Celebrating Mount Compass Area School

Effective and positive relationships are an endorsement for comprehensive learning opportunities at Mount Compass Area School. Students, parents and staff commit to this through living our school values of Respect, Participate and Achieve. The size of Mount Compass Area School makes it possible for each student to be well known and individual learning needs met.

As a staff this year we have signalled our commitment to building successful and confident learners through the implementation of a week-long ‘Quality Start’ program that provides the opportunity for our students and staff to build strong relationships and contribute to being a part of our school community. Wellbeing and Pedagogy are central to this program with teachers from R-12 implementing ‘Program Achieve’ alongside the ‘Building Learning Power’ framework.

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Commitment to Learning
Everything we do at Mount Compass Area School is underpinned by our school values of Respect, Participate and Achieve. In 2016 our staff have committed to the achievement of three new goals that will maintain our focus on achieving excellence. These goals are:

- Teachers teaching together in teams
- To expand specialists teachers across all year levels
- Targeted teaching (individualising learning based on skills, interests and the collection and use of evidence of each student’s learning)

where all staff deliver the same literacy language ensuring that learning from the earliest years is continually reinforced as students move through their year levels.

Learning Opportunities
Mount Compass is proud of its long history of leading learning in agriculture and the connectivity through strong local community support continues to improve our successful farm initiatives.

In support of our commitment that all students will complete their SACE, we are implementing a new program in 2016 titled Innovative Pathways to deliver a more hands-on learning program that will be individually negotiated with students selected to be part of this initiative.

Mount Compass Area School is focussed on achievement for all students and maintains its commitment to provide learning that ensures access to Tertiary Institutions. Our students travel to Flinders University each week to engage in the delivery of learning in Stage 2 Physics, Chemistry and Specialist Mathematics in the SMAF initiative. Mr Haggert, the teacher delivering the SMAF Physics program is now a Mount Compass teacher creating the opportunity for our students to have their learning targeted toward the high expectations of University entrance.

Unique Environment
Our school is situated on an ancient glacial sand dune. Our heritage listed swamp hosts some of the rarest plants on the Fleurieu as well as in the South Australia. The 2000 tree agroforestry project and 20ha focus farm offers a unique learning environment that surpasses most schools. Environmental Education and Nature Play are priorities we continue to develop and share with other schools. Teachers regularly use our natural resources to enhance their learning programs including a ‘Forest School’ program that currently runs for all students each Monday at lunchtime and is part of the Junior Primary program.

WRAP
Mount Compass Area School is one of a few very few schools across South Australia that is committed to the implementation of an R-12 literacy methodology. We continue to read in the media of the lacklustre literacy levels of Australian students and we intend, through the implementation of our WRAP methodology, for Mount Compass students to become comprehensive literate learners. The WRAP introduces an explicit phonics-based program to participate in National Certification to have their skills recognised as the highest in Australia. Ms Roberts, our Senior English and HASS teacher is one of the first Highly Accomplished Teachers certified in South Australia.

Community
Mount Compass Area School has a long history! The staff value the relationship with the Preschool, local businesses and community organisations. The community is an integral part of the school and enriches the programs on offer. Families continue to send the next generation of children to our school, where a majority stay for their entire R-12 schooling.

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
In 2016, and for the first time, our chosen language of Indonesian will be delivered to senior students. Students from Year’s 10 and 11 will be provided with the opportunity to undertake study in Indonesian in a new learning initiative. Ms Nguyen, who travels extensively through Indonesia, is a passionate teacher of the language and the culture of the Indonesian people.

Wellbeing
Our students’ wellbeing is a responsibility we share with families. Our school creates a community of learners, deepening relationships between staff and students while fostering a sense of citizenship. Our school counsellor is available to guide students to reach their potential and develop into resilient, confident young people.

Achievement
Congratulations to our Year 12 class of 2015 where every student achieved their SACE Certificate!

The Dux of our 2015 class was Molly Hunter. Molly completed a highly successful academic year and has chosen to continue her tertiary studies by undertaking a Bachelor of Teaching at Flinders University.