



Yorketown Area School

Growing Minds, Shaping Hearts, Changing Lives

No. 1 - 15th February 2018

DATES TO REMEMBER

February		
Monday	19	Governing Council AGM 7.00pm in Library
Friday	23	Young Leaders Development Day
Wednesday	28	Student Leader Induction Ceremony 1.30pm in gym Parents and Friends AGM 5.30pm in Library
March		
Tuesday	6	School Photos
Thursday	8	Newsletter
Friday	9	YAS Sports Day
Monday	12	Public Holiday – Adelaide Cup
Monday	19	Governing Council
Wednesday	21	Harmony Day
Thursday	29	Newsletter
Friday	30	Good Friday
April		
Monday	2	Easter Monday
Tuesday	3	Student Free Day - TBC
Tuesday	10	Primary Assembly 2.15pm
Friday	13	End Term 1 – 2.10 dismissal
Monday	30	First Day – Term 2

Yorketown Area School Governing Council

AGM

**Monday 19 February
7.00pm in the YAS
Community Library**

YAS Parents and Friends

AGM

**Wednesday 28
February
5.30pm in the Library
AGM will be followed
by a general meeting
Everyone very
welcome**

Student Leaders' Induction

**Wednesday 28 Feb
1.30pm in the Gym
All parents and friends are
welcome to celebrate the
induction of our 2018
leaders.
Those interested may also
observe the Wednesday
afternoon electives.**

CANTEEN ROSTER - TERM 1

Tuesdays -Canteen Closed

Fri 23/2
Kerry Braund

Fri 2/3
Anissa Thompson

Fri 9/3
Sports Day

Principal's Message

Welcome back to the new school year. There have been a number of changes this year to help us implement our vision around “growing minds, shaping hearts and changing lives”. You will have noticed the new student “journal” which is more than an organizational tool as it also provides a wellbeing resource. Teachers will actively engage students in the wellbeing activities in the journal for 2 lessons a week as part of the structured Pastoral Care program. This will incorporate organization, goal setting, health & relationship curriculum, child protection curriculum, wellbeing and mindfulness. Home group, is now a 15 minutes session after lunch, meaning students go straight into lessons at the start of the day. The 15 minutes is used for quick activities, SRC information and in Term Two “mindfulness” will be introduced during this time. YAS is using the “Smiling Minds” program, which is used in many Victorian schools and worldwide. Staff are familiarizing themselves with the program in Term 1 and will introduce it to students in Term 2. We also had “electives” start last week. Wednesday afternoons students have the opportunity to engage in some less formal learning in activities such as Lego Technics, Clay Pots, Athletics, Yoga, Horticulture, Plain Speaking and Creative Writing. Students can have time to engage in an area of learning they enjoy with students from multiyear levels. Senior students have the opportunity to assist teachers in leading electives and Naomi Zoumis is leading a Dance elective. Students have adjusted well to the changes and it has been pleasing to see them embrace change and be prepared to try new activities.

Classes are settled and most Open Access subjects have started. There have been a couple of issues with Open Access enrolments but these are currently being finalized. We have also encountered some IT problems – these are mainly due to DECD filtering that we are working through. We do have a WiFi Hub that we can use if there are problems. It is important that students see Mrs Mack 15 minutes before their lesson to check that everything is working.

We are looking forward to a great year of learning and encourage you to take the opportunities offered throughout the year (parent interviews & Learning Expo) to share our student's educational journeys.

Fiona Haselgrove
Principal

From the Senior School

It is a pleasure to be in the senior school at YAS this year and getting to know all our senior students. Despite a few new faces and changes, so far we've had a smooth start to Term 1.

This term is an opportunity for our students and teachers to set the tone for their class, as well as contribute to our overall senior school culture. Students have enthusiastically engaged with activities in pastoral care and electives, where they can demonstrate and develop resilience and leadership in different learning areas.

We are encouraging students and families to become more familiar with the SACE website and Schools online (www.sace.sa.edu.au) as students are able to track their SACE pattern and see past results. Additionally, SACE English this year is the first SACE subject that all external assessments are submitted online.

I'm sure it will be a busy and exciting year – I'm looking forward to meeting more families and supporting YAS students in their final years at school.

Elouise Fehring
Senior School Coordinator

From the Middle School

Welcome back to the Middle School for what we plan to be an engaging and challenging year. We have a great teaching team all of whom are passionate about encouraging the best learning from our students.

Ms Pritchard, Mr Hutchings and Mr Buckerfield are the Home Group teachers and the other teachers who make up the Middle School team are Mr Parker, Mr Talbot, Ms Every and myself.

Following on from last year's focus on effort and persistence, this year we are focussing on building our students into confident, resilient, inquisitive young people who actively engage with their learning in real and meaningful ways.

The students have already set themselves some goals for the term and for the year and are working towards achieving them. Many of the strategies we are using can be found in the your child's diary and we ask that you please ensure these come to school every day as they are regularly being used in Home Group.

Each five weeks the Middle School teaching team will be reviewing every student's progress. Teachers will contact home if there are any areas of concern. However should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We also look forward to hearing your feedback on the teaching and learning program in the Middle School. We are continually aiming for improvement and will take all constructive feedback into consideration.

Beth Walsh

Deputy Principal/Middle School Sub School Leader

From the Junior School

Welcome to the 2018 school year! The Junior School has had a wonderful start to the year with students quickly settling into their new classes and showing lots of motivation to succeed this year.

This term we have welcomed new students Diesel, Sienna, Sebastian, Shyla, Kai, Kodi, Theo and Tyler in Reception and Sunny and Corey in to year six.

The beginning of the year is always busy with sport and swimming activities. Junior School beach days are coming up quickly with the R-2 students visiting Bluff Beach on Thursday February 22nd followed by the 5-6 students on Monday February 26th and the 3-4 students on Tuesday 27th. If you haven't already returned consent forms and payment to the school, please do so before Tuesday next week.

Thank you to the parents and community members who have already been in listening to students read and helping classes to make a great start. We are extremely grateful for all of your efforts.

We are always looking for more volunteers to assist with reading and other activities around the school. If you are able to help, please contact your child's teacher.

Erin Rose

Junior School Coordinator

Wellbeing at YAS in 2018

Part of my new role is coordinating Wellbeing programs and activities at YAS, building on the excellent work from staff and students in previous years. Lisa Hendry is also contributing to this role, as her passion and capacity for supporting wellbeing at YAS has resulted in some great initiatives (World Peace Flame as an example).

This year our focus is strengthening existing wellbeing strategies, as well as introducing new ideas for supporting wellbeing. Smiling Mind is an organisation we are working with to implement mindfulness practice in our classrooms. The rationale is that much evidence confirms that mindfulness practice builds improved mental health and increases brain activity, as well as reducing stress and anxiety. All staff are participating in training through Smiling Mind and I recommend visiting their website for more information: www.smilingmind.com.au.

We are finalising our Wellbeing Ambassador program, and will soon be busy planning for Harmony Day and other key events throughout the school year.

A crucial part of our teaching and learning is the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum – developed by DECD. Home Group teachers will deliver this curriculum throughout Pastoral Care, enabling students to have protective strategies that keep them safe. If you would like more information, you can visit the DECD website <https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teaching/curriculum-and-teaching/keeping-safe-child-protection-curriculum/about-keeping-safe-child> or alternatively contact me at the school.

Elouise Fehring
Senior School Leader

Year 9 Surfing

For the first two Fridays of Term 1, the Year 9s have visited one of the Yorke Peninsula's pristine surfing spots at Berry Bay to learn surfing and bodyboarding. The Year 9s came with a wide range of abilities and experiences in surfing but all arrived keen to try new skills in surfing from the enthusiastic instructors from Port Vincent Aquatics. It was a great opportunity for us to get to know each other a little better and for some of us to push ourselves out of our comfort zones and challenge ourselves. Everyone showed significant improvement and had a great time over the two days.



Tom Buckerfield – Year 9 Home
Group Teacher

Year 7 & 8 Geography Survey

In Year 7/8 Geography, students are investigating *Urbanisation* and the factors that could encourage people to move to the city. Students worked in pairs to create an inquiry question. They then wrote survey questions to help them answer it. The survey questions have been collated and placed in one survey. It would be greatly appreciated if you could complete the survey and share your opinions. The survey can be found on *Survey Monkey* by using the link below.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YAS_Geography

Emily Pritchard

Year 12 Retreat

Review by Naomi Zoumis

The Year 12 retreat was a great opportunity for us to bond as a cohort and with our teachers outside the school environment. Being at Wambana (PAC camp in Pt Turton) was a nice way to spend time as a class outside the boundaries of school. Throughout the retreat we participated in a series of different team building exercises (including yoga), which had challenging tasks but, with perseverance and initiative, we succeeded! This success was achieved by working as a team and getting to know each other on a deeper level while doing so. The activities, sessions and team building exercises showed us effective strategies and expectations that we will use not just to win the race of Year 12 but throughout the entirety of our adult lives. Retreat was an excellent start to the year and one of the reasons that I believe our final year of schooling will be one of the best!

Review by Daniel Luke

The Year 12 retreat was a very interesting experience. It was a great way of spending time with the rest of the class outside of class time and working together in different ways. Some of these included team challenges, playing out scenarios in several groups, taking a yoga session and several group chats about expectations and strategies to get us through an important year of schooling. It will help us this year because it will give us more confidence and support going into Year 12 and will remind us that we are a group. Though a great deal of support may come from teachers and parents, our classmates also play a just as important role. I am excited for the year ahead and look forward to what it will bring.

Books Arrive at Mimili Anangu School

After a long trip the books and resources finally arrived at Mimili Anangu School. These books etc helped to replace some of their books that were water damaged due to a leaky roof. The students and staff appreciated this large delivery of resources.

Once again we thank Darren Milne and Paul Hanrahan from Cadd Transport, Nigel Downing from Toll Priority and Kelvin Hards from Mai Wiru Freight for organising, free of charge, the transport of the pallet of books and resources. Below is a photo of some of the Mimili students, with the backdrop of the empty cartons, enjoying their new books



L-R : Christiana, Margaret, Rosanna, Sandy Smith (Teacher), Shikira, Kiyieshah, Richalem, Samantha, Alisiyah (in doorway)

Port Power Visit



THE 'PUSH UP CHALLENGE'

Two Port Power players, Darcy Byrne-Jones and Jarrod Lienert, visited our school on Monday 12th February to speak to and engage in activities with our students.

One activity was the 'Push Up Challenge' where students had to keep going with Darcy. Both Hugo and Bailey were both successful in keeping up with a fit AFL player.

FROM THE LIBRARY

PREMIER'S READING Challenge

Is your child taking up the Challenge in 2018??

If so, please ensure they fill in their student reading records as they read their books, get them signed off as they go and please make sure your child hands it in to their teacher or the library staff by **Friday 7th September**.

The Challenge is to read **12 books in total**.

Reception to Year 7: **8** of these books are to be from the Challenge booklists, available on the website, and **4** of their own choice.

Years 8 and 9: students read **4** books from the Challenge lists and **8** of their own choice.

Years 10 to 12: students read **12** books of their own choice, and these can include prescribed texts and any other texts from their studies.

Student reading records are available from your child's English teacher, or from Miss Stagg or Liz in the library.

Your son/daughter can also Rate a Read, reviewing the books that they are reading and send this in to the Premier's Reading Challenge website. One winner is awarded every month with a book prize and their first name and school are entered on the PRC website. Also, there is a student blog section for posting and sharing thoughts about the Challenge and books that students are reading – encourage your children to have a go! Come and see our Reading Tree in the Library! Once your child has completed their Premier's Reading Challenge, their name will go up on the tree on a special gold leaf!

Enjoy the Challenge!



OUR LIBRARY'S CHALLENGE TREE

Miss Stagg
Teacher Librarian

Catastrophic Fire Day

Reminder: If catastrophic fire days are called, school buses will not run. The CFS advise DECD by 4pm if there is a catastrophic level for the following day. If this occurs bus companies will be notified and will not run. We will post on Facebook and phone all families with students on buses. If the danger arises during the day the school will put the Emergency Management Plan into action.

Bushfires and Your Child's School or Preschool A Guide for Families

Parents are encouraged to access a new brochure which provides important information about what our schools/preschools will do on a catastrophic fire day or in the event of a fire.

Bushfires can occur at any time during summer. It's important that our families understand our Site Emergency Plan, are prepared and have a plan in place for their family when these situations arise.

If there is a bushfire emergency while children are onsite we will keep them safe until the danger has cleared even if this is outside of normal school hours.

For a copy of the brochure visit www.decd.sa.gov.au and search 'bushfire brochure'.

DECD Emergency Information Hotline
1800 000 279

For advice on:

- site closures in place
- changes to school or preschool transport services
- emergency incidents affecting schools or preschools.

www.decd.sa.gov.au

In an emergency
Dial 000

Government of South Australia
Department for Education and Child Development

NEW YEAR, NEW TEACHERS

Article & Photographs by Tori Haywood



Tom Buckerfield

Year 9 HG – Physical Education (PE) / Mathematics

After speaking with Mr Buckerfield, it became apparent he believes we should be using the concepts used in sports, such as team work, and apply this to everyday life. He encourages his students to have a happy and healthy approach to life. He uses the same type of teaching style in Maths, trying to get students to develop problem solving skills and apply them to daily life. Mr Buckerfield has been a teacher for 4 years and has taught at Unley High and Kadina Memorial. During this time, he has taught PE, Maths and also Humanities. When asked what inspires him as a teacher his response was that he gets the most enjoyment when he is able to help those students who struggle to achieve things they would have never thought possible. Outside of school, he enjoys playing football, tennis and has an interest in landscape photography and travelling.

Emily Pritchard

Year 7/8 HG

Miss Pritchard had aspirations to become a teacher at the age of four. She recalls making her younger brother sit on the floor in front of a blackboard whilst she taught a lesson. Miss Pritchard enjoyed studying Journalism and Physiology whilst a student at YAS and with the help of her Year 8 teacher decided a teaching career would be the right path to choose. Her teaching style is adapted to cater for the learning needs of her students and she believes it is important to have a good blend of written and hands on type learning tasks to keep her students engaged in their education. One of the biggest realizations she has experienced whilst being a teacher is that relationship building with students is the most important component especially with those needing extra support in their learning. When not in front of a class teaching, Miss Pritchard enjoys time with her family and friends. She also loves walking her dog on the beach, fishing, snorkelling, kayaking and anything water related.



Daniel Hutchings

Year 7/8 HG

When asked what was his biggest achievement as a teacher, Mr Hutchings spoke about a student whose attendance record was around 50 % in the first term. He managed to inspire that student enough to attend class so that his second term attendance was up to 90%. He felt he was able to get through to this particular student. Mr Hutchings believes that teachers need to have good communication skills and be able to relate to their students which in turn results in seeing good grades. The two subjects that interest Mr Hutchings the most are PE as he enjoys teaching a wide range of sports and Science because he finds it interesting trying to understand how things work such as the human body. Outside of school he loves playing football, walking his dog on the beach and relaxing.

