

Monday: 14th March 2011

Term 1 – Week 8



MHS Newsletter



A member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community

Coming Events:

- Mar 17 – Parent/Teacher Evening Yr 8, 9 & 10
- Mar 23 – Y7 2012 Parent Info Evening 7pm
- Mar 28 –P&C AGM 7.30pm - Library
- Mar 31 to Apr 8 – Y12 Half Yearly Exams

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- Parent Teacher Evening
- Agriculture Report
- Snake Tales
- Davidson Shield Cricket
- An Aussie in Canada
- Community Announcements
- Coffin Creek Ad

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

Principal's Message

As many would be aware we were saddened by the news last week of the death of Kumar Boller. He completed Year 12 last year and was a student well liked by his peers and teachers. His parents Michael and Maureen Boller have been teachers at Mudgee High School for over 30 years. Their association with the wider community means that Kumar's death has touched so many people. Our thoughts are with his family as they struggle to cope with their grief. As a community at times like this, we all need to take care of each other.

Last week we spoke to students on assembly about how to look out for friends. The advice our counsellor Mrs Broadley gave students and staff was, if you are concerned about the well-being of a young person please seek help.

Free Community Education Seminar – Navigating Teenage DEPRESSION

What is depression? How to spot early warning signs; how to build resilience; what to do.

For parents, teenagers and people who work with young people.

Presented at Club Mudgee on 30th March from 6.30 to 8.30pm

Building Personal RESILIENCE

What is resilience? Strategies for building resilience to combat stress.

Presented at Winning Post Motor Inn

31st March from 10am to 12 noon

Please RSVP for either or both by 25th March

By going to the website www.blackdoginstitute.org.au

For more information contact Chris Rule on 02 93828203 or c.rule@blackdog.org.au

Our Year 12 fundraising charity for 2011 is the RSPCA. Year 12 will be holding a golf day on Sunday 3rd April. Costs will be \$25 per adult, \$15 under 18, \$60 a family of four. Each participant will receive a sausage sandwich and there will be great prizes to be won. More details in coming newsletters.

PARENT TEACHER EVENING

There will be a Parent Teacher evening on Thursday March 17 for parents of students in Years 8, 9 and 10. Be aware that this is *earlier* than last year's Parent Teacher evening. Parent Teacher evenings are a great way to find out just what's happening in the school life of your children and, in some circumstances, resolve any issues that may be causing concern before those issues become problems. Booking sheets have been distributed so please encourage your child to make those bookings as soon as possible.

Louise Manwaring

Principal

SRC presents the end of year **SOCIAL** on Tuesday 22nd of March, 2011, 7-10pm.

Theme: "RED CARPET"

Music: DISCOTEX

Cost: \$4 Tickets will be sold from F1 on the day at recess and lunch.

Prizes: Lucky door and best dressed. **PLUS** sausage sizzle provided by Year 12

AGRICULTURE REPORT

With the passing of this year's Mudgee Show, we can take stock of our performances in many areas. Year 11 Primary Industries did an outstanding job with final preparations of both sheep and cattle on the Thursday prior to the show. This all day activity was crucial for one elective module and highlighted the intense preparation undertaken by exhibitors to impress the judge.

Friday was the junior judging, coaching and zone final day. Our juniors were keen to learn and well behaved. The U/15 group were trained in the finer points of judging sheep, cattle, wool and grain with the long term goal of bringing them into the competitive age group with the skills and interest needed to perform at the Royal or make informed appraisal on farms.

Competition was strong this year with more entries and an increased number of schools present. The top two entrants in the senior (zone final) category qualify for competition at the Royal Easter Show state finals. Our top performers were:

Junior class

James Riley 1st Wool; Jake Fahey 3rd Wool; Maddison Nemeč 2nd Merino sheep

Senior class

Gabrielle Saliba 2nd Wool & 1st Grain; Maddison Branks 3rd Wool

Saturday brought the competition for sheep and cattle. Once again, Mudgee High was entered into the White Suffolk stud sheep section. While we were not able to emulate the high achievement of 2010, there was good feedback from the judge and other breeders for improving small conformational faults while stressing the strong points in our genetics.

The show steers were also on display and received high praise from the judge and spectators. With Mudgee High providing the only entries in this class, the placings were assured but the day was about preparation of the handlers and cattle for the Royal. Unfortunately an accident in transit to school following the show injured two steers and participation in Sydney is unlikely at present.

Also on Saturday were competitions for animal handling. Kelsey Johnson was first in the sheep section while in cattle, Lucy Cheetham took out first place in juniors and, in seniors, Mitchell O'Gorman was first and Courtney Denniss second.

Another group of students to be congratulated are the many who volunteered several hours on the Saturday to run children's activities. They did this for very little reward but their efforts made these activities possible and for which many people are sincerely grateful.

The Saturday just past was our annual autumn plant and poultry sale. This was another huge success thanks largely to the support of the community. The money raised will help sustain the diverse range of experiences provided in our Agriculture programmes.

SNAKE TAILS – FRIDAY 1 APRIL – \$6.00 PER STUDENT

Bob Withey, an expert in reptiles from Australian Reptile Displays will be visiting the school with his collection of snakes, lizards and turtles. His presentation will cover how reptiles fit into the environment and how we can avoid being injured by them. Students will see venomous snakes in tamper proof boxes and will have the opportunity to handle turtles, lizards and pythons. Some volunteers may be selected to handle some of the non-venomous reptiles during the presentation. Students in Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 need to pay \$6 to the office by 25th March. If any parents have a concern with these arrangements please contact G Evans HT Science.

DAVIDSON SHIELD CRICKET

On Monday 7th March the open boys cricket team played Gilgandra in our first match of the Davidson Shield. We won the toss and decided to bat first, scoring 9 for 334. Hayden Cox top scored with 90, Ryan Kurtz made 55 and Harry Ottley 54, with strong contributions from Stuart Fredericks and the skipper Tyler Joyce with 36 a piece. When it came our turn to bowl we were able to bowl Gilgandra all out for 53. A strong bowling performance from everyone, with all chipping in but the stand out was Jaylen Huia with 3 – 10 off his 4 overs. Well done to all the lads on their first win.

WESTERN AREA SWIMMING



Mudgee High School has excelled in the pool at the Western Swimming Championships held at Cowra on the 2nd March. Six of the eleven swimmers have made it through to the State Championships in various events. Most swimmers achieved personal best times in one or more events on the day.

The Boys 15yr Freestyle relay team picked up first place with a convincing win even though two of the swimmers were swimming up age groups.

The 2011 Mudgee High School Western Area Swim Team

L-R (Back Row) Tavis McLennan, (Middle Row)

Maddy Parsons, Jock Whiteside, Jake Smith, Jayme Muscat, Hamish McLennan, (Front Row) Thomas Smith, Sammy Leathem, Jordan Addley, Courtney Brackenrig and Olivia Haidle.

Our representatives at the CHS State Championships to be held at Homebush 24th – 26th March will be:

Jordan Addley	100 Freestyle, 200 Freestyle, 100 Backstroke
Olivia Haidle	50 Freestyle
Hamish McLennan	200 Freestyle, Freestyle Relay
Jake Smith	Freestyle Relay
Thomas Smith	100 Freestyle, 100 Breaststroke, 200 Freestyle, 200 Medley, Freestyle Relay
Jock Whiteside	50 Freestyle, 100 Backstroke, Freestyle Relay

All the students represented their school with pride and were an absolute pleasure to be involved with. I would also like to thank the parents who transported and accommodated the students.

Peter Smith

MHS Western Swimming Coordinator

UNIFORM

At our last P&C meeting we discussed the progress on our new uniform guidelines. After concerns have been raised by a number of parents the following decisions were made:

- From the start of term two ruggers, sports shorts and track pants are not to be worn for everyday wear.
- All new purchases of navy or grey shorts/skirts must have the school logo. These can be purchased from the uniform shop.
- Shorts/skirts must be of the correct style, navy or grey, be tailored, cotton/cotton like, appropriate length with no other logos or colours.
- Students must have shorts/skirts with the MHS logo by the start of Term 4 2011. The uniform shops will add the logo to appropriate shorts/skirts. See the office for a form. The extra time it is hoped will help everyone be ready.
- Year 12 students are exempt from the changes except in formal roles that include school representation.

Any parent who needs financial assistance to meet these guidelines should contact the office to enquire about student assistance. Please don't hesitate to phone or call in to see the Principal if you need clarification.

AN AUSSIE IN CANADA

After two months in Canada and the buzz of being here still has not worn off. Its -24 degrees outside and -39 with a windchill. Had some snow today so I sent Lisa out to shovel snow off the sidewalk (you can be fined if you do not shovel within 24 hours) See photo. She had gloves on and was outside for only 10 minutes but had to come in because she could not feel her fingers. All the locals are complaining about the weather because it is not usually this cold at this time of year. On the way home from work today there were cars sliding everywhere. Personally I wouldn't care if the snow stayed all year round.

Canada is a country of great beauty and the postcards do not do the scenery justice. Frozen waterfalls are particularly beautiful but I'm very sure that I do not want to climb them like some do. Calgary's business is oil, gas, cattle and excellent beer but its playground is the mountains!!

The cold weather is a real novelty. Our weekends have been filled with ice skating, cross country skiing, snow shoeing in the Rockies or trips away to look at other sights like frozen waterfalls, giant malls and other (un) natural wonders. Yes the malls are wonders over here. Have you ever seen a hyperactive praying mantis on skates? Well that's me! Not doing it any more. Took a heavy fall the other day, winded myself and hurt my elbow. Am going to stick to some of my other talents like breakdancing.

We stay in Calgary every second weekend and have a look at the local sites. It is a beautiful city with much to do. Yesterday I went cross country skiing on the local golf course and as far as I'm concerned it is the best way to use a golf course. If Mudgee Golf Club can get a snow making machine I'll become a member.

Canadians are the biggest coffee drinkers in the world. Even the shopping trolleys have special holders for your coffee cups. If you looked up "Coffee" in a Canadian dictionary it would say "Tim Hortons". They are a coffee and donut chain established by a now deceased hockey (notice I no longer say Ice hockey) player called you guessed it "Tim Horton". I prefer their French vanilla coffee and their caramel donuts. Google Tim Horton really worth a look. What do I like about Canadian schools? I have seen only one! No school uniform is an interesting one. I like it but I cannot see it taking off at home. Having said that Queen Elizabeth High has just introduced lanyards with photo ID attached and all are expected (staff included) to wear their lanyards in a visible place, that is around their neck. The purpose of this is to ensure the safety of students by minimising security breaches.

Over here I am considered a Humanities teacher so am teaching History, Geography and English and a little bit of Health. I am also earning my PE stripes. Have been on an excursion downhill skiing and am going X country on Wednesday. Gotta love the snow!!!

The library ladies keep me in lollies here. Usually wine gums!

What I do not like about the Calgary system? Their holidays are all over the place. I like our neat 10 weeks of school then two weeks off. Much easier to work out. For the record my next holiday is March 26th for a week and we are off to Jasper to ski.

I could write much more but there is not time. Every day is an adventure and everyday tasks are an adventure. For example the day after we picked up our new car we went to the local supermarket, came out and it was -28 and the car would not start. Battery gone. Have you ever tried to put jumper leads on in gloves?.... difficult. Even more difficult when you take the gloves off to put the leads on and your fingers drop off. Earned a Tim Horton's coffee after that one!!! *Richard Finter*

PS: Mr Mills says this account is somewhat exaggerated.

Community Announcements

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL Youth Week Competitions

Sections for Photography, Short Film, Writing and Art

Entrants to be aged between 12 and 25 years and live in the MWRC area

Entries must be received by Cathy Leisfield by 4.30pm on 25th March 2011

All entries must be accompanied by an entry form which can be downloaded from

www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au/community_services/youth_services.html or

contact cathy.leisfield@midwestern.nsw.gov.au or 0408 635 933

Keep up to date with other Youth Week events become a fan of the Mid-Western Youth Council on facebook

PARKOUR WORKSHOP – Mudgee Skatepark – 10am – 12noon

Followed by a FREE BBQ – Limited places (Contact Cathy Leisfield to book)

To all school age children and their parents

The Mudgee District Hockey Association is preparing for the 2011 season. There are registration days scheduled for Saturday March 26th & April 2nd from 9am – 12 noon down at the Westend Fields. If you can't make it then registration will continue as the season gets underway. The season starts on Saturday April 30th.

If you haven't played before there is loan equipment so you can give it a go! Fun is guaranteed and the best of all the games are in Mudgee every week, so there's no need to travel away! Even the cost is reasonable with Juniors starting from \$40 for the season (no more to pay).

Parents often read the newsletter too and of course we are always looking for senior players. Have you played when you were younger? Need to get back into shape? Well dust off your stick & shin pads and come and join us.

More information Phone 63726630a/ Email:mudgeehockey@y7mail.com Facebook:Mudgee District Hockey Assoc.

HOCKEY....you know you want to play!

JUNIOR SOCCER – MUDGEE GULGONG WOLVES

If you have missed registration it is still available on Thursday 17th March from 5.15 to 6.15pm

At the Club House, Glen Willow.

Fee is \$100 and all players must be present when registering to have a photo taken for an ID card.

Mudgee Junior Rugby League

Registrations will be held on 22nd March at Cahill Park 5pm-6pm

Fees for Registration are Under 6 to Under 9 - \$50; Under 10 to Under 16 - \$70

Each player receives a Club shorts and socks. Any players that were not registered with Mudgee Club in 2010 will be required to provide identification (ie birth certificate, passport) when registering.

STUCK?

Homework for Years 4-12; Assignment Research; Study Skills and Essay Writing; HSC Study
Mid-Western Regional Council Library offers a FREE online homework help service!

<http://library.midwestern.nsw.gov.au>

Click on Your Tutor on left hand menu!

Call the Library on 6378 2740 or drop in for more information.

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