

Tuesday : 27th April 2010

Term 2 - Week 2



MHS Newsletter

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"Providing high quality education in a stimulating and caring environment."



**A member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community**

Coming Events:

- 30th April – Yr 11 Half Yearly Exams Conclude
- 3rd May – Yr 9 Parent Meeting re Issue of Laptops
- 6th May – Yrs 8, 9 & 10 Parent Teacher Night
- 11th May - Yr 12 Parent Information Evening
- 18th May – Yrs 9, 10 & 11 Try a Trade Day
- 24th May - P&C/School Council Meeting 7.30pm

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Principal's Message

In the first week of Term 2 we welcomed five new students and three new teachers to Mudgee High School. The new teachers are Ms Zeng in Mathematics, Mr Stevens in Industrial Arts and Ms Bower in Special Education.

During our assembly last Wednesday we held a commemoration for ANZAC Day which was presented by students from years 11 and 12. The visit last year by students and teachers to Turkey really brought home to students the impact of war on the individuals who fought.

The School Development Day on 19th April saw a wonderful range of professional learning for teachers. In all there were over 420 participants. Teachers from the many other schools who attended were very impressed with the lovely environment available to students in Mudgee. The range of workshops was a credit to the expertise of the teachers from the CLC who made up the majority of presenters. We are very proud to be part of the fantastic Cudgegong Learning Community.

I was very pleased to see that our campaign against lateness is having an impact. In term 1 there was an 80% improvement in lateness. This is a real credit to the efforts of students and parents and to the determination of staff including Mr Finter to make punctuality an everyday expectation. I am sure it will also make a difference to students in their learning to be on time for every day.

A big thank you to all the students and teachers who supported the Mudgee ANZAC Day march on Sunday. I was proud to see the respect shown by our students for those from this community who have served their country in the past.

A reminder that our first P&C meeting for Term 2 will be the May meeting. I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at that meeting. We will be looking at the results of our surveys on teaching and learning and we will also be working on finalising the guidelines for our uniform improvements. We meet at 7.30 on the fourth Monday of the month during term time.

*Louise Manwaring
Principal*

STUDENT LAPTOPS FOR YEAR 9

Mudgee High is pleased to announce that we have begun preparations to issue every one of our Yr 9 students with their own laptop for use at school and at home. These laptops come loaded with a very comprehensive suite of powerful software. Each machine will remain the property of the Department of Education & Training (DET) until the students leave Yr 12. At that time ownership of the device will transfer to the student.

We have close to 200 students in Yr 9 and so as you can appreciate the rollout of a personal computer to every student is a very complex operation. It is anticipated that the computers will become available for issue to students in the first half of Term 2. Before that time a great deal of preparatory work needs to be done by both the students and our school staff.

The school is committed to ensuring that both parents and students are kept informed of their responsibilities in the use of their laptops and the ways in which the devices can enhance each student's educational opportunities. A full parent briefing has been scheduled for **Monday May 3rd at 7.00pm in the school gymnasium**. At that meeting an information package will be distributed to each household. It is very important that every student be represented by their parents at that meeting.

The Parent Information Evening will be the best opportunity to seek answer to any questions regarding the use and operation of the student laptops.

We thank you for your assistance with this program and your prompt return of the blue coloured Lap Top User Charters. The Digital Education Revolution including the provision of laptops to students and wireless connectivity across the school is an exciting time in education.

We look forward to your attendance at our Parent Information Evening on Monday May 3rd at 7.00pm

Steve Jones
(Deputy Principal)

BOYS AND GIRLS NETBALL

Last term our boys and girls netball teams travelled to Dubbo to compete in the Western Area divisional day. The girls won their first 4 games and needed to win their last game against Gilgandra to win their pool. The girls played extremely well and tied the game 8 all. This meant there needed to be a goal percentage to determine the winner and who would make to the final 4 in Orange the following week. Fortunately for us our for and against percentage was better than Gilgandra and we came out victorious.

The boys games were fast (and looked a bit like a game of hot potato), however they managed to work out what they were doing and by their second game they looked quite professional. Game 2 was against Cobar and it was neck and neck the whole game. At full time the score was 12 all. They won the next 2 games and finished equal first at the end of the competition. This meant both our boys and girls teams were heading to Dubbo for the final four in the region.

The following week, after numerous pink forms and negotiations with their teachers, the year 12 players were given the all clear to miss their exams and represent their school at the Western Area finals for netball. We arrived just in time for our first games. The girls played Orange first and were beaten by a very strong, well drilled Orange side. This meant our girls went into the match to play off for third and fourth. Unfortunately we were unable to match Dubbo Senior Campus and they walked away with the win. We were pretty happy with fourth in Western Area.

The boys played Oberon in their first game and were evenly matched until the fourth quarter. It was during this time that our boys streaked away to win the match. This win meant the boys headed into the grand final. Their opposition – Cobar. This meant both teams were hungry for a win and it was like a rematch from Dubbo. The game was nail biting the entire time. The lead shifted from us to Cobar to us and back to Cobar. Then in the final minutes of the game the boys managed to get a good lead and hold it. As the siren went and signalled the end of the match it also meant that Mudgee High School Boys Netball team were Western Area champions. The boys now head to Cronulla in September for the Final 16 of the State. Not a bad effort.

Congratulations to both the boys and girls teams. They were a great group of students who were excellent representatives for Mudgee High at both carnivals. Well done.

Teams were: Girls - Cassie McCaroll, Rebecca McAllan, Erin Lang, Bec Croake, Helena Lawson, Emily Hauville, Haylee Robison, Emma Donovan, Taylor Sanders, Cori Thompson.
Boys - Brett Lawry, Tim Priest, Shaun Michaelides, Jesse Ravencroft, Will Dean, Adam Kastelein, Dylan Sanders, Declan Berridge, Tim Ward.

INFORMATION AND SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY

Welcome back to term 2. The Industrial Arts Faculty has a new teacher, Mr Stevens. He is replacing Mr Ashton who has transferred to Camden Haven High School. We wish Mr Ashton all the best in his new school and welcome Mr Stevens to Mudgee High. Mr Stevens has transferred from Orange High School. Major projects in Industrial Technology and Design and Technology are progressing well. Most students are developing a good folio to accompany their projects. David Riley competed in the State worldskills in Metal and Engineering in Maitland last term and came in a creditable 5th. The experience itself is very worthwhile.

The Industrial Arts Department with the assistance of the School P and C have just purchased a set of Metalcraft bending tools to enhance the learning of the students in metal based subjects. This equipment will allow the students to manufacture intricate metal projects involving twisting, scrollwork and notching. The teachers are looking forward to using this equipment in class.

All of our Information and Software Technology students are continuing to develop career skills in this important and exciting area. Theory lessons are establishing an underpinning for the practical skills in a wide range of disciplines. Robotics classes have been building interactive models and programming them to respond to a number of different environment variables such as: completing a series of movements relying on elapsed time, avoiding obstacles or staying on a table in response to touch sensors and staying within a painted circle or following a black line relying on light sensors. We will now begin to build less prescriptive projects designed by the students utilising combinations of these tasks to demonstrate their skills.

Multimedia and Authoring students have been working through the basic activities in graphics and animation and will now start to enhance their projects with programming elements to include interactivity. The projects will be to develop an interactive resource that could be used in school to assist students in learning a unit of work from another faculty area. We will be completing work to be submitted to the Learning Resource Awards run by the Centre for Learning Innovation of the NSW Department of Education. Students in website design have been learning the history of the internet web development and assessing current websites available with the view to gleaning the elements of good website design. They will now be using the Adobe CS4 suite to build their own website.

Year 8 students in the introductory Graphics and Animation course have been learning computer graphics skills across a variety of applications. The Adobe suite of software now available to the school contains a number of industry standard applications which will stand the students in good stead when they enter the workforce. The class is now developing digital portfolios of work for assessment. Projects will concentrate on building animations. In the Computer Applications course, also for Year 8, students have been gaining skills in the Microsoft Office 2007 suite of tools. They have been using the range of business applications such as word processors, spreadsheets and databases. This software is again industry standard and most likely to be used in any workplace these students enter.

Mr Roberts

HSIE FACULTY NEWS

So starts another busy term in the HSIE Faculty. On Monday 19th April staff in the HSIE Faculty played host to teachers from Kandos High, Gulgong High, Coonamble High and Mendooran Central School. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss sharing resources and ideas to improve learning outcomes for students across the Western region. The HSIE session saw staff working on the use of Geographic Information Software, Geographic Positioning Devices and Moodle. All of these teaching tools will be used in HSIE classrooms at Mudgee High and across the district with a view to developing the technological skills of students.

On Wednesday 21st April the HSIE Faculty co-ordinated the school's ANZAC Ceremony. Elizabeth Bailey, Jacqui Johnson, Jamie Kennedy, Verity Croake, and Tamara Fleming addressed the assembly on different aspects of ANZAC Day. Elizabeth and Jacqui explained the importance of the Battle of Lone Pine whilst Jamie highlighted that in the Mudgee High School quadrangle there is a pine tree which was grown from a cone from the original Lone Pine on the Gallipoli Peninsula. This tree was planted to honour those who have served in conflicts around the world.

Verity and Tamara presented the Turkish perspective on the Dardenelles Campaign by reciting the words of the Turkish General, Later First President, Kemal Ataturk who paid tribute to the ANZAC soldiers :

"Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives...

You are now living in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace.

There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehments to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours...

You, the mothers, who sent their sons from faraway countries wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace, after having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well."

Ataturk, 1934

Following the tributes all students bowed their heads in respect for a minute's silence. Elizabeth, Jacqui, Jamie, Verity and Tamara are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Belinda Knight, Jesse Bantock, Joshua Gow, Jessica Degoumois, Peta-Travers-Jones, Zoe Butler, Kristy Kimber, Ellie Hawkins and Tom Bambrick continue to impress with their work in the Max Potential Programme. This programme is designed to develop, leadership, public speaking, management and entrepreneurial skills in students. These students work with community mentors to develop personal interest projects which are then showcased to the community. Thanks must go to programme co-ordinator, Mr Glenn Coombs and the community mentors, many of whom take time off work to support our students. Congratulations to all.

What's Happenin' in HSIE next?

- Year 7 will be undertaking History Field work over the next two terms at Red Hill Environmental Education Centre in Gulgongstayed tuned!!!
- The Mock Trial and Mock United Nations teams will continue to proudly represent our school.

- All of Year 9 will travel to Dunn's Swamp on May 26th as part of their mandatory field work. This will form the basis of a major assessment. The cost will be \$20 and parents should expect to see a permission note in the next few days if they have not already received one. The day after the field work students will be removed from timetabled classes to complete written work and construct data bases and graphs based on their study at Dunn's Swamp. It is **crucial** that **all** students attend both days. Financial support is available by contacting the Principal. This should not be a barrier to all students participating.
- On Wednesday 2nd June a travelling theatre company will be performing a play based on the events of WW1 which is relevant to all students in years 9 and 10. The cost of that performance will be \$5. Notes and information on this exciting opportunity will be available in the very near future. As this is a mandatory topic for the School Certificate exams we expect all students to attend.

NOTE: To access moodle at home students are to type the following in the address bar and log in using their school user name and password: **Web2.mudgee-schools.nsw.edu.au**

Mr Finter

Community Announcements



australian
breastfeeding
association

Australian Breastfeeding Association - Mudgee Group

Cordially invites you to join us in our celebration of women and the special role they play in the lives of family and the community this Mothers' Day at our Annual Women's Dinner "A Thai Experience" Tuesday 11th May, 2010, at 7.30pm at the Galangha Thai Restaurant, 54 Market Street, MUDGEE : Dinner \$30 : BYO

Experience the delights of a Thai Banquet, a complimentary glass of wine, whilst sharing laughter & friendship with kindred women. Lucky door prize & silent auction on the night.

Funds raised at this dinner will go to furthering the training of our counsellors, enabling the continued support of breastfeeding in our community. We hope to see you there.

RSVP Sunday 9th May, Jeanette 6372 6335. Please leave message if answering machine responds. Please indicate any special dietary requirements. Babes in Arms Welcome.



MUDGEE WOLVES - SOCCER REGISTRATIONS

Last chance to register for the 2010 season

You can register by going to Ross Granata Motors, Mudgee, or
Contacting Julie Shearer, Gulgong on 0438453685, or
Contacting Merrilyn Stokes, Rylstone on 0429956802
Cost per Rego \$100 -Competition will begin Saturday 1st May.

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