Monday 30 March 2015 Term 1 – Week 10



**MHS Newsletter** 

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#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A Member of the Cudgegong Learning Community



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

**Coming Events:** 

- Mar 25 Apr 2 Year 12 Exams
- Thursday Apr 2 Final day of Term 1
- Tuesday Apr 21 All Students return

#### This issue:

- Principal's Message
- Awards
- Sustainability in the English Classroom
- CSU MyDay
- Year 10 Marine Studies
- Sponsor Glencore
- Community
  Announcements

Last Monday evening, the AGM of the Mudgee High P&C was held. Elections for all positions were held. The new President of the P&C is **Susan Reinhard**. The new Secretary is **Renae Hill**. **Judy Hickey** was re-elected to the position of Treasurer. **Suzanne Donnelly** and **Belinda Roach** were elected to the positions of Vice-President, while **John Laidlaw** was elected to the newly created position of Vice-President Canteen. A big thank you to all of the outgoing office bearers from 2014 not least of whom being John Laidlaw (President) and Susan Reinhard (Secretary) who have occupied these positions for three years.

In other P&C news, the P&C executive has nominated **Simon Jones** as the P&C rep. on the panel to find Mudgee High a new Principal in Term 2.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

On Thursday and Friday of last week, Mudgee High hosted a Deputy Principals' conference for Deputies from across what was once called Western Region. Attendees came from as far away as Broken Hill, Cobar, Coonamble, Grenfell, Lithgow and all points in between and numbered 29 in total. All of them were impressed by what they saw at Mudgee High and spoke glowingly of the professional learning arranged for them over the two days and hospitality shown to them during their stay. A big thanks to Mr Browning and his team of workers who made it all happen, as well as Mr Nicholls and his Year 11 caterers. Well done all!

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"I never go to school on the last day."

Strange to relate, this old chestnut is not the emphatic statement of a recalcitrant staff member but rather the kind of thing I've heard expressed, sometimes using slightly different wording, by students who regularly take off the last day of term... every term. Their actions are nearly always sanctioned by their parents, some of whom have told me in the past that they remember the last day of each term from the school yard of their own far-off youth as a day spent cleaning up – and that is something their children won't be doing!

Truth is, some kids volunteer to help clean up on the last day of each term – bringing in things like bins from areas external to the fenced parts of the school, taking loads of paper horded in classrooms to the recycling bins, etc. – but they are *volunteers* and never pressganged into service. The majority of students are in classes working for the day. The only term when things may differ is Term 4, as reports have been written and distributed, the mercury has hit the high thirties and a great many students have become like that horse led to water... "I'm here, but I ain't drinkin' (workin' – in this case)!"

My counter argument is that if you don't come on the last day, then your last day is the day before, so why come that day, or the day before that... or even the day before that? With that kind of logic, pretty soon the summer holidays will crank up in about April!

So what's the message? Students who come on Thursday should expect to work. HSC students will be finishing the last of their half-yearly exams and Prelim HSC students will be just five school days from their own exams – a great time to ask those questions they've been meaning to ask but have yet to do so. Junior classes are either a quarter way or halfway through, depending on whether they're yearlong or semester courses, so slacking off is not an option.

For Term 1, school finishes at 3.25pm on Thursday 2/4. After that, we can **all** take a couple of weeks break...

Wayne Eade Relieving Principal

#### **TERM 1 WEEK 9 AWARDS**

P & C AWARDS – Year 7 – Charli Hayes Year 8 – Miranda Riley Year 9 – Hayden Taylor Year 10 – Nataly Stubbs Year 11 – Grace Kelley Year 12 – Jesse Barnes

SRR AWARD - Congratulations to: Bridget O'Brien (Yr 8)



In English, as in other subjects in the Australian Curriculum, we have been teaching students about the concept of sustainability. The texts we study are rich and complex, combining written and visual elements to explore a powerful story and stimulating ideas about the natural world and the challenges facing specific species. Learning about them helps make students informed and active members of our society.

Students have been responding to and creating texts that relate to the topic of sustainability. Students learn the skills required to investigate and understand issues of environmental and social sustainability, to communicate information about sustainability, and to advocate action to improve sustainability.

In Miss Bowen's Year 8 class, students created a range of texts, such as brochures, posters, picture books and artwork using recycled materials regarding issues of sustainability.

In Year 9 English, students are undertaking a study of the language of persuasion and argument, with a focus on sustainability. More sustainable patterns of living are largely shaped by our behaviours. English provides an important means of influencing attitudes, facilitating interaction and expressing viewpoints through the creation of texts for a range of purposes, audiences and contexts.

This week, we are fortunate enough to have Cindy Picton from Red Hill Environmental Education Centre to help us develop a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP). This is a document that sets out the school community's intentions in regard to environmental education and environmental management. It represents an agreement to work together across the whole school. A SEMP helps to integrate environmental considerations into whole-school planning. It helps to implement changes to school culture and everyday practices and to apply the principles of ecologically sustainable development across all school activities.

Once students have worked with Cindy to create the SEMP, it will be their role to implement change in the school community. This requires students to utilise their learned persuasive argument skills to influence the school community into coming on board with the change.



Excerpt of "The Orangutan", by Grace Pearce, Isabelle Radzievic, Kylie Campbell and Sarah Bridger (Year 8)





Excerpt of "The Last Gorilla" by Lucy Roe, Mackye Purdon and Erin Dryburgh (Year 8)

Lonely am I without any company, nobody to talk to and nothing to do......



Forgotten am I miserable and alone drifting further and further away from home, slipping away from existence, leaving everything behind.



As the days go by the ice gets smaller and smaller as I say goodbye to everything I've known.



Excerpt from "Drifting Away" by Alleginah Hornery, Brianna Stewart, Anika van Nesch and Meg Pollard (Year 8)

#### **CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY MYDAY 2015**

МуDay	Location	Date	Information on
Communication and Creative	Bathurst	13 April	Advertising, Radio, Journalism, Sports
Industries			Journalism, Public Relations, Theatre/Media
Clinical Science, Dentistry,	Orange	13 April	Clinical Science, Dentistry, Pharmacy,
Pharmacy and Physiotherapy		-	Physiotherapy
Nursing and Paramedics	Bathurst	23 April	Clinical Practice (Paramedic), Nursing
Nursing	Albury-Wodonga	24 April	Nursing
Accounting, Business and	Wagga Wagga	29 April	Accounting, Business Studies, Management,
Information Technology		-	Information Technology
Accounting, Business and	Albury-Wodonga	30 April	Accounting, Business Studies, Management,
Information Technology		-	Marketing, Information Technology

#### YEAR 10 - WHY NOT STUDY 2 UNIT MARINE STUDIES IN YEAR 11 2016!!!

Have you ever thought about doing volunteer work in an overseas country? Become A Marine Conservation Volunteer with GVI– Global Volunteers Abroad!!!

Scuba Dive or Snorkel to your heart's content, as you help local communities and the marine environment around the world. It would be great experience and a fulfilling way to travel. There are many more non-marine based volunteer activities too!

<image>

Below are some random examples of some of the many places you can be involved in:

GVI Seychelles Mahe & Curieuse



Mexico & the Yucatan Peninsula



#### FIJI - an example of one of the projects

Every quarter, GVI volunteers come and assist Dr Cara Miller from Whale and Dolphin Conservation, to collect behaviour, acoustics, and dorsal fin identification data for the ongoing spinner dolphin research project in Fiji. Here's one the volunteers identifying individuals by their dorsal fins - great work!

#### One of the Current Programs you could apply for after finishing school:

#### FIJI MARINE CONSERVATION:

Dive in crystal blue water and discover the rich biodiversity of the South Pacific while assisting with the local management of marine protected areas. Contribute to national efforts to conserve Fiji's delicate coral reefs and marine ecosystems while living on GVI's research base on the stunning Caqalai Island. Travel to idyllic traditional Fijian villages; gain your PADI Advanced Open Water qualification and contribute towards tangible, long-term community benefits.

Travel to the clear blue waters of the South Pacific Ocean, learn or improve your diving in one of the world's most beautiful tropical countries and discover an incredible underwater environment.

Join an international team of volunteers on this marine conservation expedition which focuses on the collection of important marine inventory data collected on underwater research dives. This research is then made available to local communities and organisations to help better inform management decision making. The project is geared at providing long term benefits to the local communities through strategies designed to help guarantee food security for future generations.

Please note, this program offers durations up to 24 weeks. Speak to your Country Expert for more details of extending your stay in-country.

#### **Highlights Include**

Learning new scuba diving skills, conducting underwater surveys in the warm, turquoise waters of the Pacific, spending time getting to know the local community and their traditional villages, teaching children about environmental conservation during weekly school visits, assisting in the creation of coral farms, discover a myriad of fascinating marine creatures to study, enjoy island hopping, stunning remote island locations, scuba diving, snorkelling, traditional ceremonies, idyllic traditional Fijian villages, white beaches, climbing volcanic mountains, enjoying breathtaking scenery, cave swimming, cultural immersion in the Fijian way of life, learning to speak Fijian.

#### Scuba Diving Requirements and Additional Courses

You will spend the majority of your time on this expedition scuba diving and as such you need to be qualified to at least PADI Open Water, or equivalent. Non divers can join for 8- and 12-week duration, GVI will supply you with all the training you need to be certified up to PADI Advanced Open Water. The 4-week duration is only open for divers already qualified to PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent. For non-divers wishing to attend for 4-weeks, we can recommend local dive centres that will help you qualify before your intended start date.

Also, if you wish to add to your scuba diving skillset, why not take an extra course at a discounted rate?! Check out available Add-ons under the Book Now button on the right hand side, or mention to your Country Expert if interested in finding out more.

#### **Testimonials**

"Thank you for such an awesome experience in Fiji, I have come back reenergised and have changed the course of my medical career – I will be taking next year off to work in the developing world. Thank you all for the inspiring and profound impact you had on my person and my career. I feel that this decision is the beginning of something truly extraordinary!"

#### - Clare Curtis, (Australia)

Learn to scuba dive or snorkel and help amazing communities and the marine environment. Choose to study 2U Marine Studies in Year 11. See Mr Willetts in the TAS staffroom for more information.

#### **SPONSORSHIP**

#### MUDGEE HIGH SCHOOL - LINK PROGRAM GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY GLENCORE

Ulan Coal Mine

#### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### IRONFEST will be held at Lithgow Showground on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

Aiming to educate through entertainment, Ironfest features historical events over these days - jousting, and the annual colonial battle re-enactment event entitled 'The Battle of Lithgow'. Both events depict accurately extremely interesting periods in history. The re-enactments are very dramatic, featuring artillery, cavalry and infantry, and there is a fully authentic military encampment, hospital and blacksmith's workshop. Lots of roving entertainers, music, dance, woodturning demonstrations, as well as Australian made goods on sale at the stalls. Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Sunday 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Tickets at gate: One day - Adult \$35; Conc. \$30; Child \$25; Family \$95. 2 Day Weekend - Adult \$55; Conc. \$45; Child \$35; Family \$140. For more information you can visit the Ironfest website at www.ironfest.net.au

#### WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS EXCHANGE STUDENT

Learn about another culture, learn a new language or perhaps improve your culinary skills

#### Hosting - An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

Visit <u>www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student</u> or call 1300 135 331 for more information

# Traffic rules and regulations around schools are there for a very important reason... the safety of our children. Did you know?

Loss of demerit points apply when certain offences are committed in an operating school zone. For example, a minimum penalty of a \$415 fine and the loss of 2 demerit points applies for stopping or parking a vehicle on or near:

- A pedestrian crossing
- A children's crossing
- A marked foot crossing

Double parking Minimum fine is \$311 and 2 demerit points

Parking in a bus zone Minimum fine is \$311 and 2 demerit points

Parking on the footpath Minimum fine is \$173 and 2 demerit points Obstructing traffic

Minimum fine is \$173

Minimum fine is \$311 and 2 demerit points.

School opening and closing times are busy times for pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic outside the school. Drivers have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all children.

Always drop-off and pick-up your children from your school's designated area, following your school's road safety procedures with care and courtesy.



## Youth Week events in MWRC 2015

## Thurs 2nd April Battle of the Brains Trivia Night 6-9pm

Mudgee Town Hall Theatre; buses from KHS (5pm r/t 10pm)and GHS (5.30 r/t 9.30) grab a team of 8 and win great prizes!

Wed 8th April; Big Air skate comp Mudgee Skate park 12-4pm great prizes! bus leaves KHS at 11am return 5pm bus leaves GHS 11.30pm return 4.30pm

Wed 8th April; Mudgee Arts take delivery of art at The Stables Complex, Market Stentries to art, photography & creative writing comp 10-2 at The Stables Mudgee

Wed 8<sup>th</sup> April FREE movie night at Mudgee Theatre; 7-10pm Night in the Museum 3 and The Breakfast Club and AFTRS short filmsmade by your friends in the film workshop!

<u>Thurs 9th April FREE movie night at Mudgee Theatre; 7-10pm</u> Night in the Museum 3 and The Breakfast Club and AFTRS short filmsmade by your friends in the film workshop!

Fri 10th 5-30- 6.30 opening YW art comp at The Stables Mudgee. Open 10-2 daily until Sunday the 19th April. Vote for your favourites!

## <u>Tues 14th April Rock on at Mudgee Library; 10am -1pm</u> UNO comp, Chess comp, music and Blog workshop

Sun 19th Youth Council Facebook page announcement of winner of youth week visual art, photography and creative writing comp.

Check out the youth week website, MWRC youth council facebook page and local radio& newspapers for more information or call Ginny 63575010





The Festival is open to the public and tickets to see competition and Showcase performance will be on sale at the door.



## THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

### Relaxing Fun Great value Safe



Kids' Day Camps start from \$47. Family Camp weekends start from \$63 per day for kids and \$96 per day for adults (kids under 5 attend free; cost includes accommodation, meals and activities).

dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps dsr.nsw.gov.au/familycamps 13 13 02 facebook.com/nswsportandrecreation

## Bonus! Residential Kids' Camps include supervised transport from:

- Central Station, Sydney
- Penrith
- Lithgow
- Bathurst
- Orange
- Wellington
- Brooklyn
- Mooney Mooney.



