

Monday  
16 February 2015  
Term 1 – Week 4



# MHS Newsletter

**Mudgee High School – Locked Bag 2004, MUDGEE NSW 2850**  
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*A Member of the  
Cudgegong Learning  
Community*



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

## **Coming Events:**

- Feb 23 – P&C Meeting School Library
- Feb 26 - Yrs 7, 11 & 12 Parent/Teacher evening

## **This issue:**

- Principal's Message
- Awards
- Year 10 Marine Studies
- Careers
- CSU MyDay dates 2015
- Maths
- Sponsor - Glencore
- Community Announcements

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Another swimming carnival is behind us. Thursday's carnival was a focal point of last week's Mudgee High School activities. Congratulations to Ms Penny Smith and her band of helpers who organised what was a very successful event. While winning is always at the core of sporting carnivals – why else would we keep score? – it was heartening to see so many students willing to get in and have a go, even just to achieve a personal best. Some swam their first 50 metres ever! It was also good to see so many supportive parents and carers present.

In other sporting news, good luck to the Mrs Croake's Open netballers on Thursday and her u/15s netballers on Friday. The knock-out season is upon us.

On Friday, Uncle Ralph, a Wiradjuri elder, worked with a large group of Aboriginal students in the gymnasium during Periods 1-4 as part of the school's Sorry Day celebrations. Students saw and experienced many traditional cultural practices and participated in several cultural experiences like playing traditional instruments and participating in traditional dances. Events like these not only raise awareness but are, as the day demonstrated, a bit of fun and a break from regular lessons.

You may have heard last week that the Federal Government has declared that from 2016 student teachers will need to pass a national literacy and numeracy test before being allowed to graduate as teachers. The move is being touted as a bid to lift teacher quality after "significant pockets of objectively poor practice" in education courses were reported by a Government-appointed panel.

Sometimes comments like these can alarm parents and carers, so it's worthwhile considering a few facts. Teaching standards in NSW have been independently assessed as the highest in the country. The literacy and numeracy skills of teachers in NSW schools are the highest in Australia. The results achieved by students in NSW schools are the best in Australia and amongst the best in the world. Given these facts, alarm would appear to be an overreaction.

Something else worth considering; how much sense does a literacy and numeracy test at the *end* of a teaching degree make? A literacy and numeracy test *before* allowing someone to enter such a degree seems a far more rational approach, and allows those who miss out on a first application time to hone their abilities in both areas before reapplying.

It will be interesting to see how this plan develops over the course of this year.

And finally, a big thank you to those of you who took the time to comment on last week's "Principal's Message". An audience makes it worthwhile punching out these messages. An *appreciative* audience – the kind that comes *without* pitchforks and torches – is a real bonus.

*Wayne Eade  
Relieving Principal*

## **Term 1 Week 3 Awards**

**P & C Awards – Year 7** – Thomas Collins **Year 8** – Declan Crawley  
**Year 9** – Jessika Weatherall **Year 10** – Shanice Shorey **Year 11** – Olivia O'Connell  
**Year 12** – Angus Loughnan

**SRR AWARD Term 1 Week 3** – Congratulations to: Larni Smith (Yr 8)

## YEAR 10

### COMMENSALISM in the Marine World. This is WEIRD!!!!



Commensalism is when one species benefits and the other is unaffected. A bizarre example of commensalism occurs between the slim, eel-shaped pinhead pearlfish and a particular species of sea cucumber. The pearlfish enters the sea cucumber through its anus, and spends the day safely protected inside the sea cucumbers' alimentary tract. At night it emerges the same way and feeds on small crustaceans.

*Pearlfish enters the sea cucumber through its anus.*

**Learn all about this and other amazing marine relationships by choosing to study 2U Marine Studies in Year 11.** See Mr Willetts in the TAS staffroom for more information.

## MUDGEE HIGH SCHOOL WORK EXPERIENCE

The MHS work experience program provides students with an opportunity to sample possible career choices first hand. It also gives students workplace contacts and increases confidence for future job seeking.

All MHS Yr 10 and Yr 11 and Yr 12 Work Studies students are expected to complete a block (minimum 1 week) or a 1 day/week (Wednesdays) program.

Students and parents are encouraged to discuss placements and contact the school if necessary. Students are also involved in preparation and organisational activities in class.

## UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG (UoW) EXCURSION

Approximately 45 students attended the UoW Discovery Day excursion on February 3 & 4. Participants sampled university accommodation and food, attended lectures of choice and toured the UoW campus. Another benefit was students getting a general 'feel' for the university environment. On the more leisurely side, students had a moonlit walk around the bay and honed their tenpin bowling skills.

## INDIGENOUS STUDENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Years 10 & 11 indigenous students have the opportunity to engage in a range of school based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBATS).

These training packages allow students to complete years 11 & 12 as well as gain a workplace credential in their chosen field.

## UPCOMING CAREER EVENTS

Charles Sturt University (CSU) My Day events for years 11 & 12 are available. These events occur throughout the year (please see attached calendar) with students registering for their area of interest. The first CSU My Day events will be at Wagga Wagga, Dubbo and Bathurst campuses on Friday February 27 in teaching, nursing, exercise, science and more. Registration for these events occurs through the school. Parents/carers are also welcome to attend.

## REGIONAL UNIVERSITY ROADSHOW (RUR)

Charles Sturt University, Southern Cross and University of New England representatives will present to yr 12 students on Friday March 1. A range of relevant topics including choosing university courses, UAC applications, student services and more will be addressed. Parents/carers of Yr 12 students are also encouraged to attend the RUR event.

## UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY (UWS) CAMP

UWS is holding a 4 day live in camp for years 11 & 12 indigenous students interested in studying health services, nursing or medicine post school. The camp will occur March 23-27.

Lots of interesting tours and activities are scheduled. Transport, accommodation and meals are provided.

## UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

All NSW/ACT universities hold open days throughout the year though students and parents can arrange to visit universities at any time. Open days are an ideal opportunity to check out facilities, speak to uni staff and collect information.

MacQuarie University (Sydney) is holding an open day on 2 occasions in the upcoming Easter holidays in April 13 & 18.

Details are available from the MHS Careers Room or the MacQuarie University website.

Please contact the school with any further enquiries about the above matters.



## CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY MYDAY 2015

MyDay	Location	Date	Information on
Exercise and Sports Sciences	Bathurst	27 February	Exercise and Sport Science, Health and Physical Education, Sports Journalism
Biomedical Sciences, Medical Radiation Sciences and Nursing	Wagga Wagga	27 February	Medical Science, Nursing, Pharmacy, Medical Radiation Science
Teaching, Nursing and Social Work	Dubbo	27 February	Early Childhood and Primary, Nursing Social Work
Arts, Psychology, Social Work	Wagga Wagga	20 March	Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Social Work

## CALCULATORS

All students in years 7 to 12 need to use calculators in their Mathematics classes. The Mathematics courses are designed to make use of calculator technology to assist students to develop more difficult concepts without becoming bogged down in manual calculations. Mental calculations skills are also practiced as part of the course.

It is important for students to have a calculator of the type approved by BOSTES (Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards). In the past some students have disadvantaged themselves by not practicing their skills on a calculator that they can use in their final exams. Students are advised to check with your Maths teacher that your calculator is an approved model.

Approved calculators can be purchased from the front office for \$20.00 which is cost price to us. If families have calculators which are no longer needed by ex-students they can be used. It is not necessary to buy the latest model. If students look after their calculator it will last throughout their time at school and beyond.

## HSC STUDENTS

Our Year 12 HSC students are progressing well in their courses in Mathematics. The first assessment task for 2015 is scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> February and students are encouraged to prepare thoroughly. In total, in-school assessments form 50% of the students' final HSC Mark. (100% for General 1 students). Assistance is available if students are having difficulty.

The HSC is a demanding time for students and it is essential that students are well prepared for lessons with the right equipment. Students who are completing the HSC this year must have an approved scientific calculator. Students are asked to check with their teacher in case their calculator is not approved. If students intend buying a new calculator so that they have a back-up for major examinations, they should do this as early as possible so they are familiar with all the required functions. Being unfamiliar with a calculator can severely affect a student's result.

Students in the Mathematics and Extension Mathematics courses can also purchase a mathematics template which has been approved for use in their examinations. The template is referred to as a Super Rule and can be purchased for \$8.00. Pay at the front office and bring the receipt to the Mathematics Staffroom.

## MATHEMATICS TEXTBOOKS

Please have a look for any Mathematics textbooks from last year that need to be returned. The New Year is well underway and students this year need to use those textbooks. Check their rooms at home and please return any textbooks that they no longer need as soon as possible.

## MATHEMATICS HOMEWORK ROOM

The Mathematics Faculty understands that many of the concepts taught in this subject are demanding and difficult. So homework, which is an essential step in retaining this important information, is a problem for many students. To help alleviate students stress the Mathematics staff will provide their expertise in a Homework room.

This will operate each **Monday afternoon** in **room B09 between 3.30pm and 4.30pm**. The program will be extended to another day if required.

Students are also encouraged to seek help during breaks if they are having concerns with their work. There is always someone in the office who is willing to help.

## AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Do you enjoy a challenge? Are you good at problem solving and logic?

The Australian Mathematics competition is on again 30<sup>th</sup> July. School entry needs to be in early next term. More information will be given when entry fees are required or students can see Mr Lynn if they have any questions.

## USING MATHS AT HOME

Involving your children in the use of Mathematics in everyday situations can improve their confidence and numeracy skills and help them to engage in learning.

Some areas to consider are:

- Car Travel calculations such as distance, budgeting for fuel costs, calculating the time needed for a journey and estimated time of arrival.
- Farm calculations such as costs, expenses and profit, labour costs, depreciation, fertilizer and seeding rates.
- Cooking calculations such as calculating the best buy by comparing purchasing costs, weekly planning of ingredients and adapting recipes for different numbers of people.
- Sports statistics such as batting averages, the graphs presented on TV, competition rankings and probabilities.
- Money issues such as income, taxation, budgeting, mobile phone and internet costs, investment and loans.

For a student to be aware of the significance of these applications in everyday life is a bonus to their understanding of these concepts when they are encountered in class.



SPONSORSHIP

MUDGE HIGH SCHOOL - LINK PROGRAM  
GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY  
**GLENCORE**  
Ulan Coal Mine

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Safer Drivers Course for young learner drivers



### Preparing you for your **P**s

Become a safer driver and earn 20 hours of bonus log book credit by enrolling in a Safer Drivers Course.

The Safer Drivers Course is available to learner drivers under the age of 25 who have completed at least 50 log book driving hours.

Sat 21<sup>st</sup> and Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> February  
To Book:  
Ph: 6330 1400 or email [cevans@skillset.com.au](mailto:cevans@skillset.com.au)  
Skillset  
341 Havannah St Bathurst

Fantastic opportunity and only  
\$140 for 20 log book hours

**skillset.**



Transport  
for NSW

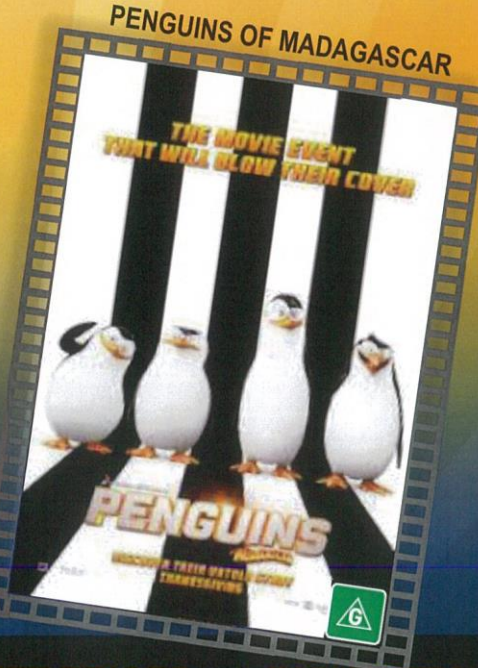
# TOWN HALL CINEMA

\*\*\* SHOWING MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> 2015 \*\*\*

Tickets on sale Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> March at all Council offices



**UNBROKEN**



**PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR**

**SESSION TIMES**



<b>UNBROKEN</b>	Friday March 6	7.00pm
	Saturday March 7	4.30pm
	Saturday March 7	7.00pm
	Sunday March 8	4.30pm
<b>PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR</b>	Saturday March 7	11.00am
	Saturday March 7	2.00pm
	Sunday March 8	11.00am
	Sunday March 8	2.00pm

**TICKET PRICES**

Adults:	\$14.00
Children/Concession:	\$10.00
Children under 5 years:	Free

Tickets available at Mid-Western Regional Council offices from Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015 or at the door (if not sold out prior). For more information, visit [www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au](http://www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au) like Council on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Combined Rotary Clubs of Mudgee  
MWRC Youth Council

## Mudgee District Hockey Association Season 2015

Registration day's 21<sup>st</sup> March, and 28<sup>th</sup> March and then throughout the season.

Age 3 – 90; play Saturdays at West End complex.

Time 10:30am for juniors and 1pm for Adults.

1<sup>st</sup> child \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$40, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$20 and 4<sup>th</sup> free.

Teenagers playing Adults \$65 and must be 12 years old.

Adults part time \$65, and Fulltime \$85.

7 a side carnival the 28<sup>th</sup> March from 8:30am cost \$20 per player, 10 to a side, 3 females, 4 males format.

Contact Jenny 63726630, Kristel 0408742494, Ben 0408619696.



SATURDAY  
**MARCH**  
**28TH**  
2015



## MUDGE HOCKEY 7-A-SIDE

West End Sports Complex  
Starting at 8:30am

Love hockey? Been out of the game for a while or are you just looking for a new sporting experience? Why not try hockey!

Get a mixed team of 10 mates together (minimum 3 women), choose a fancy dress uniform and come along for a day of fun and fast paced 7-a-side hockey. A fully stocked canteen and BBQ facilities available on the day, with prizes for best dressed, champion teams and extra-curricular events throughout the day. No previous experience required - only a sense of humour.

To nominate a team contact:

Ben 0408 619 696  
Kristel 0408 742 494  
Jenny 6372 6630

Team nominations by  
March 18th 2015

**AFS Australia, world leader in High School Student Exchange to over 57 countries are kicking off their 2015 information sessions and invite you to come along and find out if a student exchange program is for you.**

An AFS student exchange is all about excitement. New countries. New cultures. New friends. There are heaps of countries to choose from. If you want to experience something new, take the leap and join the hundreds of young Aussies who head overseas with AFS every year.

Students in years 10-12 can spend anywhere between 2 weeks to 11 months studying abroad, learning a language and becoming a part of a whole new culture. Learning by doing. You'll be supported the entire way by AFS.

We will be running a free information session for you and your parents to find out more:

**When:** 11am Saturday 21st February 2015

**Where:** Bathurst Public Library, 70-78 Keppel Street, Bathurst

For more information and to register your attendance, head to [www.afs.org.au/opendays](http://www.afs.org.au/opendays) or call the AFS Sending Team on [1300 131 736](tel:1300131736) or email [ausafs@afs.org](mailto:ausafs@afs.org)

On the day there will be returned students eager to share how the AFS experience has impacted their lives, and keen to encourage you to take a chance and study abroad.