

Monday : 10th May 2010

Term 2 - Week 4



MHS Newsletter

Mudgee High School – Locked Bag 2004, Mudgee NSW 2850

ABN: 25 074 408 459 Telephone: (02) 6372 1533 Facsimile: (02) 6372 6321

Website: www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au Email: mudgee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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



**A member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community**

Coming Events:

- 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

Principal's Message

Thank you to the many parents and carers who were able to meet with staff last Thursday night at our Parent – Teacher Evening. This is always a most valuable event on our calendar. If parents need to follow up any issues discussed last Thursday please contact the school to arrange time for a telephone or personal interview with the staff concerned. One of the many wonderful extra-curricular activities available to our students this year will be the opportunity for our Drama students to attend two workshops here at school with members of the Sydney Theatre Company. In addition members of that prestigious company will perform the play "Burnt" for all students in years 10, 11 and 12. These exciting events are provided free of charge. The organisation is in the hands of our drama teacher Mr Hayward.

On a similar theme our Creative and Performing Arts Faculty under the leadership of Mr McNamara has decided to stage a school musical again this year. There will be many opportunities for students to become involved either on stage or behind the scenes. Involvement in a major production such as this is often a real highlight of a student's time at school. Performances are scheduled for late November.

Last week we issued free laptop computers to all students in Year 9. Almost 200 of these highly sophisticated devices were issued by a team of hardworking staff directed by our Technical Support Officer, Mr Bradshaw. Each computer is registered to an individual student who is responsible for its care and use. In addition to receiving necessary technical information about connecting to the DET network the students were instructed in the school's expectations concerning appropriate use of emails and websites.

To enhance the use and capability of our school computer network we are expecting a team of technicians to visit the school shortly to complete the provision of wireless services right across our site. This equipment will be used by the 360 students in years 9 and 10 who have their own DET provided laptop computer as well as by the host of other devices located in classrooms and staffrooms.

The Mudgee High Centre for Excellence in Teaching program is continuing to have an impact on educational outcomes across our school and across a range of smaller schools in our region. Our experienced and expert staff are able to provide advice and support to teachers in a number of other schools. The skills they develop in doing so are then able to be used to directly benefit our students as well. In a vote of confidence in the staff at Mudgee High our Head Teacher Science, Mr McLennan has been asked to deliver a lecture to trainee teachers at Charles Sturt University.

*Steve Jones
Deputy Principal*

This issue:

Principal's Message

HSIE Happenings

Laptops in English

Public Speaking and

Debating

Community Announcements

Paid Advertisement

HSIE HAPPENINGS

So starts another busy term in the HSIE Faculty:

On Monday 19th May 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 Dardanelles 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 Mehmets 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.
- 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.

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

LAPTOPS IN ENGLISH

Students in Year 9 are understandably excited about getting their laptops and being able to use them in class. Some students are thinking that they can ditch their books altogether – this is certainly not the case in English as there are some tasks that are much quicker and far easier if they are done in a book.

In class in the next couple of weeks students will be taught explicitly how to use the laptops in class. They will be given assistance to set up their 'One-note' computerised book and taught about some of the extra activities they can use it for. They will be taught how to develop an appropriate avatar and banner for use in submitting assignments electronically as well as submitting the assignment on moodle.

As the cold weather hits students need to be especially careful when they are charging the computers. From past experience the batteries don't charge well if they're too cold. If students plug the laptop in they should hover the cursor over the battery icon on the toolbar. If they get the message 'plugged in, not charging' they need to find a warmer spot to charge the battery.

PUBLIC SPEAKING AND DEBATING

A technology first. Our senior debaters participated in their second round debate using the connected classroom video conferencing technology. This proved highly successful technologically: our thanks to Mrs Smith who trained the team in the practical application and tutored them in microphone and camera use. This made a lot of difference to their confidence.

The team spoke extremely well and were victorious in the debate against Parkes. This saved our students a second drive in a week as they had already had a win against Molong. They will debate Dubbo Senior College this week. This team has been together working with Mrs Daniels for some time now and they are a real force to be reckoned with in our region. We wish them well.

Look out for more news in these areas. The Lithgow Festival of Speech is on Thursday 6th May – the results won't make the newsletter but we have a number of teams and speakers attending. Mr Eade has kindly volunteered to take the bus and adjudicate a number of debates. On May 19th Alex Rosso will represent the school at the local final of the State Senior Public Speaking Competition.



Miriam Semenya, Jamie Kennedy, Jaime Taylor and Anna Williamson

Community Announcements



World Education Program Australia Limited (ABN 82 098 289 297)

Suite 2, 249 Hampton Street, Hampton, Melbourne

Ph: 03 9598 4733 or 1300 884 733

Fax: 03 9598 4233 Email: info@wep.org.au

Mail: PO Box 260, Black Rock VIC 3193

www.wep.org.au

A non-profit student exchange organisation registered with the Education Departments

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is now accepting applications from students to participate in 2010/11 exchange programs for a summer, semester or year. Students and parents can choose from more than 26 countries, including France, Belgium, Italy, Germany and Spain.

Attend one of WEP's information evenings or go online at www.wep.org.au to find out more. Scholarships to Italy and French-speaking Belgium are now available for January 2011!

Paid Advertisements

(Please note that paid advertisements do not carry the school's endorsement)

COMPUTER POWER!

Keeping IT Productive™

PC Repairs
Installations
Sales
Notebooks
Upgrades
Support
Data Recovery
Networking & Configuration
Consultations
Optimizations
Custom Built Computers
On Site Service



Competitive Priced
Cartridges & Toners



**We Pride
Ourselves ON
Customer
Service**

Computer Power Mudgee
Shop 1 Mortimer Centre
Mudgee
Fax: 6372-7003
www.computerpowermudgee.com.au

PH: 6372-7001

© Copyright Computer Power - 2010 ABN: 151 351 82 795

