

Monday 14th November 2011

Term 4 – Week 6



MHS Newsletter



**A Member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community**

**SEE OUR WEBSITE
FOR THE FULL
CALENDAR OF
EVENTS**

Coming Events:

- Nov 14 – Y12 Sign out day
- Nov 15 - Y6 to Y7 Orientation Day
- Nov 16 – Y6 to Y7 Parent Information Evening 7pm School Tour 6pm
- Year 12 Farewell at Parklands
- P & C Meeting 7.30pm - Library

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- Post SC Tafe
- Maths Faculty
- Careers Advice
- Community Notices
- MHS Sponsor

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

Principal's Message

Having returned this week from my 14th stint as a HSC marker, I had cause to talk to the kids this week about the notion of competition.

The race we know today as the Bathurst 1000 began as an amateur event called the Armstrong 500. It was a speed, performance and reliability trial over a distance of 500 miles (800km) and it was initially held on Phillip Island in Victoria, but when the track there fell to bits, the race moved to Bathurst.

That was in 1963.

Entry into the Bathurst 500 was limited to standard, unmodified production cars that had to have been built or assembled in Australia. The vehicles had to be road-registered and the only qualifications needed by contestants were a current driver's licence and the required entry fee.

There were no concrete barriers, nor five point safety harnesses, nor roll cages. All amateur stuff...

Today's Bathurst 1000 is the preserve of the big players in the Australian V8 scene; Ford and Holden. The competition has stiffened considerably. The 130 laps of the first race up, over and around Bathurst's Mount Panorama saw the winning vehicle – Harry Firth and Bob Jane in a Mk.I Ford Cortina GT – achieve an average of 103.39 km/h. In 2010 the now 161 lap race was won by Craig Lowndes and Mark Skaife in a VE Commodore averaging 160.97 km/h.

What's the message? The competition never rests.

Education is no different. Speaking from an English teacher's perspective, HSC writing seems to get better each year. Students across the state are engaging with what are quite accessible questions – if you've done the necessary study – and are demonstrating their knowledge and skills with what can only be described as increasing flair and sophistication.

Put simply; the competition never rests and it's getting tougher.

For those kids of ours who put in the requisite time and effort, success is almost guaranteed. They will be the ones who demonstrate flair and sophistication in their writing.

For those kids who may not have been quite so committed, there is no time like the present to be developing the skills and acquiring the knowledge that will best prepare them to meet the competition head on and better their chances of success.

All we need to do now is find a way to screw old heads onto young shoulders.

Wayne Eade
Relieving Principal

POST SCHOOL CERTIFICATE TAFE COURSES

Interested Year 10 students will be participating in post School Certificate TAFE short courses commencing this week, 14.11.11.

Course offerings include Child Care/First Aid, Motorbike Maintenance and Operation, Animal Studies and Business Management.

The courses are practical in nature as far as possible and it is hoped students will further enhance their skill development as well as obtain an additional credential. Some courses eg child care will include a visit to a local child care centre as part of the course structure.

MATHEMATICS FACULTY NEWS

Australian Mathematics Competition

A small but high quality of 34 students entered the Australian Mathematics Competition this year, but those that were willing performed extremely well. From the 34 entrants a pleasing 10 Proficiency, 12 Credits and 4 Distinctions awards were obtained.

Proficiency awards were obtained by:

Adam Dziura, Russell Van Laeren, Georgina Rosso, Brooke Sewell, Danica Roberts, Ben Lawry, Henry Van Laeren, Nathan Chapman, Thomas Lord and Douglas McRae.

Credits awards were obtained by:

Samual Pattison, Brandon Roth, Roland Ma, Ben Reihard, Kade Hobson, Lucy O'Connell, Connor Jones, Alexandra Rosso, Jason Streat, Cassandra McGonigle and Jason Wheatley.

Distinction awards were obtained by:

Lewis Ottaway, Robert Harries, Jack Stanford, Pamela Zulueta.

Congratulations to all students who entered and particularly to those who achieved these outstanding results.

Super Rule

The HSC is a demanding time for students and it is essential that students are well prepared for lessons with the right equipment. Students who are completing the HSC this year must have an approved scientific calculator. Students are asked to check with their teacher in case their calculator is not approved. Those students sitting the General Mathematics examinations can also take in an approved graphics calculator and we ask that students notify their teacher if they are intending to take such a calculator into the examination. Being unfamiliar with a calculator can severely affect a student's result.

Besides a rule students in the Mathematics and Extension Mathematics courses can purchase a mathematics template which has been approved for use in their examinations. The template is referred to as a Super Rule and can be purchased for \$8.00

Calculators

All students in Years 7 to 12 need to use calculators in their Mathematics classes. The Mathematics courses are designed to make use of calculator technology to assist students to develop more difficult concepts without becoming bogged down in manual calculations. Mental calculations skills are also practiced as part of the course.

It is important for students to have a calculator of the type approved by the Board of Studies. In the past some students have disadvantaged themselves by not practicing their skills on a calculator that they can use in their final exams.

Students are advised to check with your Mathematics teacher that your calculator is an approved model.

Approved calculators can be purchased from the front office for \$17.00 which is cost price to us.

If families have calculators which are no longer needed by ex-students they can be used. It is not necessary to buy the latest model. If students look after their calculator it will last throughout their time at school and beyond.



Courtney Szloch, Emily Lowe, Jacqui Johnson, Rachel Johnson & Anthony Picklam practicing 2010 General Mathematics HSC paper

Year 12 Holiday Workshops

It was wonderful to see Year 12 students once again taking advantage of the holiday workshops before their examinations. Students from a range of mathematics courses attended these workshops, giving up their own time to spend time revising and practising their skills. Thanks to Mrs Best, Mrs Bennett and Mr Laurie for running four General Mathematics workshops and also to Mr Murdoch who also ran workshops for Extension students. Many of these students have already given their own time throughout the year to seek assistance with their work at lunch times and after school.



Mitchell Hearn and Max Douglas



Tamara Tattersal and Mrs Bennett



Mr Laurie assisting Aidan Young and Brittany Skinner

CAREERS – UTS Engineering and IT Discovery Day

The Discovery Day will be held on 22nd November from 9am to 3.15pm at UTS Broadway Campus. The event will give students from Year 8 to 12, a real-world insight into studying and working in IT and Engineering. Explore state-of-the-art facilities, create gadgets, learn about new technologies and talk to young engineers and IT professionals and students.

At the Discovery Day students can:

- find out more about what engineering and IT is
- what it is like to study and work in these fields and what opportunities are out there
- learn about engineering and IT design, and use this to construct your own projects
- discover how engineering and IT contribute to improving the standard of living, help others and build sustainable communities. *For more information contact Mr Kempton*

Community Notices

CLUB MUDGEES MAX POTENTIAL PROGRAM

Needs community coaches from the Mudgee/Gulgong/Rylstone/Kandos areas.

If you have an interest in developing the leadership capacity of young people in your community, please consider becoming a coach with the Max Potential Program. Coaches can be sponsored by all organisation such as a business or community group, or by Club Mudgee. Approved applicants will receive training from accredited coaches and will progress their own personal and professional leadership success along the way. Want to know more, or want to get involved? Contact Fiona Brown, Max Potential Program Manager on 6272 7013

Sponsor

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