A NOTE FROM SENIOR YEARS

LEADERSHIP

As educators of young adults we cannot ever overemphasize the importance of goal setting, understanding and acknowledging your strengths and weaknesses and the value of team work. For many of our students, the latter part of adolescence is when the struggle to see the purpose of education begins to raise itself as a topic of conversation. This is also often compounded by the doubts and fears that young adults face when confronted with new challenges or difficult periods in their learning.

It is clear that when a goal or end point is clearly established, then the work required in a challenge or the effort needed to learn something new is much easier to understand and embrace – there is a purpose to this. Sometimes the purpose can be a reward, an acknowledgement of achievement or just simply the personal satisfaction of knowing you worked hard and made it through!

A large part of this is knowing what you are good at and what others around you are good at and learning how to best utilise all of these strengths to your advantage. This was particularly evident during the SAASTA Aboriginal Power Cup Carnival over the long weekend.

The carnival is the culmination of a semester of work by a group of our Senior Years students. The success of the team at the carnival is contingent on their academic achievements, attendance, general behaviour at school, team work and demonstration of leadership at events. This year our team was made up of 30 students from MOC and Quorn Area School. Many of the students were unknown to each other and had not worked as a team before the start of the year. It is a credit to these students that they were able to quickly establish a team culture and support each other through a huge range of tasks, including short stays at Quorn and MOC.

This year we were successful in achieving two significant goals – obtaining the 2015 Curriculum Excellence Award and playing in the boys Grand Final on Adelaide Oval! Neither of these goals would have been achievable if the staff and students had not worked together and supported each other to complete all the tasks to such an outstanding level. One particular aspect of the Carnival needs acknowledgement and that was the boy’s team decision to play everyone in the final and not just the ‘best’ players. The boys unanimously agreed that everyone had earned the right to play and it was not just about winning but sharing in the reward of achieving the goal of being a finalist.

Congratulations to all the students who took part in the carnival this year and a huge thanks to the staff who supported them throughout Terms 1 and 2. I look forward to seeing what else you can achieve this year as we move in to the Semester 2 challenges and the SAASTA Shield.

Kathleen Hoare
Executive Leader
(Years 7-12)
Massive congratulations go to the students in the MOC South Australian Sports Training Academy. The weekend just passed saw the culmination of the semester’s hard work. Due to the successful completion of a number of tasks such as designing a road safety campaign in the form of a billboard, designing a Guernsey, completing draft camp football tests and creating Player Profiles, the academy was awarded for Curriculum Excellence.

As a result of their attendance and the completed tasks, the boy’s team made the final of the Power Cup and played on the Adelaide Oval. They narrowly went down in a hard fought encounter with Ocean View/Coober Pedy. All students should be commended for the way they conducted themselves over the 3-day carnival. We look forward to continuing to work with students from Quorn as we continue our studies into the SAASTA Shield.

Stephen Cavanagh – Leader (Year 11 and SACE)

**PROJECT BASED LEARNING AT MOC AND EXHIBITION OF LEARNING**

Project Based Learning (PBL) has become a big part of many successful learning environments today in Australia and throughout the world. It takes students on a journey of creativity and exploration but with real-world connections. Students learn problem-solving skills by successfully navigating learning challenges. PBL gives students and teachers more time to spend on specific topics that are cross curricula, which enhances engagement and develops deeper understanding.

At Mark Oliphant College, Semester 1 has seen over 25 projects implemented across Middle and Senior Years. On Wednesday the 1st of July all PBL projects plus much more will be presented at the Exhibition of Learning evening held to celebrate what our talented students do here. All are very welcome between 3.30 and 6.30pm to view all the amazing work.

Katrina Axford

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**UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS**

Winter has arrived, bringing with it the arrival of cold, rainy weather. We are seeing a large number of our students coming to school and attending in non-uniform clothing. Wearing of our Mark Oliphant College uniform is compulsory for all students in Reception through to Year 12. The Governing Council has endorsed our School Uniform Policy and as part of the enrolment agreement and process at our school, parents and students sign a Code of Conduct in which you agree to wear the school uniform. School uniform is important because;

- our school is large and we know immediately if there are strangers on campus
- the colour coding ensures that we know to which sub-school a student belongs
- it encourages student pride in themselves and their school
- it prepares students for the workforce

Our Uniform Shop has Opening Hours of Mondays (2.30 – 4.30pm) Wednesdays and Thursdays (8.30-10.30am). MOC tracksuit pants have arrived, feedback from our students, tells us they are both warm and comfortable.

Colette Bos – Senior Leader (Learning and Achievement)

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**SAASTA**

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