On Friday 13 February Murray Bridge High School held their annual swimming carnival. The day is dedicated to Year 8 students at the school and provides an excellent opportunity for these new students to get to know each other and their home class teachers while competing for their home class and their house. Students earn points for their house by participating in a variety of events ranging from freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke to numerous novelty events to encourage the involvement of all students, placing an emphasis on fun as opposed to competition.

The swimming carnival also provides an opportunity for our Year 11 peer support leaders to work with their designated Year 8 classes. As part of the school’s peer support program, our Year 11 students are responsible for organising their home class of Year 8 students to ensure that a representative competes in every event. They are also required to assist staff with scoring and organise the students to compete in events.

This year’s carnival was one of the most successful. A very high percentage of Year 8 students were involved and thoroughly enjoyed the whole day. Our Year 11 peer support leaders were absolutely magnificent on the day. They carried out their duties of responsibility in a fantastic way and role modelled appropriate leadership for our Year 8 Students.

At the end of the day the home groups that were representing Barker earned the most points and were declared the winners on the day. The final results were 1st Sturt on 133, 2nd Barker on 110 points, 3rd Murray on 101 points and 4th Hindmarsh on 92 points.

The swimming carnival was a great success and met all of the objectives that it sets out to do. A big thank you must go to the Year 8 home group teachers for their support in promoting the day to the students in their class and collecting all the necessary consent, medical and aquatics forms. A big thank you also to all of our Year 8 students for their participation in the events and for being a part of the whole experience. Overall a job well done by everyone.
MURRAY BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Early this term Murray Bridge High School welcomed 3 new International students. Sebastian Murk from Germany has already spent 6 months in Australia studying at another school but decided he would like to live in Murray Bridge and to attend Murray Bridge High School.

We appreciate the hospitality given to two of our International students and to the school community by the Waltrovitz family. Many thanks!

Just before school started this year Lisa Lehmann arrived from the United States of America to spend six months with us. She is being hosted by a Murray Bridge family and is very quickly settling in and starting to become involved in school activities. Our youngest and newest International Student arrived just two weeks ago. Jason (Huy) Tran arrived from Vietnam and is currently in Year 10. Jason is here for the next three years intending to complete his secondary studies at Murray Bridge High School.

These 3 students join our other two International students, Ingrid Paulssen (from Norway) and Franziska Henke (from Germany) who have already spent 6 months living in the homes of local families and studying at Murray Bridge High School. Pie Midttun Eie (Rotary Exchange Student from Norway) is gearing up for her last exciting 6 months before returning home and back to school.

The Rotary Exchange Program has been running now for the past 50 years and each year students from around South Australia fly out to spend 12 months living and studying in overseas countries.

Applications are now being called for, so any student currently studying in Years 10, 11 or 12 can apply. For more information they should see Mrs Peake at the school or go to the Rotary website: www.rotaryyouth9520.com. Applications close on the 31st March, 2009.

At an assembly last week the International students were introduced to the student body. We hope they all enjoy their stay at Murray Bridge High School and look forward to their involvement in the school during their studies.

MURRAY BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES THE GOVERNOR TO MURRAY BRIDGE

On Friday 20th February 3 students from Murray Bridge High School were invited to join other community members in welcoming the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Kevin Scarce, and his wife to Murray Bridge. The students attended Headspace where they were able to enjoy a “chat” with the Governor and to join him for morning tea. The food was provided by the Vet Hospitality class under the leadership of Mrs Roxanne Rowland.

Right: Murray Bridge High School Hospitality students Jesse Deionno, Tamara Foye, His Excellency Kevin Scarce, Temicka Spackman and Teacher Roxanne Rowland.

SAAC AND INTERACT NEWS – BUSHFIRE APPEAL

During the recent Bushfire Appeal students from the Murray Bridge High School Interact Club and the SAAC (Student Action and Advisory Committee) joined together to collect money for the appeal. In 2 days $750 was collected.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to this appeal.

Left: Welcoming the Governor to Murray Bridge: Patricia Mafara, His Excellency Kevin Scarce, Ben Traeger and Jacob Dawson.