

Monday: 8th August 2011

Term 3 – Week 4



MHS Newsletter



A member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community

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

Coming Events:

- Aug 11-19 – Y12 Trial Exams
- Aug 14-19 – Ski Trip
- Aug 22 – P&C Meeting, Library 7.30pm
- Aug 31 – CLC Concert, Parklands, matinee & evening

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- Languages
- Careers
- Community Item
- Coffin Creek Ad
- Newsletter by email

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

Principal's Message

What a big Education Week the week just passed has been for Mudgee High students. In sport, the Girls Rugby team steam-rolled Parkes High 67-10 on Monday, the same day the Support Unit had its Boccia Tournament. The following day the Open Boys Rugby side went up against Knox Grammar, a school that boasts a senior campus of more than 1400 boys. The game was played on Mudgee High's field and although the final score was 30-14 to the visitors, the defeat was a narrow one in terms of possession and the skills demonstrated in the paddock. It was certainly a great end to what has been a tremendous year for the boys and a pleasant change for all concerned that at the game's end, the Mudgee team didn't have to sit in a bus for six hours...

Once again, Mudgee High hosted a very successful visit from several Japanese schools. A very big thanks to Ms Date, Miss Hutchins and the many staff members and Mudgee High families who opened their homes and assisted in making the Japanese visit a shining success. Read the story within for more details.

At this time of the year the transitional nature of schooling truly comes into focus. Year 12 will begin Trial HSC examinations on Thursday 11 August. These exams will continue through until Friday 19 August. The Trials are such an important time. The examinations themselves provide our Year 12s with vital 'match fitness' in the lead-up to the HSC examinations in October/November. They replicate as closely as possible the conditions of the HSC. They also serve as a diagnostic tool, allowing teachers to gauge where weaknesses or gaps may still exist while there is still time for remediation. Year 12 are also entering that time of the year when major works – the culmination of a year's work – are coming due in a number of subjects, including Visual Arts, Extension English and several TAS subjects. It's worth noting that at the end of the Trial period, Year 12 students will have only 25 days of school before their thirteen years in the classroom are at an end. At the other end of the scale, Mr Hayward – Year 7 Year Adviser 2012 – and Mrs Broadley have begun meeting with those Year 6 students across the district who will be our Year 7 in 2012.

In recent weeks, some students have complained that their email accounts of digital school folders have been "hacked". All student digital accounts are password protected and "hacking" by outsiders is a rare thing. As all accounts are password protected, students are reminded to keep their passwords private. Sharing or passing on passwords is an almost guaranteed way to meet with cyber misfortune.

The message to our kids needs to be a clear one: "Keep your account log-on details to yourself!"

The other issue is leaving unattended machines into which individual students have logged on. On assembly last week, students were warned that there are "trolls" out there; people who take great delight in posting messages or generally disrupting the computer use of others to elicit an emotional response from their victims. Students are advised to never leave unattended a computer terminal they are using at school if they are still logged on. The best thing a student can do is press "window"+"I" if they have to leave the terminal but plan to return. This action locks the keyboard. When the student returns, they need only press "ctrl"+"alt"+"delete", type in their password and continue, safe in the knowledge that no horrible little "troll" has been messing about with their stuff.

It's all about being happy and staying safe at school.

Wayne Eade
Deputy Principal

THANK YOU TO MATERIAL WORLD

Mudgee High School would like to say a big thank you to Material World in Mudgee for supplying, free of charge, material remnants for use in Textiles.

LANGUAGES

Mudgee High recently hosted another successful visit from our sister schools in Japan. 25 students and 4 teachers from Kitasenri High School, Nose Senior High School and Ibaraki Nishi High School spent 11 nights with host families and enjoyed a full program of activities.

The school program included ESL lessons, class integration, a bushwalk at Redbank Dam, an excursion to Dunns Swamp, a visit to the school farm, an Anzac biscuit cooking lesson, making their own boomerangs and souvenir shopping at a Rotary sponsored gift shop. They also enjoyed watching our boys Rugby team playing against a prominent Sydney private school.

On the middle weekend, the majority of the group gathered on Saturday night to enjoy an Aussie style bonfire with marshmallows and sparklers. Many families also visited the Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo and other local attractions.

The tour culminated in a farewell party for all host families and their new family members. The Japanese group entertained us with a kendo demonstration, dance performances, some traditional songs, calligraphy and Japanese games. On the last day of school we hosted a 'cultural exchange', enjoying more games, singing and dancing.
Ms Date and Miss Hutchins



Students get to know each other at Lawson Park



Welcome to MHS Assembly



We made Anzac biscuits!



Learning new games at the bonfire.

CAREERS CAPERS – Parents/Carers of Year 12 Students

Year 12 students are approaching the time when they should be considering activating applications for further education, training and/or work options for 2012. This process should begin in earnest after the upcoming trial examinations, as students should be busy revising for the trials in the next few weeks. Following is an overview of some options, with relevant closing dates etc.

University

Students have been offered a free copy of the 2012 University Admissions (UAC) Guide detailing all aspects of NSW/ACT uni courses. The UAC application process occurs during late August/September and students can choose up to nine course preferences. All eligible students are encouraged to apply, regardless of whether they are considering a gap year, as they can (in most cases), defer the offer.

Alternate pathways to uni are also available, eg; early entry to a number of universities whereby students can gain entry to their course of choice based on recommendation from the school.

Students (and parents/carers) are also encouraged to spend some time researching (and applying for in some cases) accommodation and scholarship optional for 2012. This information can be accessed via the relevant websites, the UAC Guide, Centrelink or contact the school. If any students consider they have suffered educational, financial or personal disadvantage during their HSC, then special provisions via various access and equity schemes is available.

TAFE

Students are able to enrol in courses in January 2012, however, some high demand TAFE courses require the completion of an application form. These application forms and information about high demand courses is available from the TAFE NSW website. Applications close at the end of October. Four course preferences can be included.

Private Provider

Application processes and closing dates for private providers eg business, hospitality, design, etc. courses vary and students are advised to contact the college(s) of choice to obtain application details. Applications are usually made direct to the college and like TAFE, an ATAR is usually not required for entry.

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

A range of these opportunities are available for 2012. Information (including application requirements) have been sent to students via the DEC email.

Part of the requirements for application often include writing a covering letter and compiling a resumé. Assistance with these documents is available or students can access via relevant websites.

Aspiring apprentices/trainees should also consider a direct approach to employers to enhance their job prospects.

In summary students should:

- Keep their future study/training options open
- Be realistic in their choices
- Apply for as many courses/scholarships, etc., as practical
- Seek help and advice where necessary



Community Announcement

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