

Monday
4 May 2015
Term 2 – Week 3



MHS Newsletter

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A Member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community



SEE OUR WEBSITE
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Coming Events:

- **May 5 Yr 7 2016**
Prospective
Students - parents info
evening 7.00pm
Performance Centre
- **May 6 – VI Selection**
Sem 2 Seniors (11&12)
Study skills & info
evening 6.30-7.30 pm
Performance Centre

This issue:

- Principal's Message
 - Awards
 - Parents Information Night
 - Vaccinations
 - The Simpson Prize 2016
 - IA & Computing News
 - Aquaponics
-
- Sponsor - Glencore
 - Community Announcements

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Week 3!

Tonight we welcome parents and carers of the class of 2021 to Mudjee High. This may well be the first time many of them have set foot within the school. For others, it may be a return, as many of our parents and carers passed through these corridors of erudition in their own formative years. Either way, all are welcome.

I had a discussion with Senior Constable Martin Pace from Dubbo Youth Command (YC) yesterday. Senior Constable Pace and his partner Senior Constable Craig Skeen are regular visitors to the school. They have run sessions on a variety of issues for our students, perhaps most prominent being those that have centred on cyber-safety and the pitfalls of social media. The services the YC offer have been nothing short of superb.

Mudjee High also enjoys a good working relationship with Mudjee Local Area Command (LAC). The police in our LAC have always been supportive of the school. Events like Rainbow Day would not proceed without LAC support. On those rare occasions when the school has been the subject of criminal activity like break and enter events or vandalism, the LAC has provided the resources to have them resolved quickly.

In addition to the LAC, the school also enjoys a very positive working relationship with the local Police Citizens Youth Centre (PCYC). The PCYC has offered and continues to offer and operate programs for youth at risk of disengaging from school and life in general. PCYC staff regularly come to the school to work closely with children and young people to assist them in remaining on an even keel.

Despite these very positive relations, sometimes some students see the police as intimidating or even threatening. A very small number of students even see the police as "the enemy" which always makes me wonder who they would call if someone committed a crime against them or their property... the police, like the NSW Fire and Rescue service, Ambulance service, RFS, SES, VRA, are there for all of us when things are often at their worst. So with this in mind and at my request, Senior Constable Pace from the YC will liaise with Mudjee LAC with a view to having patrol officers visit the school during breaks like lunch time. During these visits, local officers will perform a "walk through" making them at once both highly visible and approachable.

What Senior Constables Pace and Skeen have been able to achieve over the past several years is to put a very positive public face on the police and the service police provide to keep young people and the rest of us safe. What these occasional – and they will be occasional and very much determined by the needs of the wider community – "walk throughs" should achieve is to better connect our students with the very people whose job it is to keep us all safe: the police.

Wayne Eade
Relieving Principal

TERM 2 WEEK 2

P & C AWARDS – Year 7 – Leilani Fisher & Will Box **Year 8** – Hallie Oakley & Thomas Pearce **Year 9** – Jye Thompson & Jordyn Colley **Year 10** – Harry Beasley & Georgia Duke **Year 12** – Elise Fairleigh & Liam Oliver

SRR AWARD – Congratulations to: Makayla Vella (Yr9)

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT – STUDY SKILLS AND STRESS MANAGEMENT

On Wednesday 6th May, there will be an information evening for parents of students currently enrolled in years 11 and/or 12. The evening will begin at 6:30pm and is expected to finish at around 7:50pm. It will be held in the Performance Centre at Mudgee High School. You can enter the school through the Denison Street gate.

Mr David McLennan will make a presentation about methods and techniques for study. This is an opportunity for parents of senior students to gain tools to support them through the coming year/s of schooling.

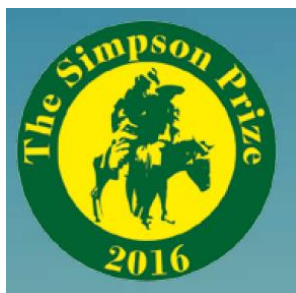
Miss Ashleigh Walsh will make a presentation about stress management. This presentation is designed to equip parents with supportive techniques to assist to overcome the inevitable stress which comes with studying for the HSC.

There will be time for questions and discussion at the end of the two presentations. You are most welcome to attend the evening and we look forward to seeing you there.

VACCINATIONS

The **second clinic** of vaccinations for **Year 7** will be held at school on the 21 May during Periods 1-4. Students who were absent from the first clinic and have returned their consent form will be eligible to begin their vaccination process. If your child has yet to return their consent form, please have them do so before this date to ensure they can be included in the next clinic.

There is also a catch up campaign for any Yr. 11 and 12 who have missed their Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccination. You can ring 1800 653809 to check your child's personal health record. Consent forms are available from Mrs Quinn in the Library.



In commemoration of the 100 century of Gallipoli, there are a number of competitions being offered for students in years 7 -12. Students are required to research and respond to a variety of questions about Gallipoli and World War One. Winning entrants can be in the running to receive cash prizes and a trip to Gallipoli in 2016. For more information about these competitions please visit the HSIE staffroom. Applications close August 2015.

Industrial Arts and Computing Faculty

One of the quality Hacksaws completed in this class Courtesy of Daniel Kurtz Year 8

With second term well under way, Mudgee High Students are also well under the way with their projects in all classes. HSC Major Works in Industrial Technology and Multimedia are taking shape and Students are being given the opportunity to utilise extra workshop and Computer room time both during and after school to work on their Major projects. Technology Mandatory rotated its classes to allow them to experience in different aspects of Tech Mandatory. Mr Smith is pleased with the Quality of the Industrial Technology Timber projects Senior Design and Technology Projects are progressing toward completion with some budding designers hard at work.



Year 8 Industrial Technology Metal are on the verge of completing their mini Hacksaws and they are looking excellent.

Information and Software Technology

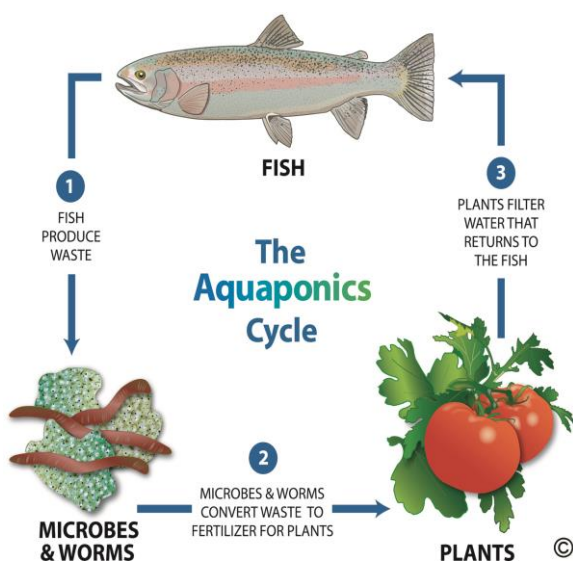
IST4 – Students have been learning to code in Python in order to develop a simple game which will then have Artificial Intelligence components added, to make the play more realistic and interesting. Artificial Intelligence is used in a number of applications beyond gaming such as weather forecasting and stock market predictions. The gaming model has been chosen because the students are more familiar with this application of the technology and the development is within reach of our novice skills.

Modelling and simulation will be explored later in the term using Trimble Sketchup – a 3D modelling application and then producing the models on the 3D printer. This will be a team effort adding more to the real world skills being developed.

Aquaponics at Mudgee High.

Mudgee High has implemented a new program into its range of Technology Mandatory subjects, with two classes currently studying aquaponics.

Aquaponics is the combination of both Aquaculture (raising of fish) and Hydroponics (growing of vegetables) in a symbiotic manner. Aquaponics is a closed loop ecosystem.



Aquaponics was chosen to help increase student engagement with the use of cutting edge, environmentally friendly and sustainable technology.

An aquaponics system, being an ecosystem, is also suitable for a vast variety of cross curricular opportunities. Application of the technologies involved is only limited by one's imagination. A unit in aquaponics enforces practical uses of chemistry, mathematics, physics, economics and engineering.

Aquaponics has gained significant attention around the globe in the last 10 years. Some are even touting it as the future of agriculture as it uses 90% less water than traditional farming methods. It is also naturally holistic and organic.

Whilst still in its initial setup, a relatively large system is planned with the current students involved in that planning and construction. In fact the Yr12 construction class is building an outdoor covered learning area over the next few weeks to house the fish tanks.

Our first fish arrived last week to much excitement. An initial 50 silver perch are being kept in tanks until the larger 1000 litre tanks are finished.

Stay tuned for more exciting developments as our system comes to fruition over the coming months.



Figure 1: Start of COLA for aquaponics system



Our first 50 silver perch

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

21st ANNUAL MUDGEES BASKETBALL DEBUTANTE BALL

Registrations for Expressions of Interest are now being taken for intending debutantes and their partners from Years 10, 11 and 12 for the 21st Mudgee Basketball Debutante Ball to be held at Parklands Resort Cassilis Road Mudgee on 13th June 2015.
Please ring or text Helen ASAP on 0427 220 776

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