Welcome to another edition of SOTA Speak, and the exciting news that two of our choir members, Annie McCarthy and Madison Morris have been selected to sing solo in the Combined Primary Schools Choirs Music Festival in Port Augusta in Term 3. Congratulations girls, we’re so proud of you, and of all our young singers and musicians.

On Monday and Tuesday I attended the second AEF National Conference for Engaging with Asia in schools, along with over 500 other delegates from independent and government education sectors. The conference was a great opportunity to hear what other schools around Australia are achieving in an incredible variety of ways. There were some excellent key-note speakers who livened up the conference, including the Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, who spoke of Australia’s relationship with Asia in the past, as well as our current and future involvement; Pallavi Sharda, an Australian lawyer with Indian heritage who followed her creative passion and is now one of Bollywood’s top actresses; and a young Australian diplomat/singer/songwriter who goes by the name of Fred Smith, whose postings include Bougainville PNG and Afghanistan. (Fred is well worth googling, especially to hear his Sapper’s Lullaby on the harmonica).

For me a highlight of the conference was managing a brief chat with the Governor General! Sir Peter recalled to me his visit to a school of distance education and spoke with high regard of the relationship between teachers and students. He was especially impressed with the way teachers could identify individual children by their voices alone. Given the point of the conference, he asked if I was endeavouring to also connect outback students with knowledge and understanding of Asia, and particularly commended our school’s efforts to do so.

There won’t be another SOTA Speak before School Experience Week, so please remember to bring in any resources to return, and request any that you might like to pick up while you’re here. Some staff will be travelling up from Marden and back so there’s a good avenue to and from the Resource Centre. I’m looking forward to catching up with many of you in Week 10.

Cheers for now,

Polly Smart

Cheers for now,
A note from your Assistant Principal

Thank you to Michelle Hilder, I forgot to add on the form that went out this week that as well as bringing a meal to share Monday night of SEW, could each family also bring a plate of biscuits, or cakes/slice for morning and afternoon teas please? This is something that has always happened and it reduces the cost of each event quite significantly. We will provide the fruit for the children to snack on, and purchase the ingredients for all the other meals. Not long to go now!! I have my Collingwood colours ready to go!!

Karina Kay 😊

During School Experience Week we are participating in:

Jeans for Genes Day and Loud Shirt Day on Tuesday of School Experience Week.

Hair Larious Day and Footy Colours Day on Thursday of School Experience Week.

To support each of these charities, each family group will donate a gold coin to each cause. Example: 3 School Children in 1 Family could donate a minimum of $1 to each cause which would total a $4 donation.
Congratulations to the following students who have received Student of the Week Awards in Term 2.

**Week 7:**
- Rec.: Mariah
- Year 1: Jessica
- Year 2: Max
- Year 3: Jed, Anne
- Year 4: Annie
- Year 5: Charlotte
- Year 6: Charlotte
- Year 7: Mikayla

**Week 8:**
- Rec.: Jock
- Year 1: Bryn
- Year 2: Max
- Year 3: Anne, Jed
- Year 4: Korey
- Year 5: Akiro, Jack, Jessica, Joshua
- Year 6: Henry
- Year 7: Mikayla

Times Tables Master

This week it is Henry (Yr 6)

(Jo Byrne)
Premiers Reading Challenge 2014

To complete the PRC for 2014 you need to have read 12 books by 5 September. Congratulations to Bridie Greenfield and Takumi Ames and who have completed and returned their PRC form! So, if your form is complete, please send it back to the library – you don’t need to wait until September. And, keep on reading!

Assembly and Big Reads

Assembly and Big Reads continue on Friday. If you have comments or suggestions about the time of day the assembly is held and even the day, please email library@openaccess.edu.au We look forward to catching up with you on Friday mornings.

National Simultaneous Storytime Competition

The NSS competition is now closed. Certificates have been sent to all who participated. Congratulations to Elke Kerin for her winning entry in the competition.

Holiday borrowing. Please let us know if you require resources to be sent out for the holidays. We will send them asap so they are there in time to read and watch during the break from school.

If you would like to borrow some resources, please contact us:

- Write on the Borrowing slide at Assembly each morning
- Phone: 1800 882 328 and ask for the Library
- Phone: (08) 8309 3620 or (08) 8366 2822
- Follow us on Twitter @mardenlibrary
- Email: library@openaccess.edu.au

Cheers!
The Library Team

LAP Volunteer Glenys Behenna

Glenys has been a volunteer with our school for the past 6 six years and has given her time and support to two LAP students during this time.

We wish a speedy recovery for Glenys and look forward to seeing her back at SOTA soon.

Love from SOTA Staff

Regards Louise
CONFIRMED CHOIR DATES TERM 3

Monday week 2 Whole town practise

*Full dress rehearsal: Tuesday week 4 (12th August)*

*Performance night: Wednesday week 4 (13th August)*

Ticketing details for both Wednesday night performances are coming soon...