2015 ASMS Governing Council AGM; Principals Report.

Highlights of 2015.

The year of 2015 began with the most students and teachers in the building since the school opened. We stretched the limits of our beloved open spaces and the size of classes and learning studies groups. It all worked out OK, in fact, pretty good.

First up was “Meet the Learning Studies Teacher” evening; oh yes, that was another change, used to be called Tutor Group. The program took a while to get the hang of, however, after a bit of effort the Triple M program on Fridays became a great success.

Then Activities Day, the ASMS version of Sports Day. As usual the students joined in the fun, dressed up in their colours, some in ‘out- there’ outfits, and what do you know; YELLOW won again.

We don’t do PE at the ASMS but we do play sport. Lunch Time Sport continued to be fun under the guidance of John (the young one) Rowe and Charlotte Twizzel. Sports teams went out each Thursday to the zone competitions. Success at sport at the ASMS is about having fun, fun, fun.

Choose you own adventure was better than ever this year in Adventure Space. Coordinated by LeDoc, students and teachers got up to the usual quirky activities such as Vanessa’s Maths Club, which went from 6 students to over 40 students by the end of the year. As usual the innovators were seriously playing in the Innovation Space, model aeroplanes were being constructed in Studio 10 assisted by the guys from the Model Aeroplane Club, students were virtually flying on the simulator led by year 11 student Vlad, computer games were being designed under the guidance of Trystan Perry, music being played, robots were being designed, science in the arts led by Terry and David was blooming, and more, more, more.

This is the year that we started getting serious about encouraging Girls in STEM activities, like robotics, activities at Tonsley, programming, FabLabbing at Lauriston Girls and meeting the pollies in Canberra.

Science Alive was a biggy. Thousands of children enjoyed the ASMS activities like making slime, building things, having a go on the flight simulator, trying to reach their best on the vertical jump.

After that we had our own International Science Fair with 49 students and 16 teachers from 10 nations in the building with the ASMS central studies students.

In the meantime the Year 12 Class of 2015 were enjoying their exams. The “Formal” had already been held. Seriously though, they did scrub up well in their lovely gowns and various outfits known as suits.

The sad thing about the year is that our beloved teacher Kate Smith passed away after a long illness. Her students and alumni did her proud at her funeral. Vale Kathryn Eileen Smith.

Well done to all staff, students and parents for supporting our school.
**ASMS 2015 results**

**2015 Year 12 results.**

Bill Voss is the 2015 DUX with a perfect ATAR score of 99.95. Bill was awarded merits in Specialist Mathematics and Chemistry. Year 13 student Zahra Ataie Ashtiani also scored 99.95. Zahra was awarded merits in Chemistry and Biology which adds to her 2014 merits in Mathematical Studies and Physics. Calvin Fancett at 99.55 and Jen Su at 99.25 also scored over 99 and was awarded a merit in Biology. 22% of students

15 subject merits were awarded including to Vedas Das (year 11) for Research Project and Dannielle Schwarz in Scientific Studies (Human Performance).

103 students received an ATAR. 9 students were offered places at a university during the 2015 school year through their achievement in the SAT or UniTest.

The destination of our 2015 year 12 class will be known later this term.

**ASMS Central Studies.**

The school seeks to increase grade level achievement in the year 10/11 interdisciplinary central studies. As you can see, the Grade Point Average has increased across three years.

![GPA by Year Level](image1)

![GPA by Gender](image2)

Strategies to increase the GPA included a strengthened non-submission of assignments, teaching practices designed to individualise and track the progress of each student and increased communication with parents. 
Whilst the GPA has improved the gender differences are variable and have seemed to stabilise in 2015. We would need to explore these issues further over a longer period of time. Nevertheless the confidence and grade levels of the girls in the Maths central study has prompted the construction of female only maths classes for 2016. We are collecting data about the progress of the female classes so that we can assess the effectiveness of this strategy.

**ASMS INNOVATION SPACE**

The ASMS Innovation Space program was finalised at the end of 2015. This project was a significant Governing Council endeavour, designed to bring 21C technology into the ASMS curriculum. The Director, Dr Sivam Krish reported the outcomes to Governing Council in October. Feresh Agahi Pizzaro has been appointed to develop the Studio 5/6 as a space for students to explore, tinker and make things. A spin off from the Innovation Space and the developing Ideation Centre is the interest in Entrepreneurial activities and thinking skills. These capabilities are also being explored in the new Central Study, Concept to Creation, designed under the leadership of Dr Andy Stone.

**DECD Partnerships development.**

The DECD has grouped schools together so that they can collaborate to improve achievement. The ASMS is associated with two of these partnerships, The Fleurieu and Marion Inland Partnerships. Our influence has brought professional development in the STEM for leaders in both partnerships.

The Annual Report will be ready in the next few weeks. It will be posted on the website and sent to all GC members.

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23/02/2016