LEARNING IN ACTION

BY DR CHRISTINE ROBERTS-YATES

The Breakfast and Healthy Nutrition Programme

Students in the Regional Secondary Special School have learned how to prepare budget breakfasts in the school’s industrial kitchen, using fresh, healthy ingredients including fresh eggs from the school farm. This programme embraces Maths, Science, Nutritional Studies, Agricultural Studies and Food Technology. Students have visited the Central Market to research fresh food and taste different types of fruit, chocolate yoghurt and sausages. They are able to earn their Chef’s Hats and a Team Leader neckerchief by demonstrating safe work practice in the kitchen, active listening skills, following instructions and preparing quality breakfast menus. Most of all, the students enjoy sampling their culinary delights and fresh fruit juices. This project has resulted in an Student Based Apprenticeship for one of our students.

Left: Kaitlyn Nokes, Brett Graham and Casey Collins demonstrate safe work practice in the kitchen.

Structured Workplace Learning at Monarto Zoological Park

Students in the Regional Secondary Special School have worked on a range of practical projects with Ian Walton (Education Officer) at Monarto Zoo this term. They have worked hard designing and constructing log borders and freestone walls in the Visitors’ Car Park, dismantling an old farmhouse and fencing, and recycling the materials for future project use. This will include paving, the construction of chicken coops and other building projects at Indaba. Working safely, team building and a positive work ethic are reinforced as the students develop new skills working with a variety of power tools and equipment.

Right: Jacquelyn Davis saws up timber at Monarto Zoo.

INDIGENOUS TOUCH-FOOTBALL KNOCKOUT CARNIVAL

By Tyson Pens

At 7.30am on Friday 11 September four Aboriginal Education staff members and thirteen Indigenous students (including two female students) from Murray Bridge High School travelled down to Henley High School for the annual “Indigenous Touch-football Knockout Carnival” where 8 other schools were also involved. This was all kindly organised by Centacare with the help and support from Mari Yerta (Male Youth Committee), Northern Careers Network and the South Australian Police to name a few. The students from Murray Bridge High School who participated undertook a five week training course to prepare for the event. The carnival which was a free event began at 9.00am, having been scheduled for five games against the various schools. The students who went down to represent Murray Bridge High School at the carnival did extremely well considering the warm weather conditions. They won three out of the five games and overall came fourth in the competition. They also won “Best Looking” team award and were presented with a trophy.


NAPLAN RESULTS 2009

By Barb Quast, English Coordinator

Parents of students in Year 9 and 10X, please be aware that 2009 NAPLAN results will be sent home as part of the student’s report folder on Friday 25 September. If you would like to discuss your child’s results with their Maths or English teacher or home class teacher, please ring the school on 8532 1788 to make an appointment.
ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW

By Joe Mabarrack, Coordinator, Agriculture and Science

Once again Murray Bridge High School has been involved with the Royal Adelaide Show through its Led Steer and Led Wether Goat competitions. These are an excellent avenue for our students to develop and hone their animal handling skills and ringcraft.

This year our team comprised 13 animals being 3 steers and 10 wether goats. To manage a team of this size required a number of students. In 2009 we had a squad of 16 students from our Year 10, 11 and 12 Agriculture classes. All of those that were involved were excellent ambassadors for the school; they worked tirelessly in lead up to the show and were fantastic in their devotion to the team and the animals they cared for.

This year our animals came from a variety of different sources. Our steers were donated by breeders from near and far, the Angus was sourced from Wanderibby Pastoral Company at Meningie, the Limousin was organised by Damian Gommers from Foone Genetics at Echunga and the Murray Grey from the Banksia Ridge stud of Peter Coldrey of Flaxley. We are very appreciative of their involvement in our agriculture program and thank them very much.

The steer competition took place on the Thursday morning. The animals were judged in two categories, on the hoof and on the hooks. Our Limousin placed 3rd in its class and the Angus and Murray Grey were 2nd and 4th respectively. These placings were great as it meant that our animals were well presented for the competition. However the competition is also a carcass contest. Here the animals are judged objectively against certain criteria. In this regard we did not do as well, although when evaluated the animals performed well against other animals in the same weight groupings. If you are interested in finding out more, the results are on the Adelaide Show website.

In the afternoon our goats were in the ring. This year our goats were supplied by Mrs Ann Ruckert who had obtained a flock of highly regarded Boer goats last year. Once again they were split into a range of weight groupings and evaluated in the ring. In this respect we performed equally as well as in the morning. In the first group our goat placed 6th in its Chevon class. In the next class our goats placed 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively. The next class saw our goat place 6th again. Overall these results were excellent given the large numbers of goats in each class. Each class had up to 20 goats involved so a good effort was needed to place.

When our goats were judged on the hooks we were unable to gain a placing. The comments from the judge however were very encouraging in that he remarked that all schools had made a monumental jump in quality and that it was the best line up of carcasses he had seen in a very long time. This was very encouraging as it meant that the placings were even more difficult to gain and that the quality of the animals was extremely high.

Overall the show for us was a pleasing experience with good results obtained right across the board. Effectively we took 3 ribbons with 3 steers and 6 ribbons from 10 goats although one was disqualified for being too light for the weight category in which it was entered. Thanks go to the students for their outstanding efforts, to Mrs Ruckert for her efforts and work with the goats as well as providing the animals for the school, to Jo Jennings for her help at school and at the show in looking after the animals and providing back up support. Roll on 2010 and we hope to be back at the Show again.