Chinooks and we were lucky to see one of them.

ARTS IN THE MOONLIGHT

On 16 June the PASS Arts team put together an event showcasing all aspects of the Arts from both senior and junior school. The year 12 music band performed their first moderated assessment and put on a great show. Year 9, 10 and 11 drama put on a selection of short skits that had the crowd both chuckling and the quick quips whilst also contemplating big issues. Finally, the year 9 dance group put on a great performance of dance from a variety of genres. Overall, the night was a huge success and another example of how the Arts is impacting positively on so many students and families.