**Principal’s Report**

**Thank You**

Thank You for all of the support, cards, flowers and kind words which have been extended and given to me since my return to work last week. It has been a difficult and emotional time but knowing the support I have from my family, friends and local community as well as the Crystal Brook Staff and Community has helped.

**Governing Council Annual General Meeting**

The rescheduled meeting will be held tonight at 7.00pm in the Library, all parents are welcome to this meeting.

An election was held in Week 2, the Governing Council who will represent you at Governing Council Meetings are: Bill Clarke, Emma Grossman, Brooke Hodgson, and Monika Jackson who have another year to run on their tenure. The newly elected members are: Melanie Baak, Stephen Duffield, Julie Rackham, Kylie Sawley, Jo Wilsdon, these members have been elected for two years in a close election.

The Governing Council Executive will be elected and Governing Council sub committees - Finance, Education and Grounds will be formed. If you are interested in being on these committees you are able to nominate even if you are not a member of Governing Council.

The first Governing Council meeting will follow the Annual General Meeting, community members are able to be present but only elected members are able to vote if there are any motions put forward.

**Leadership Day**

Congratulations to our magnificent staff for organising a fun filled learning experience for our two senior classes in my absence. When I visited on the day I found students fully engaged and having fun while learning how to be a leader, encouraging others and getting along together. I would also like to thank Chris Stroud for stepping in for me and our fantastic parent helpers.

Feedback was sought from students for the day, in “Things students learnt” - Leadership, Bullying is forever, Responsibility, How to be a better leader. In “What you would change” – Nothing. In “Things students enjoyed” – Amazing Race, apple challenge, the creek, drama, hamburgers, cupcakes, Ann Baker Mathematics in Residence Program.

Our Upper Mid North Cluster and Flinders Cluster were selected to be part of this project in 2014; it is a program which looks at how Maths is taught, how to engage students and how to program so students have the opportunities to show their learning so they meet the Australian Curriculum standards. We are making plans so that our teaching staff has opportunities to engage with this highly sought after training.
Congratulations to students who have been part of successful teams and individual efforts at MNSEC and Gladstone High School Swimming Carnival, each group came home with the Junior Shields. Thank you to parents who supported their children in attending these events and to our teachers and administration staff who do much of the organisation behind the scenes. See photographs later in the Newsletter.

Students also took part in SAPSASA swimming trials on Tuesday this week and are waiting to see if they are selected in the team.

Thank You to Davina Bellman
Many of members of our School Community are aware that Davina will be taking leave from the end of Week 6; we wish her and Nathan all the best for the impending birth of their baby. We will miss Davina as she fills a huge role as Counsellor, Special Needs Coordinator, Primary Intervention, and release for teachers.

We are in the process of advertising for a replacement person in this role; during the interim please see me with any issues pertaining to Davina’s role.

Student Free Day
A friendly reminder that staff will be undertaking First Aid Training on Friday and it will be a Student Free Day for our School.

Anne Franks
Principal

SWIMMING CARNIVAL – THURSDAY 27TH - TOMORROW!

Our Swimming Carnival will be held tomorrow, Thursday 27th February for the Year 3 - 7 students, the program for Thursday was attached to the last newsletter. Amy Tiller, our new PE teacher has done a wonderful job pulling this event together in such a short time. She has done her best to keep the events fair and making sure everyone has a chance to be involved. We are still looking for some volunteers to arrive at the pool at 8am sharp to help set up the shades for the students, as many hands make quick, light work. Please let us know asap if you are available to help.

Remember there will be NO Kupsch Bakery lunch orders on Thursday for the whole school due to swimming carnival.

Crystal Brook Comets Amateur Swimming Club will be selling healthy food and drinks at our Swimming Carnival on Thursday 27th February. A flyer was sent home with foods on offer. The proceeds from this will benefit our Parent Club with equal proceeds going to the Swimming Club and our Parent Club. Thank you to Swimming Club committee for organising this.

MATERIALS AND SERVICES FEES

Materials and Services charges are now due. Payment can be made at the Office from 8.30-9.30am by cash or cheque only. For those parents who wish to apply for School Card, application forms to be filled in and returned to the Office asap. Performance money is also due and is $10 per child. Thank you.

VIRAL GASTROENTERITIS

We have had enquiries as to the infectious periods and the time children or adults should be excluded from School. The information we have received from the DECD website is that during illness and for at least 24 hours after symptoms have disappeared, children and adults should be excluded from Child Care, Preschool, School or work.
Governing Council AGM Re-scheduled – Wednesday 26th February (Week 5)

We will be holding the Annual General Meeting this Wednesday, 26th February (Week 5) at 7:00pm in the Library. Please consider being part of this very important body and show your support by attending the AGM. This body plays an important role in decision making within the school, it assists in policy making, gives and receives valuable information about finances and programs within the school.

Nominations for Governing Council Committee members closed on Friday 7th February. These have been collated and all people running for a position will be notified shortly by phone of the results.

Thank you to everyone who voted and was willing to be a part of the committee.

LINEN ROSTER

Thank you very much to the people who have put their name down for the Linen Roster. I only need two more people to fill the roster. If you would like to go on the roster, please let me know via email or text, or give me a ring at School and let me know if you would be happy to be on the Roster for the year or just the Term. This is a relatively simple job and just involves the washing of our linen from our sick room, on a weekly basis, which is usually minimal. We ask that the linen be picked up Friday, preferably in the afternoon and returned on the following Monday. We can send the linen on the bus if this makes it easier for parents. Thank you very much.

Jacqui Head

NO PHOTOS INCLUDED

CBPS kids that represented GHS at the MNSEC Carnival at Booleroo Centre. They won the junior shield!!!! Congratulations!

PARENT CLUB
CATERING DONATIONS

On Thursday 6th & Friday 7th March, Parent Club will be catering at a conference for School Counsellors, here in Crystal Brook.

We already have enough volunteers to work! – THANK YOU to those people!

*I will be in contact with these people closer to the date, when numbers have been finalised*

To help make this fundraiser worthwhile, we would appreciate any donation of baking, a piece of fruit, or a small monetary donation to cover the cost of supplies.

On the menu, over the 2 days, we have: fruit platters, scones, jam, cream, muffins, ham, chicken platters, small pastries, wraps & soup.

If you are able to supply any part of the above (a piece of fruit, a jar of jam, a tray of muffins, etc), please let me know by Tuesday 4/3/14 (via text would be great – so I can refer back to it).

Thank you.

Lauren Kerin - 0409 331 105
Thank you to the many parents who have been utilising our new text message system, and to all parents for their patience while we sort out the glitches from the setting up of the program.

Parents/Caregivers can use this system at any time to send us a message. For example, if your child wakes up sick in the night and you know they won’t be attending School the next day, you can send a message saying your child’s name and room number and that they will be absent due to Illness. You may do the same thing if they are having a family day. We can now also use the system if you are dropping your children off at a later time to school or picking them up early. We only need their name, room number, time of drop off or pick up and reason in the message. We do still ask parents to come to office to collect their children, but we won’t need you to fill out a yellow form if you have sent a message. We access the system first thing in the morning and all messages will be waiting for us to process. We encourage all parents/caregivers to use this as their main means of communication for all absences.

We will send out messages to parents if we have any unexplained absences and parents should reply to the message via text with their child’s name, room number and reason for absence eg. Illness, Family. It will also be used to notify bus families of Catastrophic Fire Ban Days and we will be asking parents to respond to the text so we know you have received the message.

It can also be used just to keep parents up to date with coming events and general School information. We rely greatly on having the correct contact number for all families for this to work, of course, we can only send the text messages to mobile phones. We have found that some families are receiving the messages on their non preferred mobile phone, if this is the case in your family please just let me know via text, email or phone call and it is simple for me to change to your desired contact number. Thank you.

Jacqui Head

MNSEC AND GLADSTONE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

GHS Athletics Carnival: Friday Week 6 (7th March) starting at 9am
MNSEC Athletics Carnival: Thursday Week 8 (20th March) Starting at 9.30am at Jamestown

SA Excellence in Public Education Awards

Share Celebrate Reward

Nominations are now open for the 2014 SA Excellence in Public Education Awards.

For the first time, 2014 will see nominations opened up to all DECD employees, recognising and rewarding the outstanding contributions made by teachers, leaders, support staff and also corporate and services staff from across the state.

Don’t miss your chance to nominate an outstanding education professional, care or protection worker within DECD to recognise and reward their dedicated and inspirational contribution to young South Australians.

To nominate an employee at your school, preschool or corporate office go to: www.decd.sa.gov.au/teachingawards.

Like us on facebook and follow the progress of the Awards: www.facebook.com/SATeachingAwards.

Nominations close 5pm Thursday 10 April 2014.

For further information contact the Awards team on 08 8226 3079 or email DECD.Recognition@sa.gov.au
SAPSASA

Term one is a very busy time for SAPSASA and other Sporting Events. There are many sports holding their trials and events at this time of year. Some sports have individual letters to send home to families from the School, and some sports just give us dates and basic information and prefer to give out paperwork themselves at the trials. Please make sure to read your Newsletter to keep up to date with what is happening in our Region and we will endeavour to get information out to you as soon as we receive it. Thank you.

Hockey and Girls Soccer
Even though the Hockey trial dates are not finalised, the Co-ordinators would like an indication of students interested in Hockey and girls Soccer. If you are interested in participating in either of these SAPSASA events, please come to the Office and put your name down as an Expression of Interest only at this stage. More Information will be given out to students who have expressed their interest as soon as it becomes available. I will be faxing these names of tomorrow afternoon.

Cricket
Please note Cricket trials have begun, Monday 17th and 24th February and the final one will be held on 3rd March, at 4pm at the Jamestown Big Shed.

Tennis
Also coming up fast are Tennis trials to be held on Tuesday 4th March at the Jamestown Tennis Courts. Girls will have an 8.30am start and boys an 11.00am start. Each trial will last approximately 2.5 hours. I have sent home an information letter today with those children who have put their name down at the office for Tennis SAPSASA. These names will be faxed off to the Co-Ordinator tomorrow. If your child would like to participate in Tennis Trials and doesn't have their name down, please make sure they come in to the Office and do so before tomorrow afternoon or let us know via text, email or phone call. Thank you.

Jacqui Head

NO PHOTOS INCLUDED

GLADSTONE HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL HELD MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY.

Crystal Brook Primary School were the winners of the Shield again this year! Congratulations and well done to all participants.