



Roma Mitchell  
Secondary College



## In this Edition:

Principal's Report

Curriculum Report

Special Education

Girls' Education

Co-Education &  
Girls' Education

Aboriginal & Torres Strait  
Islander Education

Art Showcase

Science News

Finance

*Shaping a better*

*future locally*

*and globally*

## Diary Dates

18/9	Principal's Tour - Co-Education and Girls' Education Campuses Quiz Night 6.30pm	12/10	Term 4 Commences
24/9	STEM Presentation Evening	21/10	Parent Teacher Interviews 2.45pm - 7pm
25/9	Last Day of Term Early Dismissal at 2.15pm		

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Our recent Arts Showcase which was held at the Golden Grove Performing Arts Centre was a great success. Over 120 of our very talented students were involved in the visual arts exhibition and performances in drama, dance and music. It was fantastic to see so many of our families coming along to support our students.

Congratulations to the students who won awards for their entries in the categories of Photography, Textiles and 3D Printing at the Royal Adelaide Show.

Congratulations to all of the students involved in Tournament of Minds held at Flinders University recently. Five teams were entered in the categories of Maths & Engineering, Applied Technology, Social Science and Language's Literature. Well done to the Maths & Engineering Team for winning Honours.

### Quiz Night

Our very first fundraiser Quiz Night is being held on Friday 18 September 2015 at 6:30pm for a 7pm start and finishing by 10pm. Tickets are \$10 each and all funds raised will go towards outdoor shade structures and seating. Tickets are selling fast, so please contact the school and book your tickets to avoid missing out. I look forward to seeing you there. Don't forget to wear your favourite Sport's Team colours.

### **SpiRit of Science Scholarship**

We are thrilled for Makalie Watts–Owens who has been selected as a recipient of the Maurice de Rohan Scholarship (SpiRit of Science).

This scholarship will give Makalie a unique opportunity to further her passion for science by attending the Royal Institute of Great Britain's Christmas Lectures in London and visiting places of scientific significance as well as some of London's historical landmarks.

The Christmas Lectures, started by scientist Michael Faraday in 1825, are the UK's flagship science series providing entertaining and informative learning opportunities for young people. The study tour will take place in December 2015.

### **Parent Opinion Surveys**

A parent opinion survey was sent via the DayMap parent portal and email to all families who have supplied an email address to our school, on Tuesday 8 September. The survey will stay open until the end of the term. I hope you will be able to find a few spare minutes to provide some feedback to us about Roma Mitchell Secondary College. Your feedback will assist us to review our priorities and to continue to improve our work with you and your children. This information will be used to report to our school community in our Annual Report.

Further parent opinion surveys are planned for this year on specific topics. The next survey will be sent to you soon seeking your feedback on our Maths and Numeracy programs. Your comments will assist us to plan for the implementation of our new Maths Specialism. The final survey will be sent to you in early term 4. We are currently in the process of reviewing the E Technology Policy and would like some parent feedback about this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday.

**Sandy Richardson**  
Principal

## **CURRICULUM REPORT**

Over the past two years our teaching staff have been very busy working together to plan curriculum units and teaching strategies that can

really help students improve their learning. Like schools all over Australia we are delivering the content specified by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). We are also using the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IBMYP) framework to ensure that our planning involves consistent, clear assessment criteria that enables all teachers and students to think deeply and broadly about the world. The Middle Years IB programme encourages student to make practical connections between their studies and the real world both locally and globally. The IBMYP is inclusive; students of all interests and academic abilities can benefit from their participation. So far all of our Year 8 and 9 students in the Girls' and Co-Education Campuses are involved in the IBMYP.

From 2016 year 8, 9 and 10 students will be immersed in the programme and increasingly Special Education students will be engaged in learning experiences linked to the IBMYP framework.

Our school will undergo a rigorous evaluation process run over several days, to ensure we are planning and teaching at the high levels expected by the International Baccalaureate Organisation. This is tentatively planned for term 3 next year.

If you would like to be more involved in giving feedback about our Curriculum at Roma Mitchell Secondary College we have a Curriculum Committee made up of parents, students and teachers. Our next meeting is Friday 6 November at 1.45pm. Please contact me if you are interested.

Term 3 Reports will be sent to families by the start of the holidays. Information about Parent Teacher Interviews on Wednesday 21 October will be included with the reports.

Please contact me directly on 8161 4600 if you have any concerns or any difficulties making interview times.

**Karen Fitzpatrick**  
Deputy Principal

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION CAMPUS**

During recent weeks I have found myself reflecting upon how fortunate our students are to have such a diverse range of people not only supporting and

nurturing them but also actively embracing the role of the advocate. We believe that we offer all of our students a first class learning experience and work towards preparing them for post school life and engagement with our wider community. Though the high school years often appear to stretch out into the far distance we are aware of the urgency required to work collaboratively with families and agencies to offer our students successful and sustainable futures. To this end we engage with our community in a variety of meetings and forums and this is where many of those nagging doubts are laid to rest.

Our recent National Disability Insurance Scheme meeting was both well-attended and informative. Natasha's presentation provided those in attendance with a clear picture of the successes and challenges facing this initiative which will impact significantly upon the lives of all Australians living with a disability. Whilst the stories shared informally between caregivers highlighted both the challenges and potential rewards of the scheme, they also underlined the importance of support groups who not only act as advocates but also support caregivers as they seek to be advocates for their child.

The latest round of interviews held onsite by Advanced Personnel Management (APM) were attended by a number of Year 12 students seeking employment or training in 2016. It was heartening to see so many students supported by caregivers, teachers and SSOs as they presented their resumes and discussed their future dreams. The support provided prior to the event was clearly evidenced by the quality of the resumes and the questions students brought to the meetings. The APM staff were impressed not only by the levels of support offered to students but also by the probing questions of those in attendance.

Finally we recently held a number of meetings with the caregivers of our Year 10 students who were invited to review NEPs, discuss progress and explore post school options. During these meetings many of the caregivers discussed the service providers open days that they had attended both with the school and independently. For many of the caregivers it was not the first time they had visited the providers and many spoke of the support and insights they had gained from the caregivers of past students.

Therefore I can conclude that I am confident that if we continue to work collaboratively to support and empower every member of the team supporting

each child we will secure success through the power of advocacy.

**Andrew Gilsenan-Reed**  
**HEAD OF CAMPUS**

### **GIRLS' EDUCATION CAMPUS**

The term has passed very quickly. The year 8 camp was a great success and all the students who attended enjoyed it.

Next year we are looking at coming up with some alternative activities.

We have been involved in appointing a new Pastoral Care Worker at the Girls' Campus. As you know we farewelled Lauren Foote late last term and Matt Neale has been working with us to support many of the students who formerly worked with Lauren. Thanks to Matt for all his contributions this term and a particular thanks to Elle Ahrens who continued to run the lunchtime Christian group and the Knitting group for Lauren.

Vanessa Grebenshikoff has won the position of Pastoral Care Worker at our site and she was delighted to accept the position. Vanessa will attend Orientation training in week 10 and start in the school at the beginning of next term. We look forward to working with her.

Congratulations to Makalie Watts-Owen who has won the scholarship for the Spirit of Science which includes a trip to London in December to attend science lectures promoted by the BBC. Her trip will also involve quite a bit of sightseeing as well. We look forward to hearing about the lectures and London generally, early next year. Again congratulations Makalie.

**Judith Clelland**  
**HEAD OF CAMPUS**

### **CO-EDUCATION AND GIRLS' EDUCATION** **CAMPUSES SENIOR YEARS**

#### **Year 10 Uni SA Career Awareness Program**

As part of the Career Awareness Program the entire year 10 cohort were involved in a presentation by University of South Australia. The presentation was designed to complement the career match profile which was completed in their PLP classes as part of the Career Awareness Program. They looked at personal attributes, which

influence career decision-making. Students were introduced to the possibility of university study and what they need to consider when looking at tertiary study as an option.

### **Road Awareness Program - MFS take powerful RAP message to year 11's**

Firefighters from the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) provided a powerful road safety message to our year 11 students on Thursday 3 September. The firefighters delivered the MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP). The MFS RAP, sponsored by RAA and the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation, is a successful program presented by MFS firefighters in Secondary Schools throughout metropolitan Adelaide and regional South Australia. This is the fifth year that this program has been provided to students. The MFS firefighters presented a hard hitting and emotional RAP where they gave students the opportunity to see the consequences of bad decision making.

Feedback received from Chad Thomas SAMPS Station Officer, RAP Coordinator on behalf of the presenter Gavin was extremely positive. Our students were very attentive and their feedback showed that they had taken the messages about road safety very seriously .

### **Year 12 Uni SA STEM Tutorial Program**

Following the success of the program from 2011-2014, the Uni SA will once again be conducting the Year 12 STEM Tutorial Program at Uni SA Mawson Lakes in the term 3 school holidays for nominated year 12 students. The tutorials are designed to consolidate subject knowledge and build subject specific examination skills in Biology, Physics, Maths Studies and Chemistry.

### **Year 11 Research Project and year 12 holiday revision and catch-up sessions**

Teachers will be coming in during the school holidays for revision and catch-up sessions with their classes. A timetable will be provided to students outlining the days and times teachers will be available for extra help.

### **SATAC Applications**

Students in year 12 have received information about their transition from school to post school destinations including South Australian Tertiary Admission Centre (SATAC) applications. Teachers have been working with year 12 students during study lines to finalise applications.

### **University Admissions**

Critical date for undergraduate semester 1 2016 university admissions: Wednesday 30 September 2015.

Early closing date for most undergraduate courses  
Students must apply by this date to save paying a late fee.

### **TAFE SA Admissions**

Key dates for Semester 1, 2016 TAFE SA Admissions

Monday 14 September 2015

Open: Applications open for Semester 1, 2016 courses

Monday 30 November 2015

Equal Consideration for Competitive Course Preferences: Submit by this date to be guaranteed equal consideration

Friday 11 December 2015

Early round for first preference non-competitive courses accepting all eligible applicants

Friday 18 December 2015

TABS: Last date to undertake the TAFE SA Assessment of Basic Skills (TABS) for consideration in the main January offer round

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 81614600.

### **Pepe Bouzalas**

#### **Head of Campus Senior Years**

## **CO-EDUCATION MIDDLE YEARS**

### **Co-Education Year 8 Camps**

During week 6 and 7, year 8 students attended school camp. The camp was at Woodhouse Activity Centre in the Adelaide Hills and it went over 3 days. On the Monday of both weeks, students travelled by bus to get there. The trip took about 40-45 minutes. Once we got there, we went to sort out our cabins and luggage. Afterwards, we got split up into groups and started our first activity. For one group, it was outdoor laser skirmish, and for the other it was Challenge Hill. Lunch was then eaten and it was off to our next activity.

The activities that we were given the opportunity to participate in over the course of the 3 days were outdoor laser skirmish, challenge hill – an outdoor obstacle course, frisnet golf, orienteering and craft activities. We also had to serve meals and clean up before and after them. Overall, we got served 7 meals a day so we were never left hungry. These

meals included breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner, dessert and supper.

On the final day, we cleaned up our cabins and gathered our luggage so we were ready to leave. We got to participate in one last activity before we left. The games room was also open to anyone who wanted to play Ping-Pong. Overall, we made new friends, learnt new skills and practiced teamwork. It was a challenging and enjoyable experience because of this.



**Leyla Barnett and Liam Tomlin**  
**YEAR 8 STUDENTS**

## **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION**

**Reconciliation 'Racism – it stops with me!'**

### **Congress**

On Tuesday August 25 Rome Mitchell Secondary College students Mitch Blackmore, Makalie Watts-Owens, Zac Pink, Hossein Anvari, Lauryn Metcalfe and Isobel McLean attended and participated in the annual Reconciliation SA Congress that was held at Alberton Oval.

On the day students interacted with secondary students from 8 different schools from the Northern and Western Adelaide regions and discussed experiences of racism and what it's meant for them. Theatre company, Act Now worked with students to address racism in a number of confronting scenarios that students were encouraged to participate in.

Schools also had the privilege of hearing from special guest, Ellie Lovegrove who spoke to students about her own experiences of racism. Ellie explained that these experiences led her to write a song that she then performed for us.

The final part of the day involved each school returning to their table to work with their teachers and Amnesty International staff to start planning cultural safety in their own schools. Mitch, Makalie, Zac, Hossein, Lauryn, Isobel and Mrs. Afshin Pour look forward to working with the staff, students and the community of Roma Mitchell Secondary College to ensure that racism is addressed.



**Roma Mitchell Secondary College students who attended the Reconciliation Congress about Racism**

### **Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts**

The Aboriginal Education Team has been lucky enough to recently link with the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts which is the largest Indigenous performing arts organisation in Australia and is based in Brisbane. The centre offers a three year course that includes a Certificate IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma of Performing Arts. For more information please contact Jamahl or Sarah on 81614600.

### **Marni Wingku School Holiday Program**

Coming up in the school holidays Wiltu Yarlou from Adelaide Uni are running a program called 'Marni Wingku' from September 30 until October 1 2015 for Aboriginal high school students in Years 8-12.

For more information please contact Jamahl or Sarah on 81614600.

**Sarah Afshin Pour**  
**Aboriginal Education Coordinator**

## **ARTS SHOWCASE**

Roma Mitchell Secondary College held its first Arts Showcase evening in Week 6, at the Golden Grove Arts Centre, which approximately 115 students participated in. The evening was an entertaining one. Family, friends and staff were firstly welcomed to an impressive gallery of student Visual Art works on display in the foyer from our four campuses. This included student photography, clay work, paintings, drawings, and printmaking.

Once the audience members viewed the gallery they moved into the theatre and were entertained by an evening of student performances from Dance, Drama, Music, and film making from Media Arts.

During intermission coffee and tasty biscuits were served, which were prepared by the Hospitality Vet class, especially for the evening.

I would like to thank the following staff who worked together to make the evening Showcase a successful event.

Bronwyn Murphy – Music  
 Kirsty Forbes – Music  
 Jo Roberts – Music  
 Sean Venning – Performer in Mass Defect and Stage Manager  
 Adele Shannon – Dance and Drama  
 Charlotte Eastland – Drama  
 Stafana Petrov - Dance  
 Christina Georgiou - Visual Arts, Media Arts  
 Dave Gomer - Visual Arts/Design  
 Rosemary Rocca – Photography  
 Jennifer Theakstone – Photography  
 Stephanie Graham – Media Arts, Arts Special Education  
 Wendy Williams - Regional Class  
 Andrea Altamura - Visual Arts Regional Class  
 Glynis Gartner – Visual Arts  
 Sammy Overell – Food and Hospitality

**Delia Krcmarov**  
**Senior Leader**  
**Arts, Design & Technology**  
**SCIENCE NEWS**

## **SCIENCE ALIVE EXPO**

On Friday 7 August year 9 and 10 students from the Co-Education and Girls' Education Campus went to the Science Alive Expo. For year 9 students to be eligible to go, we had to write an application that explained why we wanted to go, what experience we would get from the day and how it would help us think about career ideas. When we reached our destination there were so many interesting things to see such as a solar powered car, a star observing tent and a science circus, some of us were even able to pat a snake! From the day we got great ideas for future careers so all in all we had a good time and I would encourage others to go next year.



**Sebastian and Sajad Khazayee**

Sen

**Diana Hinic**  
**SCIENCE TEACHER**

## **FINANCE**

Final notices will soon be issued for outstanding 2015 Materials and Services fees. Please contact the Finance Manager on 8161 4600 to discuss payment of outstanding fees.

Payment can be made by cash, credit card, eftpos, cheque and direct debit (see information below).

**DIRECT DEBIT:** The school is now also offering direct debit payment plans. Payments can be made from your nominated bank or credit card

account. Payments can occur weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

If you think this payment option will assist you in finalising amounts outstanding for school fees, laptops, uniform or Year 8 camp please contact the Finance Manager on 8161 4600 to arrange a suitable time to set up an instalment payment plan.

#### **FRIENDLY REMINDERS:**

Laptop Commitment to Pay Plans: the third instalment was due to be paid by 27<sup>th</sup> August.

Thankyou to families who have already made payments.

#### **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.

Approved School Card applicants are relieved from paying the Material and Services Charges. **The closing date for applications is 13 November 2015. Applications cannot be accepted after this date.**

**Carmel Hall  
FINANCE MANAGER**

#### **WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROGRAM**

As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We are now at the important stage of the program where the Sticker Sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week, please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn stickers you may have.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

*The school office is open between 8.30am and 4.00pm each school day. Our friendly staff will help you with any questions or queries.*

**Principal:** Sandy Richardson

**Phone:** 08 8161 4600

**Fax:** 08 8161 4650

#### ***Street and Postal Address:***

Briens Road  
Gepps Cross SA 5094

**Region:** Northern Regional Office

**Email:** dl.1902.info@schools.sa.edu.