A key focus of improvement is how we transform our school from “Good to Great”. The Leadership team of the school have begun discussions around our Site Improvement Plan and how it needs to be much more focussed with “Powerful Teaching and Learning” at the forefront.

Last year key elements of this focus were discussed, planned and agreed upon for implementation in 2016:

- Teachers developing Learning and Assessment Plans with specific attention to individual student strengths and weaknesses.
- Tracking of student progress using a five weekly Traffic Light process which will be reported back to students and parents.
- A-E Grade reporting of student progress every term.
- Celebration with parents and students of student success and progress at the end of term Assemblies.
- Student, Parent and Teacher Meetings to discuss progress after Term 1 and 3 reports are issued.

We will articulate these calendared events more clearly with you as the term proceeds.

As mentioned in our last newsletter we have had a very busy but highly successful start to the year. It is very pleasing to see our numbers rise again this year. We have aslo had some staff changes. At the beginning of the year Ms Bonnie Mason did not take up a contract for 2016 and we have employed two new staff members. I wish Bonnie all the best for the future and thank her for all her hard work and efforts in supporting the learning of students at our school.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce:

- Ms Rachel Lawson – who will be teaching Spanish.
- Ms Sarah Koch – who will be teaching English, HASS, PLP and supporting Aboriginal Education and Literacy development

Congratulations to you both and we look forward to working with you in 2016.

Finally I would like to congratulate our student Leadership Team for the fantastic way in which they have begun 2016. At our last assembly we formally inducted the Student Representative Council (SRC) and House Captains and Vice Captains into office. The assembly was followed by morning tea with the school leaders and parents attending. I have met with both groups over the last two weeks and have been impressed by their enthusiasm and commitment in making our school great for its student body.

Drop off and Pickup from school

Morning and Afternoon drop offs / collections.

The school requests that all parents / caregivers use the Recreation Centre car park to drop off their children in the morning and collect them in the afternoon. We ask that parents / caregivers do not collect their children from outside the Administration building or TAFE car park. This creates the potential for an accident and this has happened in the past. Your child’s safety is paramount.

Car Parking

Please do not park in the staff car park area, located along Blake Road. There are temporary car parks outside of the Administration building if you need to
see the administration staff for any reason or have a meeting with a teaching staff member. We would be very appreciative if all parents / caregivers can support us in this process.

Rob McLaren
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - SENIOR SCHOOL

Riverland Research Project Expo
Tuesday February 9th 2016

On Tuesday February 9 the Riverland Research Project Teachers Network staged the first Research Project Expo in Regional South Australia. Over 450 students and parents attended the event, hosted by Glossop High School. Students considering their upcoming Research Projects were able to view a series of presentations on what is involved in undertaking studies in the Research Project, tips on how to get started and be successful and research skills, how to find resources and create research. In addition they were able to mingle and interrogate over 40 research projects from 2015, presented by their authors, including several merit standard projects.

The event was very successful as students were able to discuss and refine their topics.

Thanks must go to the parents and students who attended, several presenters commented this partnership was a unique feature to the Riverland Research Project Expo.

In addition a number of experts were on hand to field student questions.

Thank you to our community experts:
Riverland Library Hub
Association of Secondary Research Teachers
Flinders University
Department for Water, Environment and Natural Resources
GrowSmart
Tammy Ebert

Special thanks to the Riverland Research Project Teachers Network and the Staff and Students of Glossop High for the provision and management of the venue and the excellent technical support.

Michael Pater
Senior Leader Student Pathways Riverland

Craig Griffiths
AP Senior School

PASTORAL CARE WORKER

It's great to see students getting into their school term. I have been connecting with students mainly in the yard during breaks, at breakfast club which is free and happens on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and also over at the ILC, where I have been helping with a boxing program and also Men Shed projects.

I hope to visit the Year 8s on their camp next week, and look forward to more opportunities to serve and support wherever needed.

It's great to see the Waikerie Youth Centre open on Friday's after school until 5.30pm. I encourage you to check it out, enjoy the games and snacks available for free there.

Why not bring some friends and hang out in a safe place set up for High School aged kids. Currently we are also holding some of the ILC programs at the Youth Centre and it's tough dragging the students away from all the games at the end.

So far they have all been pumped with the setup of the Youth Centre and also the boxing program. Well done and congratulations to Chris Mibus, Pastor Andrew Everson, and the local Churches for making this facility available.

Don't forget that Morgan also has a Youth Centre too. They have been averaging 20 kids each Friday. Richard Steadman and his team are doing a great job there also on Fridays after school.

There is heaps to do in Waikerie if you're willing to give it a go.

Tim Hensel
Pastoral Care Worker

ROTARY RIVERLAND VOCATION AWARDS

On Friday 5th February, the Rotary Riverland Vocation Awards were held at the Berri Hotel/Resort. Waikerie High School has had a proud tradition of being well represented at these awards and 2015/16 being no exception.

Madeline Ziegler addressed the crowd as the SA VET Student of the Year and the Runner Up Australian VET student of the Year. She spoke of her successes in the past year and how the VET program has assisted her in gaining not only university entry but also part time work at the Waikerie Hospital whilst studying.

Mobaraka Mohammadi was a finalist in the VET Student of the Year Award and went on to be a runner-up in the category. Mobaraka studied a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care through KMC. She did her work placement at the Waikerie Primary School.
Bethany Smith was a finalist in the School Based Trainee Award Award and went on to win the category. Bethany studied a Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care through TAFE and worked at the Waikerie Children’s Centre. She also was a finalist in the SA Training Awards for the School Based Apprentice of the Year in 2016.

Both girls represented the school extremely well and demonstrated how the VET and ASBA programs can cater for anyone with a career pathway whilst still being able to study for their SACE. The school and its community are very proud of Bethany and Mobaraka, as well as, all the VET and School Based students.

Lauren Oswald
VET Coordinator

2016 SPLASH CARNIVAL

Swimming Shield returns to King
King have won the AW Martin Swimming Shield in the 2016 Waikerie High School Swimming Carnival on Friday 12th February 2016.

Attendance to the carnival was good and students were kept busy competing in the stroke and novelty events or volunteering their services to help run the day. Family support was well received and is a reminder of the strong team culture that exists at the school and within the community.

The school would like to thank the swimming pool staff for their assistance, the Waikerie Amateur Swimming Club for the use of their club house and equipment, community members and family for their support, Marion Maywald and her helpers for her work in the canteen, the students for their courage in participating in events that were out of their comfort zone but put their hand up to support their team. Special thanks goes to Waikerie ChemPlus for their generous donation of sunscreen that helped protect the students from harmful UV rays on a very hot day.

House Captains were outstanding in their preparation and were extremely supporting of their team mates. They will continue to work with their teams leading up to the athletics sports day on the 18th March.

The school swimming squad will now train for the Interschool Carnival at Berri on Monday night 22nd February and for the SA Secondary School Sport E grade competition at the Marion Aquatic Centre on Tuesday, the 1st March.

School Sport Expectations
As mentioned, attendance at the Splash carnival was good at 81%. I say ‘good’ because it is an improvement from the last few years. However, it can be better. Please keep in mind that the school is very serious about enhancing school culture and the following is expected:

- Students attend all school sports carnivals. Students not participating are able to assist in running of the day.
- Students are expected to represent the school if selected for Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country.

Students who do not meet this criteria will be ineligible for extra-curricular activities such as Knockout Sport, Ski Trip, future Canberra Trip, and the opportunity to run for SRC and House Captain. There may be exceptions due to illness, family circumstances, and school workload. This information needs to be advised to the home group teacher for school carnivals or directly to me for school sports teams.

This ‘tough love’ approach is required because we cannot have the majority of students who are trying their best be let down by a minority who could not be bothered contributing to school culture. It may be school sport, which is not the priority of the education we offer, but it does provide an avenue for students to work towards team goals and strive for improvement.

HPE and Sports Uniform Expectations
HPE – all students are expected to change for HPE practical lessons regardless of injury or illness.
1. Both male and female students will wear the green “Physical Education” top ($30)
2. Male students will wear the “Champion” brand sport shorts ($25)
3. Female students will wear black tights (not at uniform shop) or the “Champion” brand sport shorts
4. Students will wear a hat (not cap) for all outdoor activities in Terms 1 and 4.

School Sport
Travel - students will travel in uniform as stated in the HPE expectations.

The Waikerie High School sports tracksuit is also encouraged and can be purchased at the uniform shop (top $40, bottom $35) or borrowed from the Resource Centre.

Competition – information about uniforms for each sport event will be provided on the relevant excursion forms.

The school looks forward to your support in getting the best outcomes for your child in the HPE and Sporting programs at the school.

Phil Valentine
HPE & Sports coordinator

2016 Splash Carnival Results

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Individual Medal Winners

U/14 Male Winner
Riley Fillmore

U/14 Male Runner-up
Joel Fillmore

U/14 Female Winner
Mishael Mee

U/14 Female Runner-up
Chelsi Bannister

U/15 Male Winner
Aden Hocking

U/15 Male Runner-up
Jack Burgemeister

U/15 Female Winner
Tamika Johnson

U/15 Female Runner-up
Connie Griffiths

U/16 Male Winner
James Smith

U/16 Male Runner-up
Asher Whitehead

U/16 Female Winner
Rachel Fillmore

U/16 Female Runner-up
Laney West

U/20 Male Winner
Joseph Whitehead

U/20 Male Runner-up
Nicholas Hocking

U/20 Female Winner
Tegan Griffiths

U/20 Female Runner-up
Demi Taylor

NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM
JANUARY 2017

Year 11 students invited to apply for the National Youth Science Forum in January 2017

*Applications open 1st March 2016 and close 31st May 2016*

Are you in Year 11 studying science subjects and would benefit from attending the 2017 National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)? Our online system is opening soon for Year 11 students who would like to apply for selection for the 12 day intensive residential program in January 2017 held at The Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra.

The National Youth Science Forum is a unique program that offers students entering their final year of secondary school the opportunity to learn about study options in the diverse fields of science, engineering and technology. Students live on campus as university students, learning about campus life. They also experience real science, visiting scientists at a range of laboratories and workshops and in the field. They talk with researchers, and build life-long professional and personal networks among their co-participants.

Our goal is for students gain the knowledge, skills and perspectives that enable them to make informed choices about future study and career options.

During Year 12, NYSF students also have the opportunity to participate in further short programs at various locations around the country, which extends their experience and understanding of science, engineering and technology career opportunities and adds further perspectives that assist in their successful transition to university.

Everything you need to know is available on the NYSF website, www.nysf.edu.au. Please contact us if you have any questions about the application process - including how to put students in touch with their local Rotary club - or the NYSF. We can also arrange for a past NYSF student to visit your school and tell you about the program and how they have benefited from attending.

Yours sincerely,
National Youth Science Forum
38 Science Rd
ANU Acton ACT 2601

Phone +61 2 6125 2777
Fax +61 2 6125 8015
Email nysf@nysf.edu.au

CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen Roster. As you can see there are a lot of days where help is required. Please consider volunteering by returning the tear off slip at the end of this newsletter. It is not hard and it is a great way to meet teachers and students. The children are very polite and appreciate having volunteers serve them. Working in the canteen only involves serving the children for 20 minutes at recess and 40 minutes at lunch (with minimum help cleaning up). If you can only help at lunch time, that is still extremely helpful.

If you are unable to help by serving in the canteen, you can help by donating products. Eg: carrots, capsicums, onions, cucumbers, tomatoes, avocados, cherry tomatoes, corn kernels (frozen or tin), tins of crushed tomatoes, milo, sugar, grated cheese, BBQ sauce, tomato pasta sauce or tomato sauce.
**February/March/April Roster**

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<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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Marion Maywald
Canteen Manager

**KEEP YOUR KIDS SMILING**

**SA Dental Service**

Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule? The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, pre-schoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service.

Please call now for an appointment
Waikerie School Dental Clinic
Phone: 8541 2434

**FUNDRAISER FOR CANCER**

G’Day guys, my name is Barry Cavanagh, I have chosen to do the March Charge and ride 1000kms by the end of March to raise money for Cancer.

Please help me raise as much money as possible and let’s beat cancer once and for all.

Donations can be made in person or on line at: [https://marchcharge2016ride.eerydayhero.com/au/barry](https://marchcharge2016ride.eerydayhero.com/au/barry)

**WAIKERIE ARMY CADETS**

**Waikerie Army Cadets are looking for new members.**

You will learn skills for a lifetime, meet new people from across the state and the country. You will have opportunities that most people never have.

If you are turning thirteen this year, you should come and have a go.

All enquiries to 0439 086 363 (phone or text) or come along to the RSL Hall 10 Thompson St on Monday nights between 6:30pm and 9:30pm.

Sonia Wyld
Captain (AAC)
Officer Commanding – 420 Army Cadet Unit

**WAIKERIE LUTHERAN CENTRE**

**WAIKERIE HOCKEY CLUB**

**“Come and Try”**

All Ages Welcome!

Wednesday 9th March 2016
At the Waikerie Hockey Grounds
Smith Drive Waikerie
4pm onwards.

A FREE Sausage Sizzle will be provided
Afterwards with soft drinks available.

Contact waikeriehockeyclub@hotmail.com or Vicki Schmidt 0438 893 015
2016 HOUSE CAPTAINS

Back Row L-R: Sam Haese, Tom McKay, Navjot Singh, Clayton Hollamby, Jack Parfitt, Barry Cavanagh, Mantaj Singh, Josh Liebich
Front Row: Jessica Neal, Chloe Linke, Tegan Griffiths, Georgia Sheehan, Natasha Perry, Demi Taylor, Emma Ziegler, Ashleigh Johnston

2016 SRC MEMBERS

Front Row: Erin Sweet-Hite, Maria Austria, Emma Ziegler, Tegan Griffiths, Nicola Schmidt, Sophie Taylor, Sinead Sidhu, Tahlia Cabot, Temika Miller, Chloe Everett, Erica Austria
2016

NOMINATIONS FOR GOVERNING COUNCIL OR A SUB COMMITTEE

Parent Name:__________________________________________

Student/s Name: __________________________ Home Group: ______

Please circle the committee you are interested in.

Governing Council

Sub Committees of Governing Council

Canteen

Building and Grounds

Uniform

Fundraising

---------------------------------------------

CANTEEN HELPERS – Marion Maywald (Canteen Manager - Telephone: 85413097)

I am prepared to be rostered in the Canteen YES □ NO □

I would prefer to work:

Once/month □
Twice/term □
Once/term □

I am available ONLY on:

Monday □
Tuesday □
Wednesday □
Thursday □
Friday □

I am not able to assist as a helper but would like to make a donation of $__________

Helpers Name:__________________________________________ Phone: __________________________

Work Phone: __________________________
Mobile Phone: __________________________