Students 
take off

ASTRONAUT INSPIRES KIDS

Eugene Boisvert

ASTRONAUT Sandy Magnus faced a grilling from Mercedes College students during a visit to the school last week.

They wanted to know if it was cold in space (it is, but not in a space suit), if it is annoying not having any privacy for months at a time (you just get used to it) and how you have a shower without gravity (you have sponge baths).

Dr Magnus was in Adelaide to speak to the local section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics but also took time out to visit the Springfield school.

She hoped the visit would inspire the Year 5 students to consider a career in science or engineering.

“Your never know when you’re going to pique their interest,” Dr Magnus said.

“I can come and spark their interest but you have to have teachers who are the backbone.”

Dr Magnus travelled to the International Space Station three times – in 2002, 2008 and 2011 – returning on the final Space Shuttle flight.

Among the students she inspired during her visit to Mercedes College was Clancy, 10. He said he wanted to become an astronaut when he was older.

“I thought it (Dr Magnus’ talk) was interesting because my dad used to work for NASA, not as an astronaut but as an engineer,” Clancy said.

NASA astronaut Dr Sandy Magnus with students Ella, 10, and Harry, 10, was at Mercedes College last week to talk to Year 5 students.

PET OF THE WEEK

Hello!

My name is Patches and I’m a one-year Staffordshire Terrier cross.

I love to consider myself as being the whole package as far as dogs go - smart, fuzzy, four legs, and I love to learn.

I’m looking for a family that is keen to have a dog they can take with them on outings and spend time training.

I enjoy learning new things and being close to your side, and would suit an indoor lifestyle with regular exercise.

I will need a home with high fencing too.

Please come and visit me at the RSPCA Lonsdale shelter, 26 Myers Rd, Lonsdale.

Details: adoptapet.com.au

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All seminars commence at 6.00 pm

Except those marked with * which commence at 4.15 pm

Duration Maximum of 2 hours

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. 136 357 or email

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