



Roma Mitchell  
Secondary College



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*Shaping a better  
future locally  
and globally*

## Diary Dates 2015

11/3 Open Day	3-6/4 Easter
18/3 Gifted & Talented Information Evening	7/4 Year 8 Boys & Girls Immunisation
25/3 Governing Council AGM	10/4 2.15pm Students Dismissed
26/3 Aboriginal Parent Meeting 5.30pm	

## Principal's Report

Thank you to all of the families who joined us for our Sports Days held recently. It was fantastic to see our students getting involved in the events and doing their best to win points for their house. The mascots were a great morale booster and the new climbing wall event proved to be extremely popular. Thank you to Rise Church for providing the pancakes during recess time each day.

On February 19 we held our first Old Scholars BBQ to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2014. It was a wonderful opportunity for the old scholars to reconnect before they start their tertiary studies at university, TAFE or work and for the staff to find out what the students will be doing this year and beyond. If any Old Scholars would like our assistance with applying for a post school pathway please contact one of the School Counsellors, Cathryn Pearce or Jovan Vujinovic.

Cecilia Newell was presented with the 2014 Dux of School award at our full school assembly on Friday 20 February (pictured below). Cecilia achieved the top raw ATAR score of 93.9 and final ATAR score of 99.85 with bonus points. Thank you to her family and friends for coming along to join in the celebration. We wish Cecilia every success as she commences her studies in Psychology at UniSA.



Our annual Open Day will be held on Wednesday March 11. All families are invited to attend from 3-7pm. Tours of the school will be available and an information session will be held in the gymnasium at 6pm.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the school on Wednesday March 25 at 6.30pm. A copy of the agenda and a nomination form for parents was included in the previous newsletter. Copies are available at the school or can be downloaded from the website. There will be five parent vacancies for the 2015 Governing Council. The first Governing Council Meeting will be held immediately following the AGM. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

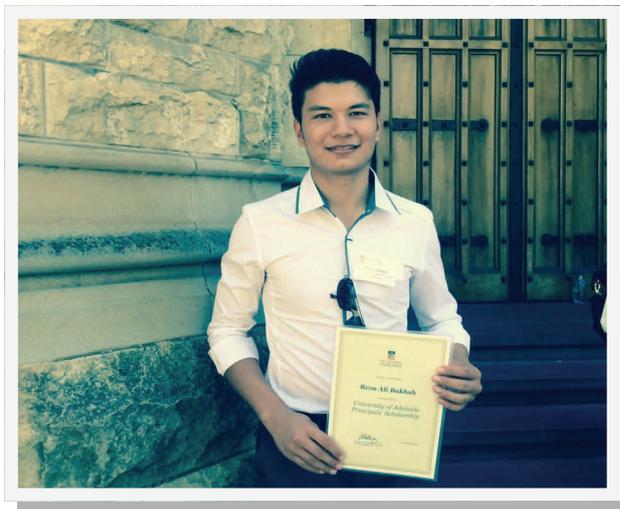
**Sandy Richardson**  
Principal

## Curriculum Report

### Adelaide University Principal's Award

One of our successful 2014 graduates Reza Ali Bakhsh

(pictured below) received a Principal's Scholarship Award last Monday at Bonython Hall, Adelaide University. The awards are presented to students across the state who are nominated by their School Principal, for displaying high academic



performance, leadership qualities and service to the school and wider community. The scholarship provides financial support for the first year of study at Adelaide University. Reza is now studying a double degree in Finance and Commerce at Adelaide University and we wish him all the best for his future studies.

### Snapshot Grades

Mid-term Snapshot Grades for Year 8 to 12 students in the Co-Educational and Girls' Campus

Last Wednesday afternoon our teachers reviewed the work done by their students so far this term. They assigned a grade for each student based on work done so far. This is not a predicted grade, but is a quick snapshot of what students have achieved so far this term. These mid-term grades will be sent home to parents this week and shared and discussed with students in week 7.

The purpose of these snapshot grades is to give students and parents a clearer indication of how students are progressing, while there is still time to complete work and improve the final term grade. You will receive a more detailed end of term report at the end of the term.

**Karen Fitzpatrick**  
Deputy Principal

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education

The Aboriginal Education team would like to acknowledge the success of our Year 12 students from 2014.

- Yutika Timothy-Nam has secured a full time traineeship with the Department for Planning, Transport & Infrastructure.
- Kylie Watkins has started studying Foundation Studies at Adelaide Uni.
- Rhiannon Murphy has commenced a Diploma in Hospitality at TAFE
- Jasmyne Campbell has started her Certificate III in Catering Operations course.
- Aggie Summers and Dylan Penney have both obtained part time work since completing their studies at RMSC

We would like to wish our Year 12 students from 2014 all the very best with their career pathways and futures.

There will be an Aboriginal Parent meeting held later in the term and a real focus for 2015 is the School Community Partnerships. There will be more information for parents, staff and students about this that will be discussed at the parent meeting. The Aboriginal Education team has been working with some of our Aboriginal parents to set up the School Community Partnerships and we look forward to working with more of our Aboriginal community members on this.

**Sarah Afshin Pour**  
Aboriginal Education Coordinator

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## Special Education Campus

We regard the completion of Negotiated Education Plans at the start of the school year as one of our main priorities. These meetings enable us to work closely with families and support agencies to develop targets that are linked to the Australian Curriculum, Modified SACE and Life Skills. Your input as caregivers is essential to the success of these meeting and I would like to express my thanks to all caregivers for fully supporting this process and affording it the time necessary to secure the positive outcomes that we seek for our students. This year we have endeavoured to make our Transition Coordinator, Alison Pazios, available to attend all meetings for

2015 leavers. Her role is to support students and caregivers as they explore fully the post-school options available to them after this final year of schooling. I would encourage the caregivers of our 2015 leavers to remain in touch with Alison throughout the year and, where possible, attend the open days offered by many of the post-school option providers.

I am pleased to announce that Gemma Upton has been appointed as our new Senior Years Curriculum and Numeracy Coordinator. Gemma will continue in her current classroom role whilst she seeks to further develop these key aspects of our work. Gemma will also be working closely with Lynley Johnston to ensure that we maintain our 100% Modified SACE achievement through our flexible and individualised programs.

If you have any questions about Modified SACE please feel free to contact either Gemma or Lynley either by phone or email.

Yet again I would like to thank all caregivers for their obvious support of our combined Sports Day on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. It was pleasing to see so many of our students enthusiastically supported by their caregivers as they made a significant contribution to this day which increasingly promotes our school values of Diversity, Respect, and Excellence. Sports Day is the first of many house competitions that run throughout the year and all Special Education students will contribute points to their house through attendance, sporting/cultural competitions, and citizenship. This year each of the three campuses have selected House Captains and I am pleased to announce that the House Captains from the Special Education Campus are:

Ricky Nguyen – Blue

Leslie Philp – Green

Martin Andrew - Red

Raksmeiy Khun - Yellow

**Andrew Gilsenan-Reed**  
Head of Campus: Special Education

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## Girls' Education Campus

Congratulations to all the SRC representatives who were presented with their badges at the assembly for the campus on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of March.

The representatives are as follows and we look forward to working with this enthusiastic group of students throughout the year.

## 2015 SRC Representatives—Girls' Campus

Care Group	Class Representative	Proxy
8GA	Situneam Woldemikael	
8GB	Leesha Cole	Chelsea Foyle
9GA	Tayla Kelly	Chelsey Gill
9GB	Nistha Patel	Raebea Safari
DSC1	Larissa Easter	Chloe Stubbings
10GA	Lynn Tran	Jacinta Jefferies Hitarthi Pandya
10GB	Naomi Winter	Shirin Mohammad Ali
10GC	Shiela France	Nargis Ayoubi
11GA	Alex Williams	Suad Nehme
11GB	Kyrah Barbieri	Saachi Kaur
11GC	Meskerem Berhanu	Shari Tolcher
12GA	Matenay Kamara Paulina Bangura	
12GB	Saneen Shazad Fatima Al Haiery	

Also congratulation to the House Captains who led the teams so well during our recent Sports Day.

The House Captains are:

Yellow Team	-	Jemma Cleere Anneliese Cleere
Red Team	-	Emily Hart Jessica Horsey
Blue Team	-	Shamsiya Mohammadi Laura McKeown
Green Team	-	Sarah Yokuno Situ Woldemikael

At the same assembly we discussed the celebrations for International Women's Day that were to occur on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, 15 On that morning 5 prefects and 2 senior SRC representatives attended the UN International Women's Day Breakfast. The students will present a fuller report about the

speakers and this event in the next newsletter.

Our assembly also gave the Girls' Campus an opportunity to recognize the voluntary work that Connie Attard had contributed since we had started at Roma Mitchell Secondary College.

Most of Connie's family members were able to join us at the assembly so that we could posthumously present the volunteers award for 2014 to Connie. Sadly, Connie passed away late last year and the students and staff have wanted to pass on our very deep appreciation of all she has done for the school, not only as a volunteer but as a woman who worked at the Gepps Cross Girls High School for more than 35 years as well. Connie will be missed by us all.

**Judith Clelland**  
**Head of Campus**

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## Co-Education Middle Years Campus

Things have settled quickly for students in the middle school with lots of fine work being produced. The school has been a very busy place with our new year 8 students witnessing our first whole school assembly last week. We have also had a series of house meetings leading up to Sports Day, student immunizations taking place and photographs being taken for class photos and student ID cards.

Congratulations must go to all of the SRC (Student Representative Council) members who were elected by their classes and they attended their first meetings last week before voting this week for members to be on their Executive.

Congratulations must also go to the 17 students from Year 9 who supported staff when we visited our feeder primary schools advertising our Open Day. These visits took place everyday over the last 3 weeks and mostly involved students visiting their former primary schools to talk about the differences they have found being at high school.

Students from the middle school having been running our radio station at lunchtimes, playing music out across the school whilst supported by Mr Simmons.

**Darryl Ashby**  
**Head of Co-Education Middle Years Campus**

## Co-Education Senior Years Campus

### Student Leadership Roles

The contributions of our Student Representative Council, School Prefects and House Captains are highly valued at our school. Congratulations and best wishes to the following 2015 Senior School Co-Education Campus student leaders:

### Student Representative Council

Care Group	Class Representative	Proxy
10CA	Luke Carr	Harvishi Patel
10CB	Vanshika Kapahl	
10CC	Jade Glen	
10CD	Lachlan Sullivan	
10CE	Taike Filivao	
10CF	Pranam Patel	
11CA	Christian Lysandrou	
11CB	Rebezah Mutanda	Dhruvi Patel
11CD	Hossein Anvari	Lochie Phillips
11CE	Shreyansh Patel	Caitlin Kirby
11CF	Kira Parkin	
12CA	Mahala Fegusen	Yash Barot
12CB	Angel Long	Ryan Benincasa
12CC	Rama Mutanda	Gary Singh
12CD	Antoniou Dao	Saa James

### House Captains

Gold	Alison Atkins & Ansu Boundoo
Red	Crystal Jurd & Nathan Farmer
Blue	Sheradyn Matthews & Rama Mutanda
Green	Charlotte Smith & Bhupinder Singh

### Prefects

Staff at our school nominated year 11 and 12 students from the Co-Education Campus, Girls Campus and Special Education Campus to undertake a Prefect role for 2015. Students then elected nominated student Prefects.

### Year 12 Prefects

#### Co-Education Campus

Alison Atkins  
Phillip Marrier  
Shirley Peng  
Nathan Rice

#### Girls Education Campus

Anneliese Cleere  
Brittney Higgs

#### Special Education Campus

Vicky Quan

### Year 11 Prefects

#### Co-Education Campus

Chloe Dziego  
Christine Gadlan  
Dakota Nixon  
Barnett Luo

#### Girls Education Campus

Arissa Robles Rangel  
Ria Aiyar

#### Special Education Campus

Jessica Carter  
Nathaniel Stanley

The role of the Prefect includes:

- representing the school at various functions
- being an excellent role model for other students, including exemplary code of conduct and academic achievement
- being an adviser where student opinion is sought
- supporting students from primary schools during transition and at the start of their secondary schooling
- conveying a student voice to leadership where there are concerns in a certain area

Meetings are held regularly to plan and organise their involvement in school events, including hosting assemblies, participating as tour guides during Open Night, fundraising events and activities for students during pastoral care sessions.

### Old Scholars

A very successful Old Scholars barbecue was held at the school on Thursday 19 February for 2014 year 12 student graduates from the Co-Education and Girls' Campus. This was an informal social event that was organised to keep students informed about what is happening at our school and also an opportunity for students to maintain friendships.

### Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum

Students will be engaging with the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS: CPC) as part of our pastoral care program. The aim is to support students in keeping safe by providing them with knowledge, skills and understandings toward positive wellbeing and personal safety. The teachers delivering the program have received training in the curriculum. The KS: CPC has been developed by child protection experts and experienced educators from South Australian schools. It covers a range of concepts including new additional material on cotemporary issues such as bullying and cyber safety. More information can be accessed on the DECD Child Protection Curriculum site <http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teachingandlearning/pages/pandp/childprotection/>

### Snapshot grades

Students will have an opportunity to consolidate their learning when they receive their mid term/snapshot grades. Students will work with their care group and subject teachers to discuss and plan improvement strategies to improve their end of term grades.

### Driver Application Form and Student Car Park

Students who drive vehicles to school must complete a driver application form. The form can be collected from Student Services and will need to be signed by a parent/carer and returned to the care group teacher. On approval a car park permit will be issued and the student's vehicle is required to be parked at the front of the school, in the designated student car park area.

### Year 12 Formal

The Year 12 Formal will be held in the Star Room at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Friday, 5 June 2015 for students in Year 12. This event is a way for students to interact socially during the busy school year and is organised by the Year 12 Prefects. This will be an official school event and staff will be present to supervise.

### Pepe Bouzalas

#### Head of Co-Education Senior Years Campus

## Sport

### RMSC students get the ball rolling

Last week The RMSC Specialist Football Program was featured

in an article for the local City North Messenger. Students discussed the benefits of the program and how it has helped them develop skills and knowledge that they can apply in the real world. According to year 12 student Rama Matunda, the program has increased his enthusiasm for learning whilst developing his leadership, teamwork and communication skills.

Designed to provide students with a variety of career pathways the program has seen a 10-fold increase enrolments in recent years. Having started with 12 students four years ago, the program now has close to 100 across junior and senior levels from both the Co-Education and Girls' Education Campuses, creating a rich and diverse program.

Any students considering taking part in the program or requiring more information are encouraged to see Mr Tsiounis.



*Alison Atkins, Katerina Mattheou, Jake Giannini, Rama Mutanda and Justin Nguyen*

### Alison Atkins

#### Year 12 Special Interest Football Student

### Senior Boys' Cricket

The Senior Boys' Cricket team was undefeated all day, however they lost a tight final to the reigning indoor champions, The Heights. The highlight of the day was a 120 run win against Parafield Gardens. The best player on the day was the wicket keeper, Corey.



*Ezzat Abdullah, Mitchell Groves, Corey Hall, Josh Kaye, Dakota Nixon, Shreyansh Patel, Siddharth Peppat, Lucas Ritchie-Carvell and Bhupinder Singh*

## Sports Day

It's that time of year again, after 5 weeks of training it was time for the annual sports days.

Wednesday was Girls' Campus day and the girls turned out in numbers to compete for their house. The weather was perfect, the free pancake and sausage sizzle smelled great and the huge climbing wall towering on the oval all painted a picture for what was to be a fantastic day.

Records were recorded, as girls made strong cases for interschool athletics selection across the throwing events, jumping events and running events.

By lunchtime all that was left to decide the winning house was the tunnel ball and the relays. Teachers put in brave teams in both events but were defeated by very strong house teams led by determined house captains.

At the end of the day after the top athletes for each year level were awarded their medals the winning house was announced and Gold was victorious.

Many thanks to all the people who worked very hard to create this fabulous day.

Combined Sports Day was on a sunny Thursday and the colour and enthusiasm as the students assembled for their first events was spectacular to see. Just as on the girls day the climbing wall was a tremendous success.

The pancakes were a hit and the BBQ sizzled all day. Seniors set high standards across all events. Classes worked their way through Discus, Javelin, Shot put, High jump, Long Jump, Tug of war, Tunnel ball, 100m, 200m and Climbing wall. Individual champions were recorded and the top boy and girl for each year level was awarded their medal by the principal at the end of day presentation.

Just like the girls sports day, the teachers put in a strong team into the senior relay led by a lightning Russ McLean, however sloppy baton work let the team down and they were soundly defeated by a super quick house captains team.

By the end of the 100m finals and relay finals there was a clear house winner and that was Blue house. Classy speeches were made by the Blue house captains and again I'd like to thank all the hard working staff and volunteers who made the day possible.

Congratulations to all who participated and I can't wait for next year.

**Philip Hernes**  
**Sports Coordinator**

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## The UniSA Innovation Challenge

A group of Roma Mitchell Secondary College students and staff have been selected to take part in the University of South Australia STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Innovation Challenge. The challenge involves students in a series of STEM-based activities presented in school and to a panel at UniSA. The participating students will be able to achieve a Stage 1, 10 credit Scientific Studies unit that will go towards their SACE. The winning team and teacher will receive a fully paid study tour to The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC in the United States of America.

This is an invitation only event that commenced at the start of this year for high achieving year 10 or 11 students from government secondary schools in northern and western regions of Adelaide.

The challenge has two major components.

### Phase 1 – The Challenges

The challenges are being conducted in partnership with

Northern Advanced Manufacturing Industry Group (NAMIG).

Participating students will engage at school with the following 4 challenges:

**Science** - Design, manufacture and test a water craft that can collect multiple water samples from a wetlands water environment for water quality testing. Students will then report on the health of the ecosystem.

**Technology** – Design, construct and program a vehicle to follow set instructions accurately using the Arduino equipment supplied. This also involves designing a chassis to be produced with a 3D printer.

**Engineering** – Construct a remote controlled aircraft with GPS and camera imaging technology to deliver parcels to pre determined sites.

**Mathematics** – Design and mathematically justify a housing estate that proposes solutions to real world problems representing some of society’s big challenges such as those in water, transportation, renewable energy and health.

Students will showcase their responses to the challenges at a public event within the school community. The school challenges will be completed during Semester 1 and six students will be selected to represent our school in the second phase of the Innovation Challenge Portfolio.

### Phase 2 – Final Innovation Challenge Portfolio Day

On 18 August 2015, as a part of Science Week, the school team of six students will participate in the Final Innovation Challenge Portfolio Day activities at UniSA Mawson Lakes campus. They will formally present their school Innovation Challenge Portfolio to a judging panel and they will also complete a new challenge on the day.

The group of dedicated students and supporting staff are currently working every lunchtime and Tuesdays after school to prepare for the challenges.

**Community members who can contribute any technical expertise related to any of the challenges are encouraged to contact Stamatia Overell on 81614644.**

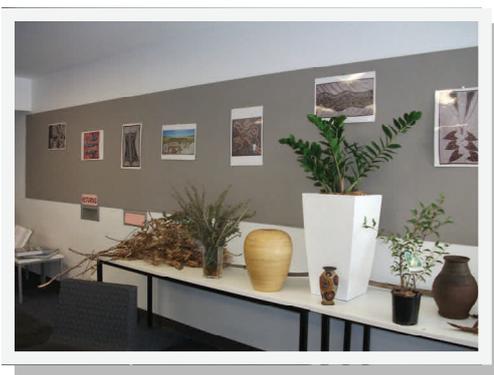
## Library News

There is three new staff in the Library this year; Peter Evans - Teacher Librarian, Derek Duke – Teacher and Sharon Corkin – Library Officer.

We look forward to promoting and teaching your children the value of a library by assisting them with their researching, updating reading material in fiction and non-fiction and being available to assist with their requests to enhance their learning. New novels are now arriving for students to borrow.

We have just donated some older novels and non-fiction book to a local African man Saa Mondeh, who will be sending them off to the Sierra Leone, East Africa to boost education in primary schools.

We have had many exciting displays which have resulted in much interest for both staff and students; from Chinese New Year to Aboriginal Reconciliation day. At present we are acknowledging International Women’s Day and future displays will feature Harmony Day, Easter and 100 years celebration of the landing of Australian troops at Gallipoli. We encourage you to see see our our to



displays on Open night and let us know of any local events we can promote to our students and staff.

It is pleasing to see the Library ‘a buzz’ at lunchtimes with 100+ students playing UNO, Chess and reading books. The Premier’s Reading Challenge is in full swing this year involving students from Years 8 to 11 with a record number of applicants. Students - please read, read, read.

The Library is open after school Monday, Tuesday and Thursday until 4pm and 3:45pm on Friday. Homework Club is available on Monday and Languages are taught on Tuesday and Thursday after school in the Library.

**Peter Evans**  
Teacher Librarian

## Partners in Dance

Our school participated in the Salisbury Secret Garden event as part of the Festival Fringe on Sunday 22nd February and Monday 23rd February. The event, Partners in Dance, was held at St Jay's Recreation Centre, 15 Brown Terrace, Salisbury and included a number of neighbouring schools. Members of the audience were entertained through a program of different dance items, which enabled students to showcase their skills.

I would like to thank Adele Shannon and Stefana Petrov in preparing their dance students for this event in just 4 weeks! I also wish to congratulate the students who were keen to rehearse in that time and who performed well in this event, particularly on the Sunday in extremely hot weather, which reflected their commitment to Dance.

**Delia Krcmarov**  
**Senior Leader**  
**Arts, Design and Technology**

## Gifted Awareness Week

The inaugural Gifted Awareness Week will be held throughout Australia from March 15th - 22nd 2015.

As part of celebrations in South Australia, GTCASA will present a parent evening, a very special family day, and a professional development session for teachers.

For more information, please visit the Gifted & Gifted & Talented Children's Association of South Australia's website:  
<http://gtcasa.asn.au/>

## Finance

2015 Materials and Services Fees are now due.

Payment can be made by cash, cheque, credit card, eftpos or direct debit.

If you would like to arrange direct debit payments or payments by instalments please contact the Finance Manager on 81614600.

### School Card 2015

Parents/Caregivers are reminded that a new school card application must be submitted every year. Forms are available at Student Services.

Please contact Student Services on 8161 4644 if you require any information regarding eligibility or assistance with completing the application.

### Friendly Reminders

The first instalment for the following commitment to pay plans are now due;

Laptop Instalment Plan  
 Uniform Payment Plan  
 Materials and Services Charges

LAPTOPS: Friendly reminder, the first laptop instalment payment for 2015 is due to be paid by 26th February.

**Carmel Hall**  
**Finance Manager**

