From the Principal’s Desk

Swimming Carnival
The swimming carnival held last Friday was a great success. It is always very pleasing to see students striving to do their best and even more so when the individual is "having a go" to support the broader team effort. I take my hat off to the people who give this effort, knowing that they are not doing it for individual reward. It is also pleasing to see the high levels of participation in the splash events and the fact that so many students look forward to these events, because this is their way of giving their support. Congratulations to Murray on their success in winning the shield.

I’d also like to acknowledge the support and the efforts of all staff, but particularly the PE staff, the parents who come along to help and the sponsors of the various trophies.

Parent guide to raising a concern or complaint
We all expect quality and expert care and teaching for your child in order that they achieve their potential. Working together will give us the best chance of solving a problem that may arise during your child’s years in preschool and school.

We also recognise that at times things may go wrong. This is based simply upon the number of decisions a teacher makes in a day (estimated at over 200). Statistically speaking some of these are going to be wrong. If you have a concern or a complaint, we want you to let us know. It’s important to learn from mistakes or misunderstandings so that we can improve your child’s experience and learning, and also improve processes where possible.

The first step in working through a complaint is to talk to your child’s class teacher or Care Group teacher, then the Subject Coordinator then the Assistant Principal, Amy Evans Years 8 and 9 or the Deputy Principal, Kirralee Baldock for Years 10 – 12 or myself if you still are not happy.

Ask at the front office for a copy of the school’s Parent Guide to Raising a Concern or Complaint brochure. The steps and guidance for how complaints should be made are explained in the brochure.

Use this brochure to help you think through what you are concerned about and how to resolve the matter respectfully and effectively. This information may be helpful in explaining what a complaint is:

A complaint may be made by a parent if they think that the school has, for example:
- done something wrong
- failed to do something it should have done
- acted unfairly or impolitely.

Your concern or complaint may be about:
- the type, level or quality of services
- the behaviour and decisions of staff
- a policy, procedure or practice.

Sometimes a complaint is about something we have to do because of State or Federal law. In such cases we are able to talk to you about the matter and help you understand the requirements and why they exist.

If you’d like more information, give me a call or visit the department’s website at www.decd.sa.gov.au/parentcomplaint or email DECD.parentcomplaint@sa.gov.au. There is also a freecall number 1800 677 435.

Defibrillator purchase
Governing Council has purchased a defibrillator. A defibrillator is a device that applies a shock to people having a heart attack. This is to protect students and staff at RHS but is also for public use in the event that an incident occurs in the vicinity of the school. The research is very clear, that the survival rates of heart attack are dramatically improved if the heart can be restarted by defibrillation in the first few minutes, and well before emergency services arrive. Staff are trained in the use of these devices as part of their First Aid Certificate training. This purchase is part of a broader project being undertaken by SA Ambulance to have defibrillators placed strategically around the town, eg Renmark Square, Rec Centre, Chaffey Theatre and we are happy to be part of this broader project. If you are involved in such an emergency the device is located in the front office at the school.

Governing Council AGM (March 2nd at 7:30)
Have you considered nominating for Governing Council? At present we are running below the parent quota and this is a valuable contribution you can make, while gaining greater insight into the education of our young people. If you have any inkling of interest, please call either Paul Hutchins or myself or contact the school for a nomination form.
RENMARK HIGH SCHOOL
SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS
February 12, 2016
Over the past 5 years we have witnessed the dominance of Sturt and it was looking like 2016 was going to be the same, with Shay Hawkins and Codey Lambert producing strong performances in their final outing. The strong resurgence of Murray ended Sturts reign at the summit. Murray will look to continue with swimmers including Kel Morath (who scored the maximum number of points), Georgie Pater, Jessica Pater, Christie Webb and Dylan Bennett. Other strong performances included Ollie Pearce, Gemma Letton and Layla Anderson. The Most Improved Shield (Handicap) was won by Murray, with Tintra taking out the Splash Bucket. Well done to everyone involved, to ensure this day was a success.

Thank you to our sponsors, Townsend's Riverland Tours, Emmettes, Renmark Vitor Swimming Club, AA Canvas & Shades, Tristate Graphics, Renmark Club, Renmark Hotel Motel, and Hoops Auto & 4WD.


Most Dedicated:
Chaffey Ayjay Brown, Murray Jack Richards, Sturt Isabella Milligan, Tintra Tori Lowe.

Championship Shield Results

Handicap Shield (Most Improved)

Splash "Bucket" Events
1st Tintra 332.5p, 2nd Sturt 327.5p, 3rd Murray 245p, 3rd Chaffey 245p.

Year 8 HASS
Year 8 HASS classes are busily learning about the local history of Renmark which focuses on indigenous history, Chaffey brother's settlement, establishment of the town, land uses, famous people and much more. As part of this study all Year 8 classes completed the local history walk along the riverbank. This was an extremely fun activity as students learnt about the history and purpose of buildings and monuments they see every day but had no idea of their story. Students will continue learning about local history in HASS over the next 3 weeks in which they will hear from a guest speaker, complete another excursion and begin a final assessment task based around the creation of information boards to promote Renmark's history.

Congratulations go to Kendall Jenner, who left RHS to go to Adelaide to pursue her sporting interests. Kendall, after initially studying at the Open Access College attended Henley High in 2015. Kendall gained a TER of 99 and was the Dux of the school. Well done to Kendall.

Newspaper Fashion Parade
The five Year 10 Care Groups competed fiercely in the annual Year 10 Newspaper Fashion Parade during Beyond Tomorrow this week. The highly sought after Newspaper Fashion trophy was up for grabs and each Care Group worked hard to produce three creatively dressed models in approximately twenty minutes. However, 10.5 with the support of their Care Group teacher Mr Camplin claimed the prize. While it was a lot of fun, it was another opportunity for students to work together as a team in their Care Group to build relationships between themselves and their Care Group teachers.
Mandy Smith Year 10 Coordinator

From your PCW-Pammy
Hi everyone, week three already and school is settling into the routine of it all. I see the year 8 students feeling a lot more confident in themselves and enjoying all they are learning and doing here at RHS. How good is that, I think it is great to see. I have been asked by Jacob McCallum (Yr. 12) to promote the AIRFORCE CADETS which I am more than happy to do. Firstly what a great way to spend a Friday night, you get to do exciting things and learn leadership and go on bivouacs camps (I think that is camping !) You also go to the Edinburgh Airforce Base in Adelaide and have a tour of the PC3 Orion and the C17 plane which apparently is huge. You get to talk to the pilots who fly the F18 fighter jets. The Airforce Cadets is held in Berri on Friday nights from 7.00 – 10.00 and if you are at all interested in adventure and learning new things catch up with Jacob McCallum or Austin Humble both in year 12 or come see me in my office or around the yard. Our son was in the cadets and had an absolutely wonderful time of it, so have a go. Well that’s enough from me this week. Have a wonderful week, and keep smiling and be kind to each other. Pammy 😊