

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 1 - 8 March 2019



DIARY DATES

18 Mar: WASSAC (Port Lincoln)

21 Mar: Governing Council—5:00pm

26-28 Mar: Yr 11/12 Aquatics

<u>27 Mar</u>: Aboriginal Parent Coffee Morning (9:00am)

10 Apr: Flinders Roadshow Yr 10/11

12 Apr: last day of term - 1:30pm finish



TERM DATES 2019

Term 1:	29 Jan -	12 Apr
Term 2:	29 April -	5 Jul
Term 3:	22 Jul -	27 Sep
Term 4:	14 Oct -	13 Dec

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Government of South Australia Department for Education and Child Development



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Port Augusta Secondary School welcomes new and continuing students and their families to the 2019 school year. The school also welcomes new teaching staff including: Courtney Burgess

(English & Humanities), Ivania Galdamez-Cuellar (Visual Arts), Alex Boylon (Visual Arts) and Angela

Foulis (Special Education). We are also very pleased to welcome Kriston Thompson and Greg Shirley who are establishing a Clontarf Academy at PASS from this year. This is a great outcome for our school and will provide further support, resourcing and encouragement for our Aboriginal boys. You will be hearing a lot about Clontarf this year!

Welcome to all our new staff and we trust their time at the school will be enjoyable and rewarding.

I have been very impressed by the positive start to the year and I congratulate staff and students for their efforts. The school held a BBQ on the first day of school to celebrate the start of the year in recognition of everyone's efforts and to welcome our new students and staff. I also wish to acknowledge some of the outstanding results from our year 12 students last year which resulted in a SACE completion rate of about 94%. This also resulted in many students receiving their preferences at university and Tafe.



THE YEAR AHEAD AND BEYOND – EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

This year is a very significant one for our school as it will see the consolidation of our plans over the last few years and a range of new initiatives to further drive our improvement agenda. Our new Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) building is now complete together with our new Visual Arts Building. These new facilities are offering world class learning environments for our students together with new contemporary curriculum pathways preparing our students for jobs of the future.

It is also exciting to announce that our school will be receiving significant funds for further infrastructure developments this year.

The South Australian Government recently announced that our school will receive capital works funding to prepare for year 7 students starting in 2022 and support predicted future growth.

This is a fantastic opportunity to further upgrade our school infrastructure and provide contemporary facilities for innovative learning. This investment will also enable our school to grow to 900 places.

These developments will further support our ability to provide world class educational opportunities for our students together with a broad range of pathways allowing all students to achieve success.

I will share more information about this project with you as it becomes available.

Inside this newsletter:

From the principal Where are they now? YES—Tentastic Port Power Visit Outdoor Ed Aquatics Child Studies Excursion efence Career Pathways Clontarf Foundation English & Humanities Daymap Parent Portal

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Tahlia Cousins completed year 12 at PASS in 2018 and recently moved to Adelaide to undertake a Bachelor of Design: Illustration and Animation at UniSA which was her first preference pick. She is excited to be registering for classes and printing maps so that she doesn't get lost!

We wish her all the best for the year and have included an example of her recent work



YES—Tentastic

Senior students from the YES Centre are visiting Carton School again this year to mentor junior primary students through the Tentastic program.

Activities run for about 10-15 minutes and then students change activities. On average, three activities are run each session.

Tentastic teacher Ms Tabi Franco and YES Centre students in Years 10 -12 help 5 to 7-year-old students with basic maths and learning to read.



WE NEED PARENT SUPPORT

There are several areas in the school that require both parents and the school to be working closely together.

Uniform

All students are required to be in uniform at school. This assists in the development of our school culture and identity and is also an important safety measure in that it quickly identifies potential intruders. Our policy clearly states that if a student is not in uniform they will need to remain in the main courtyard during breaks. Please contact Student Services if you need any support with uniform requirements.

Attendance and Punctuality

There are clear links between attendance and student achievement. Even missing one day of school means a student will have to make an extra effort to keep up with the rest of the class. We will be keeping a close eye on school attendance this year and will contact parents where patterns emerge to ensure we are all working together to ensure students are taking full opportunity of the opportunities in our school.

Did you know?

If you are absent 5 days every term this means that you would have missed half a year of school by the time you have finished Year 12.

Research shows that one day missed takes four days of effort to catch up

Lunch Passes

As you would be aware lunch passes are only available for students in years 10-12.

We encourage all students to remain at school during the lunch period and we have excellent canteen facilities and recreation facilities for our students. However, if parents of year 10-12 students require their child to come home for lunch they must organise a formal lunch pass available through student services.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY FEB 28

Parent and community involvement in our school will be very important this year. The school's Annual General Meeting was held February 28, at 5.30pm. During the evening Helen Cox our Chairperson and I presented information relating to the future directions of Port Augusta Secondary School. If any parents are interested in participating on our Governing Council or would like more information please contact me at the school.

I look forward to working with staff, students and parents during the very exciting year ahead.

Pictured is the newly built STEM/Art centre.

Paul Billows Principal

Port Adelaide Power Visit, 19 February, 2019

On Tuesday, 19 February, our school was visited by some players from the Port Adelaide Football Club as a part of their AFL Community Camp in the region this week. They spoke to students about their work-life balance, how much hard work and dedication it takes to make it to the AFL and how important it is to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Thanks to Jack Watts, Pete Ladhams and Cameron Hewett for taking the time to visit our school.



Year 10 Outdoor Education Aquatics, 12 & 19 February, 2019

The year 10 outdoor education class went to the Port Augusta Aquatic Centre to be pushed out of our comfort zone and to learn new skills and abilities. During the Tuesdays of week 3 and 4 the class was split into two separate groups, each one would take a day sailing and another kayaking. We were taught about parts of the boat, risk management and new abilities. Both groups went really well and faced difficulties in both areas, especially sailing. There were many capsizes, injuries and loss of confidence but everyone was happy to be given the opportunity, and to have learnt new skills and abilities. Strong winds on the first week made sailing and kayaking extremely difficult, during the second week the wind wasn't as bad, making kayaking easier but the wind was blowing into a different direction causing the sailors to set course towards the open side of the gulf. Overall, the group thoroughly enjoyed the chance to be able to sail and kayak. We all came out with new skills and abilities and more resilience than when we first walked in. - Luke Magor



Child Studies Excursion 19 February, 2019

On Tuesday February 19, the stage 2 child studies class took an excursion to share their handmade toys, kits and learning aids with the children from the Port Augusta Special School. The assignment explored the well-being of children, including children with special needs, investigating contemporary issues relating to local support in a rural community and creating applicable activities or products that could be used by children who have a particular special need. The students from the school responded enthusiastically with the activities and toys developed by our stage 2 students, who actively involved themselves in communicating and playing with the children. We are looking forward to more community based activities.



Defence career pathways, 18 February, 2019

Students learned about possible career pathways and study options available in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) during a presentation in the YES Centre on Monday, February 18. Captain Tamara Treffiletti and Sergeant Rhiannon Bush, from the Australian Army, and Flight Sergeant Gary Kohn from the Royal Australian Air Force told students there are more than 200 jobs across the ADF in many and varied fields. They spoke of study opportunities that exist through the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) and of the options available in joining army reserves.

Students who take up university positions with the ADFA are paid a salary to attend and also have their fees paid for, but they are highly sort after and a very competitive process. The presenters emphasised that candidates applying for defence force jobs should possess leadership skills, maturity, communications skills, be physically and mentally robust, be a team player and demonstrate courage, adaptability and discipline. Students had the opportunity following the presentation to speak one on one with the personnel and have any questions answered.





Thank you to Auto One Port Augusta for supporting our Work Ready program in weeks 5 and 6.

Clontarf Foundation

The Clontarf Foundation opened its first academy way back in the year 2000 with 25 academy members at Clontarf College in Perth, Western Australia. Now there are over 7500 boys throughout 120 locations across Australia and we are thrilled to be at Port Augusta Secondary School, South Australia!

Kriston Thompson, Academy Director and Greg Shirley, Operations Officer will be spearheading the Clontarf Academy at PASS. The past few weeks have been spent: building relationships with staff and students, setting up a temporary academy room and undertaking professional development.

In week 3 at lunch time, 30-35 ATSI boys attended a 'meet and greet' to listen to some background about Clontarf and to enjoy some lunch. A big thankyou goes to the Ab Ed team and all other staff for promoting and also attending the session. Over the next few weeks, there will be further information sessions as well as Clontarf Induction sessions for the ATSI boys who are interested in joining the program. The temporary academy room will now be open: before school, during recess and lunch and after school. Feel free to drop in to say hello and enjoy some table tennis with the boys.



Year 8 Humanities Students go Digital

Daymap is an online program used at Port Augusta Secondary School for many functions. Teachers use it primarily for recording attendance, but the humanities teachers are making it a focus this year for their year 8 students' learning. Students have been shown how to access their learning resources and how to upload completed work directly to their teachers.

Teachers can then use the program for providing feedback to students and parents. Year 8 students have all completed a research task and have been supported in learning how to lodge the assignment on Daymap and access their grades and feedback from teachers by Daymap.

This is a great way for parents/caregivers to see what students are doing and if they are on track for success. If parents/caregivers have registered for access to Daymap, they too can access the student's grades and comments and are welcome to communicate with teachers via Daymap. See the Daymap Parent Portal instructions for access.



Year 9 students are discovering the technology that lead to the Industrial Revolution and how technological revolutions have continued throughout history and how they will impact on student's employment pathways and career choices in the future. The changes in society have been explored by focusing on graphing and analysing changes in population and by planning cities and identifying how they changed as populations and industries increased from 1750 to 1900.

English & Humanities

English Faculty

Ms McLean's English class have been focusing on how the English language changes. The changes to the English language can be traced back to the Norman Conquest and the way that Saxon and Norman words were interpreted and became associated with different groups in society. As travel and migration increased, words were borrowed from other languages and cultures. Looking at a menu, words such as 'hummus' and 'fetta' are borrowed from other languages and many more have become every day words. Slang and Jargon also influence language as an increasing use of words such as 'lol' and jargon such as 'Al' (Artificial Intelligence) become part of everyday speech. It is important for students to identify the different language types, as identifying them encourages students to be better equipped to understand where and how they can or cannot be used within their own writing and the reason why they are used in literature.







What our students are reading

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen is being studied by Mr Lambert's year 8 class this term. The novel is based around the idea of a teenage boy surviving a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness. Students are learning about descriptive language and how the protagonist changes throughout his journey.

Trash by Andy Mulligan is being studied by Ms Noack's year 9 class this term. This novel is about children living in poverty in a rubbish dump and surviving on the items they find. The mystery begins when they discover a bag filled with money. The themes within the book include moral issues, corruption within the government and developing compassion for others.

One of Us is Lying by Karen M. McManus is being studied by Ms Klepper's year 10 IPP class. This novel begins with high school students completing a detention when a student unexpectedly dies. The characters form friendships in the face of adversity as they must solve the mystery before one student is charged with murder.

Ms. Klepper's year 11 Essential English class will be studying J.B Priestley's play *An Inspector Calls*. This play revolves around a family with more secrets than they can count and a mysterious stranger asking probing questions. The play addresses issues of class, gender equality, family relationships and conflict.

The Messenger by Markus Zusak's, is about an ordinary boy who reluctantly becomes a hero. Ms Noack's year 12 English and English Literary Studies classes are studying this novel. Ms Evans' year 12 Essential English class is studying Steven Herrick's **The Simple Gift**. This poetry novel encompasses themes of belonging, youth homelessness and identity through the eyes of 17 year old Billy who runs away from his abusive father.









HOW TO ACCESS THE DAYMAP PARENT PORTAL



 Go to http://daymap.pass.sa.edu.au/DaymapConnect/ or access the parent portal from the Port Augusta Secondary School website (www.pass.sa.edu.au) under the "Daymap" heading on the home page.

2. Click on the "New User" link



Enter the email address you have registered with the school. (If you have not registered an email address with the school or have recently changed email addresses, please call Student Services on 8647 3300)

Enter the email address you have registered with the school along with a matching valid student code and a new passwort will be emailed to you
Your Email Address: example@hotmail.com
Student Code: 123456
Real Password

 Enter your child's six digit student code and click reset password. (Which can be found on their Student ID card or Timetable)

Promoting Success for all Students

An email with a new password will be sent to the registered email address.

Use the Name and Password <u>sent in this email</u> to sign in back at step 2. Your DayMap password has been reset and your account details are as follows:

Username: New Password: URL: <u>https://daymap.pass.sa.edu.au/DayMapConnect</u>

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IMMUNISATION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 8, 10 and 11 STUDENTS

The SA School Immunisation Program will be offered at your school by The Port Augusta City Council at the Port Augusta Secondary School.

All Year 8 students will be offered:

- 2 doses of human papillomavirus vaccine, Gardasil®9 at 2 separate visits.
- 1 dose of the diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough vaccine, Boostrix®

All Year 10 students will be offered:

- 2 doses of the meningococcal B vaccine, Bexsero® at 2 separate visits.
- 1 dose of the meningococcal ACWY vaccine, Nimenrix®

Year 11 students will be offered:

2 doses of the meningococcal B vaccine, Bexsero® at 2 separate visits.

Immunisation consent packs will be sent home shortly with all Year 8, 10 and 11 students. It is important that you read the information contained in the packs before you give consent for your child to be vaccinated at The Port Augusta Secondary School. If you have any questions about this program, please contact *Estelle Sharpe Immunisation Co-ordinator at the Port Augusta City Council on 86419100.*

All parents / legal guardians are required to complete, sign and return the Consent Cards, even if you do not consent for the student to be vaccinated at school.

IMPORTANT: Medicare number must be filled out on consent form.

If you do not receive an Immunisation Consent pack from your child please ask at the school office. Remember to keep your child's School Immunisation Program records in a safe place.

Promoting Success for all Students