

# NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 | WEEK 5 | 2021



MT TORRENS  
CHRISTIAN  
SCHOOL



## 2021 Term Dates

- TERM 1** 27 January - 9 April
- TERM 2** 27 April - 2 July
- TERM 3** 26 July - 24 September
- TERM 4** 11 October - 3 December

## Up Coming Events

### TUESDAY | 2 MARCH

- Year 8-10 Immunisations

### THURSDAY | 11 MARCH

- SACSAs Volley Vall (Open)

### FRIDAY | 12 MARCH

- SACSAs Volley Ball Year 7-8

### MONDAY | 15 MARCH

- Year F-1 Excursion to Mannum

### THURSDAY | 25 MARCH

- National Coordinated Practice Test

### FRIDAY | 26 MARCH

- SACSAs Athletics 13+

### WEDNESDAY | 7 APRIL

- SAPSASA Athletics Carnival

### THURSDAY | 8 APRIL

- MTCS Sports Day

## Welcome To Week 5

The first School term for 2021 at MTCS continues to flow with a combination of normal timetabled routines, which make up the core functions of school life and the added extras that provide interesting variety to these routines. The result for students at each year level is hopefully an enjoyable and meaningful school experience. This is "Plan A" at MTCS.

One of the added extras this term has been the election of the Class Captains and V.Captains for Semester 1, from the Yrs 5-7 and Yrs 8-9 classes, and the 2021 School Captain and V.Captain positions from the Yrs 10-12 class. Congratulations to Monica Allen who was elected as the MTCS School Captain for 2021 and Nicole Wojnar as the School V.Captain.

These student leadership positions within the School enable students to contribute to the growth and effectiveness of school life and in the process develop their own personal leadership skills. Each of the elected student leaders are a blessing to the School and it is my privilege, as Acting Principal, to meet regularly with them. These meetings get feedback from them about ideas and issues Continued.....

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## From the Principal

Continued

they have discussed in class meetings, and also to consider leadership development topics with them. I am particularly looking forward to the development of the School Captain role within the School in 2021 and the contribution that Monica as the School Captain, assisted by Nicole as School V.Captain, can make to school life and student wellbeing through these roles.

The presence and influence of student leadership within the student community of any school is of great importance. Student attitudes have a significant influence on the ethos of a school and whether or not the intended ethos is the 'real ethos'. In a Christian school context, the school staff and parent community desire Christian principles and attitudes to influence the atmosphere and ethos of a school. However, if student attitudes are out of step with these Christian principles then the desired Christian ethos will be a nice idea rather than a lived reality.

What will make the Christian purposes of MTCS become the actual lived reality of the School is when students are stakeholders in this purpose. Student stakeholders view the desired Christian ethos as something they personally value, appreciate and want. It is the positive influence of godly student leaders that can help the wider student body to become personal stakeholders in the Christian ethos of the school.

My prayer is that the roles of School and Class, Captains and V.Captains, in 2021, will begin the process of encouraging and empowering godly students at MTCS to influence their peers towards godliness too.

## 2021 School Captain Comment

From Monica Allen

For this new chapter in Mt Torrens Christian School's history, I feel honoured to motivate the students' shared desire to put MTCS on the map for the qualities that make this school unique. As a student, I have come to appreciate the strong work ethic and discipline with which MTCS students and old scholars approach tasks and responsibilities. With supportive parents and staff, I see endless opportunities to foster a culture of respect, responsibility and academic excellence among a student body who wear their uniform with honour and gratitude. From volleyball tournaments to whole family inspired bottle rockets, Mt Torrens' capacity for memory-making will inspire the student leadership to devise an exciting 2021 calendar. Nicole and I look forward to promoting new initiatives to reinforce a school culture infused with the tenets of team spirit and a love for learning. When student abilities are met with staff as dedicated as ours, it remains within the determination of each student to commit to the Christian life-plan they can grow at our school. As the famous poet, Rudyard Kipling said, "fill each unforgiving minute with 60 seconds worth of distance run".

## Year F-1 Class

Design and Technology

The F/1 students have been investigating how water comes into our school. The Foundation student's enjoyed connecting a pipe network to watch water flow through pipes. The Year 1 students took an audit of the points at which water entered the school. They made a map of the school, labelled it and identified the water sources present in the school.



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## Year 2-4 Excursion

### Henley Beach Discovery Centre

On the 23rd of February, the year 2/3/4 class went on an excursion to the Henley Beach Discovery Centre with Mrs. Sklenar and Ms. Lewis. We borrowed Auntie Ruth's car because we have an extra-large class. It took us 1 ½ hours to get there. On the way, those in Auntie Ruth's car played Spotto. Those in Ms. Lewis' car played 'I Spy'.

When we arrived, we had our recess. After that we watched a short video. It was about caring for the beach and some safety notices. Then we went down to the beach where:-

- Reuben found a razor shell and a crab claw
- Yozi found a crab claw too
- Sav found a big razor shell and some other interesting shells
- Marie found a brown bubbly rock
- We even found a little starfish at the beach
- Axel found a piece of razor shell that was very small
- Azayla and Samuel found half a razor shell and some interesting rocks and shells

After we came back, we ate our lunch and had a play on the nature playground. Yozi liked playing with the water pump which made real water come out. Some of the class made a little creek with the water. Sav blocked the creek which stopped the water flowing. The water coming out looked like coffee.

In the afternoon, we went into different rooms inside the discovery centre. We went fishing with magnetised fish in a tub and a real fishing rod. We also saw a man feed the sea horses. Shelly thought the fake turtle looked quite real.

Our favourite part was the VR headsets. Sav was trying to push the wall because it seemed so real. When you turned around, there was a big seal staring at you. There was a man with a machete and some divers.

We had lots of fun at the discovery beach centre. We got back just in time to pack up ready for the home time bell.

## English

With Miss Allen

The year in English has started with a few challenging but good 'reads' for all levels. The year 5-7s are meeting the 'Captains Courageous' who sailed off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, fishing for cod over a century ago. The students are being introduced to all the sea and fishing terminology and quirky habits of the seafarers who fished those waters using the old methods, long before the advent of the trawler. This was a time when the steam boat was new technology, and there were plenty of fish in the sea.

The year 8-10s are getting some insight into life in the Southern States of America during the time when slavery was a fundamental feature of the economy. 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' was written 10 years before the American Civil War (1861) and, through its characters, Beecher Stowe reveals the many heartbreaking and complex issues that were a feature of life in America at that time.

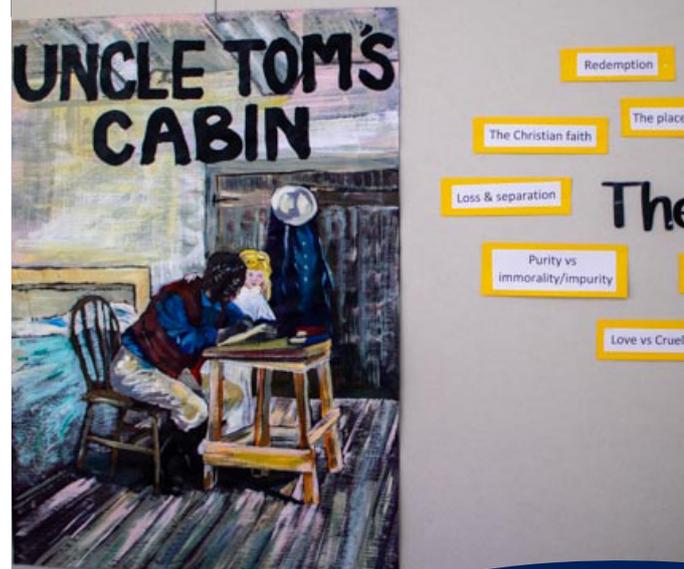
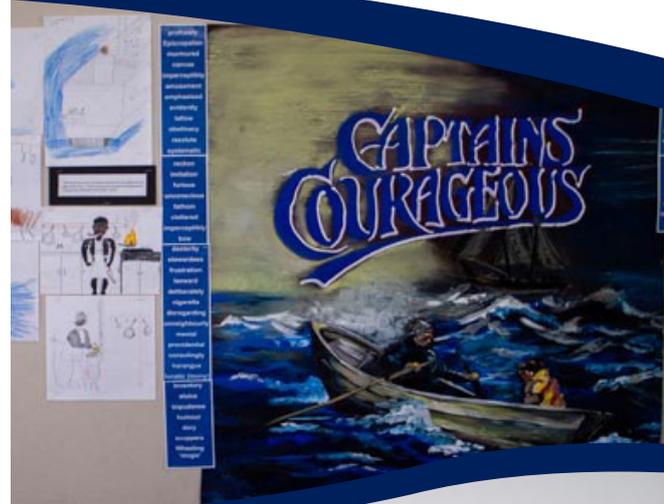
The senior SACE students are tackling an equally confronting tale in the fictional account, 'For the Term of His Natural Life', which graphically illustrates the hardships and inhumanities some of the Australian convict had to endure at the very earliest moments in the history of the Australian nation.

It is hoped that the students in years 5-12 will all be enriched by the study of their allocated texts as they continue developing their literacy skills.

## Year 8-9 Class

### Design and Technology

For Mr Trinkle's year 8/9 Design and Technology class, Miss Sabina Allen has generously given her time to assist with a sewing task for the girls. This task has involved the design and fabrication of a Book Week costume. We thank Sabina and look forward to seeing the finished products.





## Snake Awareness

### Snake Catchers Adelaide Incursion

On Friday 19th February, Dean from Snake Catches Adelaide came to talk to the students about snake awareness.

Students were able to get up close and personal with some of the most venomous snakes found in the Adelaide Hills and surrounding areas. Students were amazed to find out that a brown snake is not necessarily brown and that a red bellied black snake could be brown in colour.

We learnt not to judge a snake by its colour and saw how first aid is applied to a snake bite.

We saw first hand that aggressive brown snakes do not attack humans intentionally, but do become aggressive when there is sudden movement nearby.

Thank you Dean for sharing your knowledge and expertise.

## Parent Teacher Interviews

### Term 1

Thank you to the parents who participated in the parent teacher interviews on Wednesday 24th February. As teachers share their observations about student progress with parents, it is also of great value for teachers to receive feedback from parents.



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