

Monday 18th November 2013
Term 4 – Week 7



MHS Newsletter



A Member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR
THE FULL CALENDAR
OF EVENTS

Coming Events:

- Nov 22 – St Matthews Y10 & 11 Orientation
- Nov 25 – P&C Meeting 7pm Library
- Nov 27 to 29 – Dunns Swamp Camp
- Dec 3 – MAD concert – Gym 7pm
- Dec 12 – Y7,8,9,10 & 11 Presentation Evening – Gym – 7pm
- Dec 15 to 18- Y11 Camp
- Dec 17 – Y7,8,9 & 10 Assembly – Reports, Gold/Silver
- Dec 18 – Final Day for Students

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- P&C Awards
- English News
- Community Notices
- Sponsor

Mudgee High School – Locked Bag 2004, MUDGEES 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."

Principal's Message

Students of Mudgee High school have again excelled in their HSC Year. Last week, many of you will have seen the wonderful exhibition of HSC Major Works at the Stables. Works included Visual Arts, Industrial Technology, Textiles, Design and Technology and Society and Culture research projects and catering by our Hospitality students. Congratulations to the three students from year 12 who have been nominated for state exhibition of their works: Justine McRae, Nicola Flynn and Josie McCarroll.

The Year 12 Formal held at Parklands on Friday saw over 600 people gather to congratulate students on achieving their Higher School certificate and finishing 13 years of schooling. We wish our students well as they eagerly await their results due in December. Already over 50 students have gained early entry to a course of their choice at university. This represents the hard work they have put in over the past two years and reflects the level of talent in this year group.

Last week's Year 6 orientation enabled students to meet each other and have a taste of high school. Teachers volunteered their time to conduct lessons in their subject which intrigued, inspired and excited students. Well done to Mrs Breadsell and Mrs Broadley for their organisation and to Mrs Rohr who assists with the transition process. We hope parents enjoyed their tour of the school and found the information session that evening of value. Don't forget, if there are any more questions or you have any concerns, we are very happy to talk to you. Just get in touch.

This week five of our Music students will have the opportunity to work with professional musicians from Musica Viva and to perform at the Huntington Music Festival. Thank you to Musica Viva for this opportunity, to Nicky Stevens from Huntingtons and to Mr McNamara for organising this exciting event. We look forward to hearing about their experiences.

Students in Years 7-11 are hard at work over the next few weeks with assessment tasks and for junior students' end of year exams. Opportunity for support with their work is always available to students. They need just ask their teachers or knock on the faculty door and arrange a time for individual or group support.

Louise Manwaring
Principal

P & C AWARDS Term 4 Week 6 - Congratulations to: Year 7 - Joshua Montgomery; Year 8 – William Knott; Year 9 – Susana Melguizo; Year 10 – Jock Whiteside; Year 11 – Robert Oakley

ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

Topics being covered in English

English is a subject which covers a variety of topics. This term students will be looking at a variety of texts and text types.

- Year 7 will be looking at animation and drama
- Year 8 will be discovering the transition of narratives from the page to screen
- Year 9 shall be delving into the areas of survival, comedy and prejudice
- Year 10 will be finishing up Macbeth, the representation of Australia in film and classic fiction.
- Year 11 Advanced will be concluding their Area of Study with Skrzynecki's poetry and moving onto the History and Memory module.
- Year 11 Standard English will be tying up their study on Module B and moving onto the realm of Belonging with the Area of Study.

Essay Writing Clinic

Year 11 have the opportunity to enhance their essay writing skills at a clinic with Mrs Davies each Wednesday. The great thing about this is that the content can be applied to any subject that requires an extended response.

This week Mrs Davies will be discussing how to write a captivating introduction and conclusion, as well as how to create the essential thesis statement.

Other topics to be covered in the upcoming weeks include: using evidence, including quotes to support ideas and incorporating segues and conjunctions to make the transition from one idea to another smooth and constructive.

If Year 11 students have any queries regarding essay style or structure, it is strongly suggested that they take the time to attend one (or more) of these sessions so that they will be able to perfect their writing.

Professional Learning

Throughout this term, a number of English staff has been participating in a number of Professional Learning activities to enhance their knowledge and skills in a variety of areas.

Recently, three teachers went HSC marking, where they graded Standard English papers for a week; and another teacher is away marking Extension English for the next couple of weeks.

With the new National Curriculum being implemented next year in Year 7 and Year 9, new units are being created to encompass the cross-curriculum priorities and texts.

Book Amnesty

As the year comes to an end, the time has arrived for students to go searching for all the texts that they have studied throughout the year and have yet to return to their teacher.

Students should rummage through their bags and room, under the couch in the lounge room or bookcase and if they find a book that belongs to the English Faculty bring it in and have their name marked off.

This includes books that they have been supplied with in any year. Students might be surprised what they can find if they have a proper look.

Assessment Reminder

Yr 11 Standard English had an assessment task due last Friday, 15 November on Module B: Close Study. They will be covering the poetry of Wilfred Owen and Peter Weir's "Witness".

Yr 11 Advanced have completed their first HSC assessment task last Thursday and Friday on the Area of Study: Belonging.

It is important for Senior students to call the office if they are unable to attend an assessment task. If they are absent, they will need to collect a special consideration form from the Deputy Principal on the day of their return.

Hamlet Excursion

Yesterday many intrepid Advanced students and their teachers trekked to Sydney to attend Toby Schmitz's final performance of 'Hamlet', before he leaves the country to take up some film work in America. The performance was sold out with a waiting list of more than 20 people. It was a very modern and confronting perspective of the play. The staging, lighting and musical support were amazing, as were the actors' performances. Schmitz interacted with the audience to keep us on tenterhooks. Robyn Nevins also cleverly portrayed the role of Gertrude to show how she has diminished capacity. The final scene was clever in the use of props, dialogue, and use of chorus to remember the ghost of old king Hamlet. The teachers were disappointed about the exclusion of the character of Horatio, who is Hamlet's foil. Overall, a fantastic production which we were very lucky to see, even if most of us only have had 3 hours sleep before returning to school to attend another day of educational opportunities.

\$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP!!!

Open Night for Digital Media, Animation and IT College

Students interested in a career digital media, IT programming, mobile apps or game design are invited to apply for a \$10,000 scholarship to study at The Academy of Information Technology. AIT is hosting an info night on Nov 20 for students or parents interested in learning about careers and study options in the IT and creative fields. All ages welcome.

Register at <http://www.ait.nsw.edu.au/events/>

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