From the Principal’s Desk

Success for Connor
Congratulations to Connor Bakaj on his success in the regional section of the Lions Youth of the Year Competition (more detail to come).

Students leaving during the school day
One of the areas that we have tightened up over recent times is students leaving school during the day. The procedures that cover this are designed to: ensure students are learning at the greatest rate possible, permissions are in place, your child is safe at all times, legal responsibilities are covered and the process is efficient to administer. For all of these things to be achieved requires the cooperation of all stakeholders - students, parents and staff.

Students may only leave the school under the following circumstances:
• If they have an appointment (medical, dental etc) that cannot be scheduled outside of school time. We must have parental permission in advance that specifies the time they are to leave and return. When they leave school under your permission, it is presumed that you will be providing the duty of care for that time period. I am asking that you do not give permission for reasons that are “frivolous” - including to get fast food, coffee or to “shop”.
• If senior (year 11 and 12) students are leaving under home study privilege, students must have your consent and are to sign in at the front office at the time they arrive (late arrival) or leave (early departure). Note that this privilege is only available where the private study lesson falls at the start or end of the day.
• If travelling by car, the driver must have your permission for the specific passenger to travel in the vehicle and the passenger must have parent/guardian permission to travel with the specified driver. Generally, where these conditions are not abided by, the matter is dealt with as one of truancy with appropriate communication to you and a sanction applied.

Attendance at Sports Day
Sports Day is a day that memories are made of. It is a great day at school and offers students an opportunity to participate as a competitor, spectator or helper. Every student is encouraged to attend. If students are not able to attend parents/caregivers should inform the school by phone or note. To do this means parents/caregivers and school staff know the whereabouts of students and are more able to ensure their safety. Please note: school policy is students who do not attend our Sports Day will not be able to attend Interschool Sports Day.
Year 11 BT
At a recent Beyond Tomorrow session year 11s worked in groups within their Care Groups to design and build a structure that would let a soccer ball pass under it and hold a stack of books. Quite a few of the structures supported a number of atlases and maths books. The winning designer/building group was led by Taran. Proof of the strength of his structure can be seen in the photo with Ben sitting on the books! Congratulations to all involved. It was a fun session in lots of different ways.

Marina Pater
Yr level coordinator.

Bike Maintenance
The Year 9 Physical Education for Girls class has been participating in a bike maintenance course this term as part of the Health and Wellbeing topic studied. Anthony kindly took the girls through how to check for and change a flat tyre and replace a tube if needed. The girls then checked each of the school’s bikes, ensuring they were road safe prior to participating in several rides around the Renmark community. Thanks must go to Anthony for helping us out.

Kerri Turk

Lions Youth of the Year
On Sunday, March 13th, Connor Bakaj represented our school at the Lions “Youth of the Year” Regional Final. He participated in an interview, followed by a public speaking session where he answered impromptu questions and presented a prepared speech.

Connor spoke confidently about ‘curiosity’. He shared how his interest in Maths and Science, from a young age, has developed into a passion for Physics.

The panel of judges acknowledged Connor’s aspiration to ‘change the world’; awarding him the ‘Public Speaking’ award and declaring him the winner of the Regional final.

Connor will now progress to the District Final in Red Cliffs, Victoria.

Congratulations, Connor! You are a great ambassador for Renmark High School. We offer you our support and wish you success for the next stage of the competition.

Thank you to the Lions Club for providing this program. Students participating in the program recognise the opportunity to develop their self-confidence through public speaking and interviews. Your support of Riverland students is highly valued.

Kirralee Baldock
Acting Deputy Principal