

Tuesday April 29 2014  
Term 2 – Week 1



# MHS Newsletter



A Member of the  
Cudgegong Learning  
Community

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR  
THE FULL CALENDAR  
OF EVENTS

## Coming Events:

- April 29 to May 1 – CAFS excursion
- May 5 to 9 – Y11 Half Yearly Exams
- May 8 – Y7 2015 Parent Info Evening
- May 13 to 16 - Y7 & Y9 NAPLAN
- May 23 – Athletics Carnival
- May 26 –P&C Meeting, Library 7pm
- May 26 – CSIRO Years 7 -10
- May 27 – Lithgow Festival of Speech

## This issue:

- Principal's Message
- P&C Awards
- Languages
- NAPLAN
- Fire and Rescue
- Experience of a Lifetime
- Careers News
- Community Announcements
- Sponsor-Glencore

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

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to students, parents and staff. Our term started well with over 300 staff from 15 schools here at Mudgee High school for some outstanding professional learning. Led by our Keynote speaker Bruce Sullivan we look at coping with change in our professional lives and achieving a work life balance in our personal lives. The day was part of the professional learning through the Cudgegong Learning community. This long running learning community allows us to break down some of the isolation rural schools can feel by providing many opportunities for staff and students. Later in the Term we hope to bring Bruce Sullivan back for an evening parent workshop. Judging by the response from his previous presentation to parents five years ago this will be an event not to miss.

Year 11 begin their half yearly examinations next Monday. Students seem well prepared however there is still time to make a difference to results with some hard work this week. Parents will find they are able to support their Year 11 students by encouraging them to stay focused on their study plan and noticing all the positive steps they are taking to maximise their potential and achieve their best results. Encouraging students to form study groups with other like-minded students is also an effective strategy which will work leading up to the exams. Students can also be reminded of some of the relaxation techniques and stress management methods we discussed at our workshop earlier this year.

Students in years 7 and 9 will undertake their NAPLAN on 13-15 May. This assessment is to allow us to identify areas of strength and areas for development of individual students and of the whole year group. These assessments are not something students need to be concerned about or to do much preparation other than listening carefully to instructions as to when they must attend. The information is also useful to parents to get a snap shot of their child's literacy and numeracy on the day. You can compare your child's results with past performances and judge whether there has been the expected steady progress and which skills your child needs to work on for the future. However the assessments are not designed to make comparisons between students as we do that in our school assessments, testing and report on your child's grade through half yearly reports.

During week 3 students in years 8-10 will bring home subject selection sheets for VI courses for semester 2. Students should already have a copy of the subject information however an electronic copy will also be emailed out to each student. Students should consider their pattern of courses to maximise their own interests and future goals. Second semester is also an opportunity for years 9 and 10 to build on earlier courses taken to achieve the 100 hours for courses to be listed on the Record of School Achievement. Some students elected 100 hour courses in semester one. They will not need to choose a course on the line where their 100 hour course runs.

Congratulations to students and staff who attended the overseas excursion to Japan. They were all wonderful ambassadors for Mudgee High School and gained some invaluable language skills and cultural understanding. They also had a lot of fun I know. Well done also to year 12 on successful completion of their half yearly examinations last term. The feedback from their teachers and their own reflection on their preparation and exam technique will ensure they stay on path to success in the HSC.

*Louise Manwaring*  
Principal

**P & C AWARDS Term 1 Week 11 – Congratulations to: Year 7 – Jacqueline King; Year 8 – Olivia Bell; Year 9 - Jason Dickinson; Year 10 – Matthew Blackman; Year 11 – Matilda Russell; Year 12 – Kadii Hilton Cluff**

## **LANGUAGES**

The majority of students studying Japanese have had a very successful first term. Year 7 have completed a unit on 'greetings' and are currently mid way through a 'myself' unit. The Ja03 elective class learned their first writing script of Hiragana and have been developing their reading and writing skills in this area. Most have been surprised at how easy it has been to learn something that looks so strange! Stage 5 language learners have been developing their skills around the topics of daily routines, learning a range of new vocabulary and structures. Year 12 students are fast approaching the end of their studies and the HSC Oral exams for Beginners and Continuers will be conducted in Term 3. We wish them all the best in their preparation for these exams and will no doubt be proud of their efforts. All classes have been provided with their Culture Research Tasks for Semester One. They will be allocated some time in class to work on these assignments, however, some application at home will be necessary. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from the Japanese teachers should they encounter any problems.

## **Japan Visit**

During the holidays, 24 students and 4 teachers travelled to Japan for two weeks of intensive language and culture immersion. Places visited included, Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima and Osaka to stay with our sister schools. As this was written the day before departure, a full account of the trip will appear in a later newsletter. No doubt the team will have (had) a fantastic time and learned many new things.

Our Japanese host schools will return the visit in July this year. So keep an eye out for requests to become a host family.

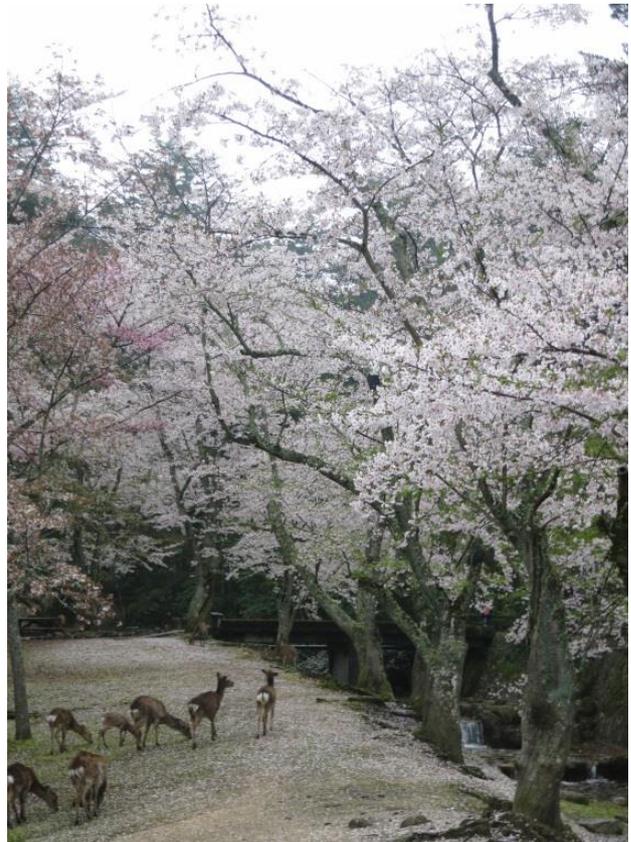
## **Japanese Culture**

Japan is currently experiencing its most beautiful season of the year, Spring, a time when the cherry trees blossom throughout the country. The cherry blossom (sakura) is highly revered in Japan and many people make the effort to appreciate its fragility and beauty. During April, it is common for the Japanese to partake in Ohanami (flower-viewing) parties and festivals at their local parks. They join with colleagues, friends or family to picnic under the blossom trees. They enjoy special dishes, games, beverages and music. Some major cities host Ohanami Festival events.

*Ms Date and Miss Kim*



*Ueno Sakura Festival 2012*



*Todaiji Temple Deer Park Nara 2012*

## NAPLAN TESTS 2014

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools.

A letter providing parents and guardians with information regarding NAPLAN 2014 was sent home with students in Week 10 of Term 1.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 13 – 15 May 2013.

(Week 3)

TUESDAY 13 MAY	WEDNESDAY 14 MAY	THURSDAY 15 MAY
<b>Language Conventions</b> (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) <b>Writing</b> - Either a persuasive or narrative writing	<b>Reading</b>	Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)

### EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Students will require a lead pencil, an eraser and a pencil sharpener. On Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> May **students will require a calculator for the Numeracy section** of the NAPLAN test. Students are required to sit a Non-Calculator and a Calculator section.

**Friday 16 May** – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed any tests.

Please make an appointment with Mrs Best or Mrs Gooley at Mudgee High School if you would like further information about your child's participation in NAPLAN. For more information about the tests, please visit the NAPLAN website at

[www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au) or the Mudgee HS website: [www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)



### FIRE AND RESCUE NSW OPEN DAY 2014

Fire & Rescue NSW is hosting its annual Open Day on Saturday 17 May 2014 between 10am and 2pm.

You are invited to watch fire safety demonstrations, extrication techniques for road crashes (cutting up vehicles) hop aboard a fire truck, learn about becoming a fire fighter and get an information bag while chatting with fire fighters about fire safety and what they do.

Winter is just around the corner and it's the worst time of the year for house fires, so come along and learn as much as you can.

This is fantastic opportunity for young people and their parents to meet their local fire fighters and learn as much as you can about home fire safety.

Don't leave fire safety to chance this winter – click on this link – [2014 Open Day Participating Stations](#) to find your local Fire Station and join us on Saturday 17 May 2014.

### **AN EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME** by Trine Schack Sorensen – Danish Exchange Student 2013/2014

*I have been so lucky to have the opportunity to come to Australia for 10 months as an exchange student, and to come to Mudgee for my stay has given me so many amazing memories, that I will never forget. I have been in Australia for 10 months, and during this time I have learned and achieved so much. I have grown to become more independent and I have learned to take responsibility for my actions.*

*I came to Mudgee in July 2013 and enrolled in Mudgee High a few weeks later. Mudgee High has not only been a great place full of enthusiasm and kind people, it is a great place of learning and developing. Staff,*

teachers and students have all been exceptionally kind and helpful in any situation, which has made my experience even better.

For the majority of my stay, I have stayed with the Thurlow family in Cooks Gap. During the early days of my stay, I changed host families. My current host family, the Thurlows, saw that I was unhappy, so they took me in and have treated me as one of their own ever since. This is the amazing part of being an exchange student. You come to a different country not knowing what to expect of anyone, but over time you develop friendships and bonds with people, and these will never break. I have been very lucky to be taken in



by the Thurlows and even luckier to have them treat me like their own child, loving and caring for me. Over these 10 months I have had so many unbelievable experiences with my host family. They have shown me so much of Australia and given me a first-rate insight into the Australian culture. They have taken me to places like Canberra and Lightning Ridge for me to see a different part of Australia, we have been on drives all around the area, we have had so many moments in the house and in the kitchen, we have had a very different, but wonderful, Christmas and New Years Eve, and best of all, we have so many astonishing memories from the everyday life. They have made me laugh, learn, cry and most of all smile everyday. These moments will always be with me.

At Mudgee High I have developed as a student, but more importantly I have developed as a person. I have been very lucky with all of my classes, teachers and my friends. I have been part of an amazing group of people from year 11, and I have had the best support system around me. I have enjoyed every moment I have had at Mudgee High. The different subject, the funny moments during breaks, the school canteen, the socials, the school activities and sports. The best part of Mudgee High is walking through the school and experiencing the happiness all around you. Here at Mudgee High everyone is so open and kind and always smiling when you walk past them. No one could ask for a better place to come and study at. All of my friends and the experiences I have had with them have been some of the best moments here in Australia. When I look back on my time moments like Decade Day, the socials, the Swimming Carnival, the Debutant Ball, Australia Day and all the incredible times in and out of school are some of the best memories I have with my friends and I couldn't have spent them with better people. My friends are a large group of very kind, fun, sweet and most of all caring people who are open to anyone, and this is an amazing thing to be able to experience.

I would like to thank everyone for having me here in Mudgee, and for giving me the experience of my life. These 10 months are the best of my life, and I couldn't have asked for any better. I would like to thank everyone at the school; teachers, students and staff. I will miss Mudgee High immensely. I would like to thank my



*friends for being a great group of people and for letting me be a part of their group. I will miss every single one of them, and I can't wait to see them again.*

*Most importantly I would like to thank my host family. To Kylee and Jason, to Maddie, Josh and Brittany; thank you for taking me in as a part of your family. Thank you for caring for me and loving me as one of your own. Thank you for teaching me so many things, about life and about myself. Thank you for all of the unbelievable experiences you have given me. Thank you for everything. If not for you, I wouldn't have had an experience of a lifetime. My host family has been the best part of being an exchange student, and I can't say that enough.*

*Finally, thank you to everyone in Mudgee. Thank for being a great community with lovely citizens and so many opportunities in the society.*

*This has been the best 10 months of my life. It has truly been an experience of a lifetime.*

## **CAREERS NEWS**

*Academy of Information Technology Creative Careers Expo on Monday May 19 2014: The Creative Careers Expo will showcase a variety of speakers within the creative and digital industries. Great opportunity for teachers to expose their students to the incredible career opportunities within the creative world and to interactive workshops. FREE Level 2, 7 Kelly Street, Ultimo NSW 02 9277 8399 RSVP: [www.ait.nsw.edu.au/creativecareers](http://www.ait.nsw.edu.au/creativecareers)  
*Australian College of Nursing – Nursing & Health Expos 2014 – CAN is excited to be hosting the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Nursing and Health Expos in 2014. The 2014 expo series will showcase a wide range of organisations from the nursing and health industry to help pursue or progress towards a career in nursing. Saturday 10 May 2014 Sydney Town Hall, 9am – 1pm.**

*Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP) Information Evening – Wednesday 7 May 2014 at 6pm. Come along to ACPC's information night and find out more about VET, Bachelor, Honors, Graduate Diploma and Masters programs. Meet the academic team and take a tour of the campus; ACAP staff will be on hand to answer your questions. Level 5, 11 York Street Sydney, NSW 2000 (above Wynyard Station). RSVP at <http://www.acap.edu.au/future-students/info-sessions/>. Email [info.acap@navitas.com](mailto:info.acap@navitas.com) or call 1800 061 199 for more information.*

*Evolution Hospitality Institute Information Evening - Wednesday 7 May 2014. Discover the hospitality pathway that's right for you, meet trainers and industry professionals, staff will be available to answer questions regarding courses and fees. Industry professionals will be able to assist you with career pathways for hospitality. Info sessions 10am – 12pm and 6 – 8pm. Level 4 552 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000. For bookings and enquiries call James Richards on 02 92838222 [www.evolution.edu.au](http://www.evolution.edu.au)*

*Cadetship Evening hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia. Are your year 12 students interested in applying for the 2015 business cadetship? A business cadetship is where graduate high school students gain valuable paid work experience whilst completing their business or commerce degree at university. Both students and their parents are invited to attend the Institute's Cadetship Evening 2014 to meet top firms and universities offering cadetships and co-op scholarships. Being held on Thursday 22 May at an exciting new venue, Luna Park! Send your students to [www.charteredaccountants.com.au/cadetshipeveningNSW](http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/cadetshipeveningNSW) to learn more and to register for this FREE event.*

*Sydney Design School focuses exclusively on Interior Design and Decoration. Students are taught by practising designers, given career coaching and VET FEE-HELP is available for the Diploma and Advanced Diploma. Sydney Design School is holding an Open Day on Saturday 28 June from 12 – 2pm. For more information go to: [www.sydneymdesignschool.com.au](http://www.sydneymdesignschool.com.au) or email: [info@sydneydesignschool.com.au](mailto:info@sydneydesignschool.com.au)*

*Makeup Studio Sessions and Australian College of Makeup and Special Effects. See what makes ACMUSE great for graduating students into the field of Makeup and SFX! A 4-day session designed for senior high school students (Age 16+) in the school holidays. Guided by makeup professionals from industry to gain insight together with some fun practice into various areas of the makeup industry. \$450+GST, which includes a professional brushset valued at \$150. Call 9518 8003 or email [courses@makeupcollege.com.au](mailto:courses@makeupcollege.com.au) to book a spot.*

*Macleay College launches new degrees – Macleay College has launched two new accelerated degree programs – The Bachelor of Journalism and Bachelor of Business. These degrees will give students industry-aligned, job-ready education in just two years. Classes began in February 2014 with a minimum ATAR of 65. Both degree programs are taught by industry specialists and have 300 hours of industry placements as a mandatory part of the qualification. <https://www.macleay.edu.au/news/new-degrees> or call 1300 939 888.*

*The University of Notre Dame HSC Study Week – HSC Study Week is staffed by teachers who have many years of experience teaching and marking the NSW Higher School Certificate. Over 91% of students who attended HSC Study Week in 2013 found it helpful in their preparation for the HSC. Date: 7-11 July 2014 Venue – UNDA Broadway (10 minute walk from Central Station) Cost: \$345 for 5 days (morning tea and lunch provided). For further details or to register, visit [www.nd.edu.au/hscstudyweek](http://www.nd.edu.au/hscstudyweek)*

*Starting a new career working with animals with TAFE Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing. Start and pay any time after securing work experience for your compulsory practical studies. Flexible, weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment options available. All courses are iPad and mobile friendly and suitable for studying in the workplace. TAFEnow (backed by North Coast TAFE) is Australia's friendliest provider of nationally accredited online courses. For further information, visit <http://tafenow.com.au/animal-studies> or phone 1300 TAFEnow.*

Community Notices

**Southern Cross Culture Exchange**

Volunteer to host an international high school student arriving into Australia in July 2014, and you'll be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Spain and Colombia. They will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money, and comprehensive insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. You choose the nationality, the gender, the duration and the interests of the student that you feel is the best match for your family. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au) email [scceaust@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaust@scce.com.au) or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

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