



Mark Oliphant  
College

# Middle Years

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, WEEK 3  
16 FEBRUARY 2018

*"A well-educated  
mind will always have  
more questions than  
answers."*

- Helen Keller

AUSTRALIAN  
TRAINING  
AWARDS  
2016

WINNER

SCHOOL PATHWAYS TO VET AWARD

[www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au](http://www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au)



## DIARY DATES:

Thursday 8 March  
Middle Years'  
Sports Day

*(See article next page)*

Friday 9 March  
Pupil Free Day

Monday 12 March  
Adelaide Cup  
Public Holiday

Friday 30 March  
Good Friday  
Public Holiday

Monday 2 April  
Easter Monday  
Public Holiday

Friday 13 April  
Last day of Term 1

Please be aware for safety reasons, **no dogs** are allowed on site without permission from the Principal.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF MIDDLE YEARS

I would like to welcome all of our Middle Years families back to the College for 2018. The students have settled in well for a successful year of learning and we are looking forward to working with parents and caregivers to ensure they maximise their opportunities for learning. With this in mind I would like to ask for your assistance in our 2018 challenge to improve student attendance across the Middle Years. Every time a student misses a lesson they miss critical skills they need to be successful in their future lessons. Whilst 1 day a week seems small it adds up to 40 days in the school year, which is 12,000 minutes. As motivation to help students we will have a number of incentives throughout the year for high attenders. If you are having difficulties getting your child to attend to school, consistently please give us a call and we will work with you and the student to develop a plan.

*Nathan Elliott, Head of Middle Years*



## ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

To encourage higher attendance in the Middle Years again this year we have introduced the 'Attendance Champions Challenge'. Each week the highest attending home group (based on percentage) will be crowned the Attendance Champions for the week and be awarded a prize for their commitment to learning. The challenge started from Monday Week 2 and the inaugural winners of the award were Year 8 Gold (Mr Ames' class) with an amazing 95% attendance for Week 2. Well done to everyone in the class for their commitment to learning, and good luck to all the other Middle Years home groups for future weeks. It would be great to see all of our home groups improving over the term and scoring above 90%.

*(Pictured above)*



## FINANCE REMINDER

Please note that 2018 Fees are **NOW DUE**. Staff are available at Reception to assist with your School Card application for the payment of School fees.

### School Card Eligibility

1 child	\$57,870
2 children	\$58,903
3 children	\$59,936
4 children	\$60,969
5 children	\$62,002



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education  
and Child Development

Ph. (08) 8209 1600  
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99 Douglas Drive, Munno Para SA 5115

## WELCOME BACK FROM THE MY COUNSELLOR

Hi and welcome to the new students and welcome back to the old MOC kids. I am the Middle Years' Student Wellbeing Leader and have been with MOC for the last 4 years.

Your kids are currently in the second stage of rapid brain development. Between the ages of 8 and 14 a child's brain goes through changes almost as radical as those in the first two years. Therefore, this is a very important time to create and foster positive life courses. This is why it is necessary that we create a positive learning environment for your children. Please ensure that you engage with your children on what they are learning and how they are travelling in school, communicate with their teacher so that a positive and productive learning environment for our kids is created.

*Nigel Herbert, MY Student Wellbeing Leader*



## NASSSA DEBATING

After a successful NASSSA Debating Competition in 2017, Mark Oliphant College are up and running with another debating team for 2018. The team will consist of Year 8, 9 and 10 students with a passion for public speaking, interested in researching a various range of topics and learning the techniques to further any ambitions they have. Teams have not been finalised as of yet, so any students wanting to sign up or interest in this exciting opportunity can see Miss Williams or Mr Barbaro. We are looking forward to another successful competition in the year to come.

*Kirsty Williams and Joe Barbaro*



## PEDAL PRIX

2017 saw the development of the first MOC Pedal Prix team. The team participated in three races throughout the year and performed extremely well. Due to the great success of last year, MOC will be participating in Pedal Prix again this year. The Pedal Prix Committee are currently working through the initial stages of organising the team. Stay tuned for details regarding our participation and how students can be a part of the MOC Pedal Prix team in 2018.

*Stephanie Wotton*



## SPORTS DAY

The 2018 Middle Years' Sports Day will be held at the **Munno Para Athletics Club** this year, please see map attached. It will be held on **Thursday 8th March (Week 6)**. The move has been made to increase participation numbers and for the better athletics facilities available at the venue. PE staff are currently very busy planning and organising the exciting day and you will receive an information letter in the coming weeks with further details of the day.

So put on your running shoes, get into your house colour and get excited for a fun day of physical activity.

Thanks,

*Luke Smoker, HPE Coordinator*

