

Monday

14 December 2015

Term 4 – Week 11



MHS Newsletter

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A Member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community



SEE OUR WEBSITE
FOR THE FULL
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Coming Events:

- Dec 13 – Dec 16 Year 11 Camp
- Dec 16 – HSC results available via students online
- Dec 16 – Final day for students

2016

- Jan 28 – Years 7, 11 & 12 commence
- Jan 29 – Years 8, 9 & 10 commence
- Feb 9 – School Photos

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- P&C Awards
- Christmas giving tree
- Textiles
- InTech Bound
- Agriculture Wrap Up
- Community Announcements
- Sponsor – Glencore

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Week 11! Last week of Term 4 and last week of school for 2015, but we've yet to slow.

A huge contingent of Year 11 students headed off to Morisset on Sunday morning to take part in the Year 11 camp at what we affectionately call *Kamp Krusty* (Simpsons fans will get the reference). The camp is an opportunity to come together as a Year group. It is also an opportunity to test each individual's mettle as they are asked to step outside of their respective comfort zones and attempt things that most would find challenging; abseiling, giant flying fox, high ropes, leaping from the very top of a telegraph pole to catch a swing in space in what is called "the Leap of Faith" because your safety is predicated on the ability of your group to come together and be there for you... all great fun. Having been to *Kamp Krusty* on four separate occasions in the past and knowing what a great experience it is, I cannot help but feel a little envious.

In other news, be aware that **End of year reports for all students in Year 7 – 10** will be handed out on **Tuesday 15/12**, so keep an eye out for those in school bags, etc..

Mirri will be out on Wednesday 16/12. We have had some difficulties with the printing this year hence the delay in delivery. A very, very big thank you to Mrs Helen Dziura for all of the work she has put into getting the school magazine finished this year. It is a truly herculean task.

HSC results will be published on Wednesday 16/12 and Australian Tertiary Admission Ranks (ATARs) will be published on Thursday 17/12. All Year 12 2015 students are invited to a Thursday midday (12pm) breakfast of a sausage sandwich and a cool drink here at school so they can share with us their results and their consequent plans for 2016. With any luck the lure of *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* may not be quite Jedi-strength yet to drag them away...

I received confirmation from the Institute of Industrial Arts Technology Education that Thomas Smith's HSC Major Work has been selected for inclusion in the InTech 2016 exhibition. This exhibition that takes place at The Sydney Showground, Homebush, and showcases outstanding Major Design Projects produced by Industrial Technology students from across the state. I have included a photograph of Thomas' work on the following page for those of you who may have missed it when it was on display at Petrie's Mitre 10. Well done, Thomas!

Recently I reported on a student from the HSC class of 2009 who had completed her training as a medical doctor. I have since discovered that Hannah Kempton, from the HSC class of 2008 has also recently graduated as a medical doctor. Well done Hannah!

It's always nice to finish the year on a high – or even a couple of highs. Thank you all for the support you provide the school and the trust you place in us to take care of what are your most precious assets; your children. Have a Merry Christmas and a great summer break – if you've been lucky enough to jag one – and see you all in the New Year.

Wayne Eade
Principal

TERM 4 WEEK 10 AWARDS

P & C AWARDS: Yr 7: Beau Cook Yr 8: Brady Cook Yr 9: Michael Dowell
Yr 10: Ryan Hawkins Yr 11: Jade Cooksley

SRR AWARD: Natasha Bowman (Yr 7)

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

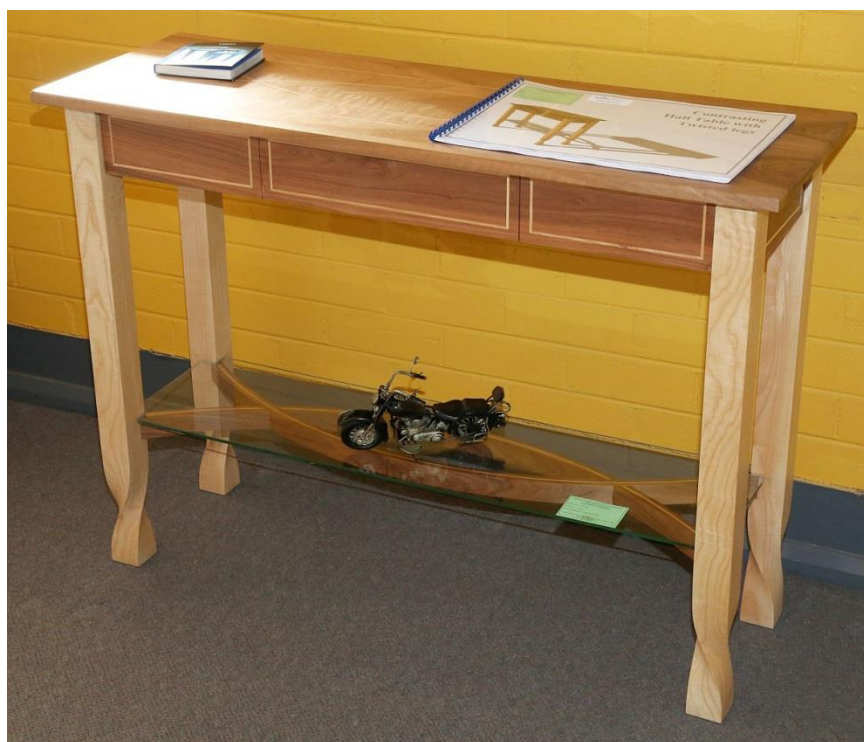
The SRC are collecting non-perishable food items and gifts (items for babies and teenagers needed) for distribution by Barnardos.

If you would like to donate something to the Giving Tree please take your items to the School Library or leave at the Office.

NICE STITCHING – CORSET IS!

Felicity Smith has been a Textiles 5 student this year. As part of the course, she has produced a corset that is completely hand sewn. Her corset is an excellent example of the work that comes out of our textiles classes and a credit to Felicity.

Mudgee High School prides itself on the diversity of curriculum offerings made available to its students. Textiles is one of more than fifty subject choices available to students as electives each semester. Subject choice is one of those things that sets this school apart from so many other schools west of the Great Divide.



INTECH BOUND...

At left is the Major Project completed by Thomas Smith that has made it into the 2016 InTech exhibition that will be held at the Sydney Showground, Homebush next year.

The InTech exhibition showcases the major works of the most talented industrial artists of the previous HSC and serves as a real inspiration to up and coming industrial artists.

AGRICULTURE WRAP UP 2015

It has been another busy year in Agriculture at MHS this year. There were more than 16 excursions organised, occurring over more than 27 days and with more than 11 nights away from home for students and staff. There was a Champion ribbon won as well as a Reserve Champion Ribbon, many small ribbons and extensive student participation.

These extra-curricular activities are valuable experiences for students, as each allows them to experience the world outside the classroom and how the Agricultural industry operates to feed the world. As the population increases and the amount of arable land decreases, it is important that we raise young adults who are capable of making a positive impact on Agriculture in the future.



Term 1 kicked off the sheep showing season. Local shows included Mudgee, Gulgong, and Dunedoo. Students got their eye in and achieved some great results. The Mudgee Show also ran the Junior Judging day again, which is always popular with the students and offers them a great insight into quality and quantity criteria for five different Agricultural enterprises. There were also a couple of farm visits to satisfy Board of Studies requirements and to give students the opportunity to experience the Agriculture industry in a hands on way.

Perhaps the most exciting and rewarding event in Term 1 was the Sydney Royal Sheep Show. This is the first year that MHS has competed at the Royal with the sheep. The students were very excited about being able to exhibit our school sheep at such a prestigious event. All students and sheep behaved extremely well and we even managed to come home with a few ribbons, the most prestigious of which was a Reserve Champion ribbon for our young ram.



Term 2 started with a trip to the University of New England in Armidale for their Open Day. We also had the privilege of getting a personal tour around the Agriculture facilities the day before, which was very interesting and well received by all. The Dubbo Show occurred in mid-May, bringing up the third year MHS has exhibited there. Dubbo Show is the largest sheep show in NSW and is very competitive. The students all participated well and exhibited not only our own sheep but also helped other exhibitors. It is a fantastic environment and the students really thrive in the rural show setting. The term was capped off by another farm visit, this time for the Primary Industries students to begin competency in their fencing skills.



Term 3 was a quiet one in terms of excursions. It was taken up by the year 12 trial HSC exams and year 11 yearly exams. In between these assessment tasks, students also had the opportunity to attend AgQuip. AgQuip is Australia's biggest showcase of agri-products and careers, which is a great event for students to take part in. The Primary Industry students went out for another day of fencing in September to complete their fencing competencies.

Term 4 started with a bang at the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza. This excellent event is always well attended by students and they always have a fantastic time. This year we were so fortunate to win a Champion ribbon. This is a rare and prestigious occurrence, and everyone involved appreciated how lucky we were to experience it. After becoming close to the steers over the four day event, it is always hard to say good bye.

There were a couple of local excursions to the butchers and the saleyards, but the inaugural Beef Tour to Tamworth was the icing on the cake for a great 2015. Students visited the Caroona Feedlot, Thomas Foods sheep abattoirs, TEYS Cargill beef abattoirs and the Local Lands Services in Tamworth. Many adults never get the opportunity to see these sides of the food production chain, so it was wonderful for the students be given the opportunity.



As well as excursions and extra-curricular activities, Agriculture students at MHS also had the opportunity to work closely with the animals on the school farm. This year we welcomed 17 new White Suffolk Lambs, some of which will make up next years show team. We've been undertaking oestrus-synchronisation for a few years now and have successfully been able to get the ewes to lamb in April, meaning the lambs grow better and are more competitive in the show ring.

We also welcomed and had to say good bye to three fabulous steers; Reggie, Arnie and Louie. It is great that the students get to work closely with animals and form bonds with other species. Through their interactions with the animals, the students learn compassion, patience and animal handling skills. They learn that to produce animals in an Agricultural setting, you need to understand the animal and cater for their needs, as well as preparing yourself for their departure.



All of these things that the students get to experience would not be possible without the ongoing support of the school, teachers and the local community. When parents are willing to support their students and attend events, it makes these opportunities much easier to offer to the students. Local businesses who donate products or help with advice are also crucial for the management of the school farm.

I would like to thank everybody who helped make any of these opportunities possible for the students over the past 12 months. I've enjoyed working closely with the students and the animals, and it is great to see young people passionate and enthusiastic about Agriculture. I hope everyone has a great holiday and comes back excited about Agriculture in 2016!

Cassandra Stanford
Agriculture Teacher

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFTRS Stop Motion Animation workshop

By popular demand!

Develop your own character and animated story using claymation/stop motion techniques and characters (on ipads and software supplied by AFTRS).

This introduction to animation involves teamwork, story telling and design. Students will devise their own story, then create their animation using plasticine, lego or found objects. Movie makers can further develop their characters in a new medium.

This workshop is FREE for high school aged students in the MWRC area.
LIMITED NUMBERS/ Bookings are essential

WHEN? Thursday the 14th and Friday 15th January 2016 from 9 am—5pm

WHERE? Mudgee Town Hall Green Room & Theatre, Market Street Mudgee

Lunch and snacks provided (please let us know about dietary needs)

MORE INFO call Virginia Handmer on 63575000 or check out the youth council facebook page or MWRC website



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