

Monday
11 May 2015
Term 2 – Week 4



MHS Newsletter

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A Member of the
Cudgegong Learning
Community



SEE OUR WEBSITE
FOR THE FULL
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Coming Events:

- May 12 to 14 - NAPLAN Testing
- May 14 to 17 – Dubbo Sheep Show Excursion
- May 20-21 – White Card Training
- May 21 - Science Comp

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Last week at the Year 6 into Year 7 transition information evening, several parents asked if the slide show that was used to support the presentation could be made available on the website. The answer is an easy one: yes. The presentation is there for anyone to view. You need only click on the "curriculum and activities" link to find it. Of note is that it has information on a variety of things like attendance statistics for the past seven years, as well as NAPLAN and HSC results for last year and how they compare with those for similarly large, rural and comprehensive high schools.

And speaking of NAPLAN, National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy testing begins today for Years 7 and 9. It will continue until Thursday with a catch-up day on Friday.

Perhaps the most important thing to remember about NAPLAN is that it is a snapshot. The scores students achieve will tell them, their teachers and their parents how they performed on that day and that day alone, after viewing material with which they may or may not be familiar. They should never be seen as a holistic picture of any individual student. They serve as just one tool amongst many that we can use to personalise what it is we do for young people at Mudgee High. So to all of the Year 7 and Year 9 artists and musicians, horse riders and sportspeople, public speakers and debaters, know that NAPLAN will never demonstrate how good you are at so very many different things.

In recent weeks, as the weather has grown cool, some students have dug deep into the cupboards and drawers and found those family heirlooms once used by much older relatives; the hoodies. It has been some time since hoodies made a brief and unofficial return to some of the shelves of uniform suppliers in town. Be aware that hoodies are **not Mudgee High uniform**. There is a good reason for our ban on the hoodie. In any large community there exists a fringe minority who rely on anonymity to do things that the rest of us would view as worrying at best and downright disturbing at worst. The hoodie makes anonymity far more achievable. Mudgee High has more than 950 students, so by any measure it is a reasonably large community.

If you see hoodies for sale with Mudgee High crests on them, please let the school know immediately, as the crest's use is at the sole discretion of the school and allows the school and the school's P&C to determine what is and what is not uniform. If your child has an older pullover that features a hood and you're struggling a little to replace it, let the school know and we may be able to assist.

Finally, this week will conclude with the 2015 Athletics Carnival. It is a regular school day and ALL students are encouraged to attend and attempt as many track and field events as possible on the day. There will also be some novelty events like sack races and tug-o-war. Students should bring a jumper – in house colours naturally – and maybe a little change to feed the inner man from the goodies Year 12 will have for sale as part of their fundraising for Mudgee PCYC and the Mudgee hospital.

Wayne Eade
Relieving Principal

TERM 2 WEEK 3

P & C AWARDS: Year 7 – Skye Nutley Year 8 – Stephanie Bartlett Year 9 – Rowan Turner Year 10 – Henry Whiteside Year 11 – Isabella Ghanem, Tom Ashton & Libby Yates Year 12 – Jessica Hardy

SRR AWARD – Congratulations to: Claudia Hughes (Y12)

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- P&C and SRR Awards
- Money for Tanzania
- Excursion to Dunn's Swamp
- Athletics Carnival
- Cross Country
- Marine Studies
- Sponsor - Moolarben
- Sponsor - Glencore
- Community Announcements

MHS RAISES MONEY FOR TANZANIA

On Friday the 20th of March, Mudgee High School held a mufti day to raise money and awareness, and supplies for hospitals in Tanzania. We raised a total of \$765. This is an extraordinary number which will surely aid the Tanzanian hospitals. Most of the school's pupils wore vibrant and exuberant clothing.

The money raised will go with Jade Cooper, who is in her final year of a Nursing degree, to Tanzania as well as help out the hospitals by allowing them to afford basic sanitary items we take for granted, such as plastic gloves and syringes. The population of Tanzania is approximately 49 million and they have one hospital for every 1 million people. In comparison that equates to Australia having only 23 hospitals for our entire population. This is an immense case of global inequality as Australia actually has 1345 hospitals, which means that we have approximately 58 hospitals for every 1 million people.

Although our amount of \$765 may seem small, in the grand scheme of things as many say 'Every dollar counts'. **Well done, students of Mudgee High School!**

PD08 EXCURSION TO DUNN'S SWAMP

On Wednesday 30th May, 15 students set out to Dunn's Swamp for 3 days and 2 nights of adventure. Accompanied by Mr Hatch and Miss Wilson, the students participated in a variety of activities including bushwalking, canoeing, initiative games, orienteering and damper cooking.

On the wildlife front, the fish were not biting and Drop Bears and Bunyips were few and far between (a number of unconfirmed sightings were made), however, the group managed to spot some wallabies, several species of bird and a number of possums that made regular visits into the campsite at night.

A pat on the back should go to students and their helpful packers who made sure that everyone was prepared for the cooler weather. There were not many complaints from students about being cold, particularly during the night, which indicates that they came well prepared for the conditions and took heed of the advice given by Mr Hatch prior to leaving for camp. We would also like to acknowledge Red Hill Environmental Centre at Gulgong for providing us with the instructors (Cindy and Sue) for the canoeing and for organising the team challenge which required a range of teamwork, leadership and communication skills to be put to the test. Sue also led a bushwalk up Wallaby Rocks (a 'hairy' experience for some who are not so fond of heights) and onwards to the Long Cave. Both Cindy and Sue have an extensive knowledge of the area and the activities conducted and it was of great benefit to have their expertise on hand.

Another (not so) highlight (but worth a mention) was the Iron Gut challenge. Some took on the menu and consumed either: weetbix, sauerkraut and chocolate sauce, spam and strawberry flavoured yoghurt topped muesli bars or a sausage and onion sandwich. Needless to say the garbage bag nearby was well used and it certainly tested the gumption of those involved. Mr Hatch and Miss Wilson both tried the spam, muesli bar mix and needless to say, failed miserably at making it past the first bite.

By far the biggest test, however, was the stealth ability of students during the nightly Spotlight game. Some discovered that wearing white or having reflective tape on shoes or jackets doesn't help with camouflage. Creative as they were with using bushes and tree branches to be at one with nature, most were caught a number of times before someone finally made it to the lantern. Miss Wilson has resigned herself to the fact that in order to be a super spot lighter of the calibre of Mr Hatch, she will need to invest in a torch of some quality. Her spotting ability was severely impeded when her big torch failed and her little torch was flat out spotting anything beyond 2 m from her.

Everyone participated fully each day and despite some restless nights, managed to survive both the cold weather and each other. Students were extremely cooperative, well behaved and respectful of the National Park rules as well as other campers in the area. All the feedback we received indicated that the camp was a success and thanks must go to the students for their cooperation and those who helped prepare the campers for their adventure.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our school Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 15th May starting at 9am. This is a compulsory school day which is designed to encourage student participation, not only in the track and field events, but also the novelty style races organised for the day. If your child is unable to attend, a note of explanation for the absence must be given to the front office the following school day (this is the usual expectation anyway). Students should bring their ID card with them to assist with the roll marking process which is done electronically as students arrive at Walkers Field. Students are asked to be ready to begin events at 9am, so arriving from 8.30 onwards would ensure that the organisation runs smoothly.

Information about Pre events (those that are conducted at other times to the carnival) are communicated to students via announcements and the Wednesday assembly. Any student who would like to participate in these events (e.g. 400, 800, triple jump) must have registered their name with the PDHPE staff.

We encourage students to have a fun but to also involve themselves to the best of their ability in the days' events. Students can wear attire that is suitable for participation but also reflects their house colours. Shoes should be enclosed and must be worn at all times. If it is sunny, reminders about the need to be sun safe will be in place, however, being prepared for the day with sunscreen, sleeved shirts, a hat and ample water will be necessary.

A canteen will operate, however, due to the organisation of the day, a designated lunch break does not occur. Instead, the staff supervising each year group will send students for lunch and other breaks between events. Usually, there is ample time for regular breaks for most students during the day.

CROSS COUNTRY

The school cross country will be held on Wednesday 27th May. All students in Year 7, 8 and 9 are expected to participate. As with our swimming and athletics carnivals, the cross country has participation as its major focus. We always have students who compete for the top spots in each age group, however, those who have not trained or keen on running, can still join in and complete the course.

More information relating to the cross country will be given over the following weeks via announcements and Wednesday assembly.

YR 10 – WHY NOT STUDY 2 UNIT MARINE STUDIES FOR THE HSC!!!

DID YOU KNOW 1: Water takes around 1000 years to travel all the way around the whole globe!

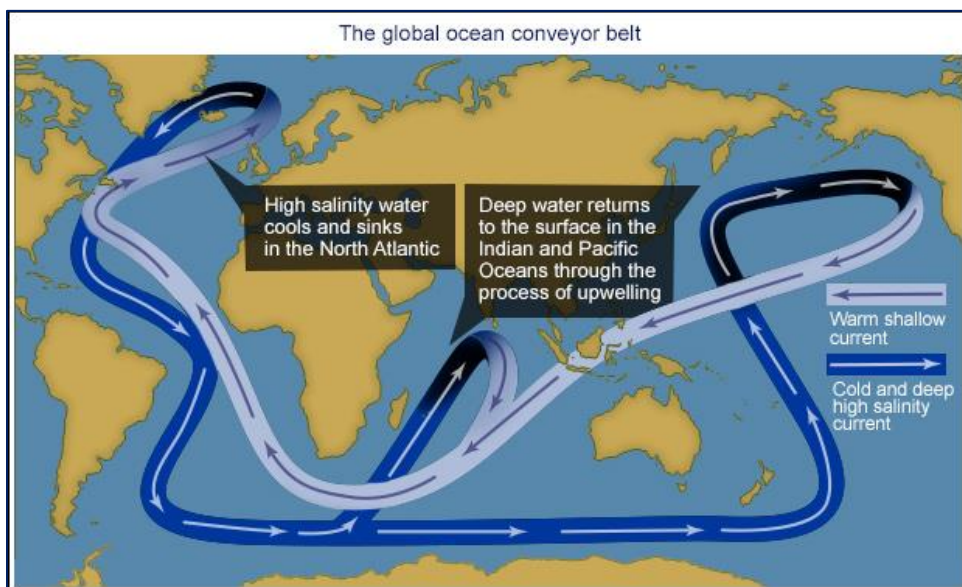
The oceans not only have waves, tides and surface currents — they also have a constantly moving system of deep-ocean circulation driven by temperature and salinity.

Known as the global ocean conveyor belt or thermohaline current (thermo = temperature, haline = salinity), this deep ocean current gets one of its "starts" in the polar region near Norway.

As sea ice forms, the water left behind becomes saltier and denser and begins to sink, making room for warmer and less dense incoming surface water, which in turn eventually becomes cold and salty enough to sink.

The cold dense water flows along the ocean bottom all the way from the northern hemisphere to the Southern Ocean where it merges with more cold dense water from Antarctica and is swept into the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

Eventually it mixes with warmer water and rises to the surface before finding its way back to the Atlantic. It can take 1000 years to complete this cycle.



DID YOU KNOW 2: For every species of marine life we know of, at least another three are yet to be discovered!

Our oceans teem with life ranging from the blue whale — the biggest animal on Earth — to tiny microbes.

But nobody knows exactly how many different species live in this environment. There is no data for around 20 per cent of the ocean's volume.

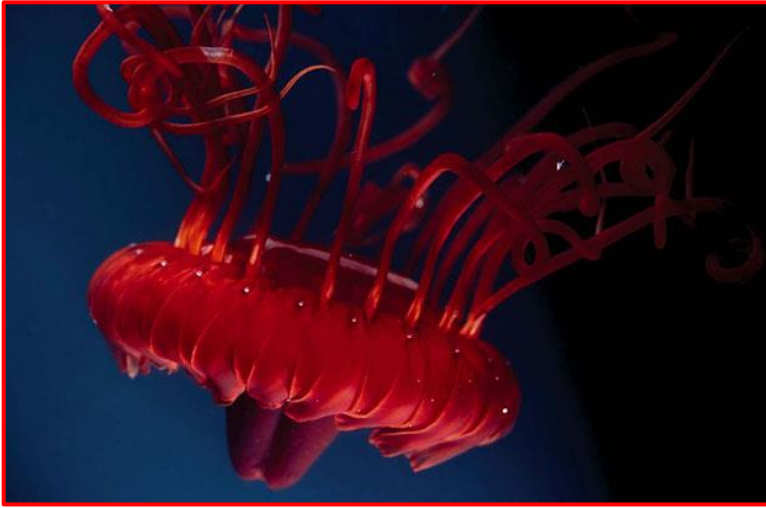
The Census of Marine Life, a 10-year international project to identify life in our oceans, found nearly 250,000 species. But scientists

believe a least a million species of marine life could be out there, and that's not counting the tens or even hundreds of millions of kinds of microbes that make up the majority of marine life.

What we do know is that ocean life survives in the most extreme environments. Scientists have found life that can survive in temperatures that melt lead, where seawater freezes into ice, or there's no light or oxygen.

In fact, the dark ocean zone between 1000 and 5000 metres known as the abyssal zone has a far greater range of marine life than we once thought.

The deep waters around Australia's Great Barrier Reef are home to a stunning array of life such as the deep sea jellyfish atolla (below), which was discovered by Australian scientists in 2006.



Learn all about this and other amazing facts about the ocean and the world by choosing to study 2U Marine Studies in Year 11 and 12. See Mr Willetts in the TAS staffroom for more information

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUDGEE MATHEMATICS CLUB

A club to encourage an interest in mathematics for all ages. The club will offer tutoring opportunities as well as a variety of guest speakers at monthly meetings. For more information please see the pamphlet attached to this newsletter or 'phone 0428 649 065

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Cudgegong Valley Mathematics

Mathematics Everywhere, Everyday

Meets Every
Second Wednesday of the Month

6pm
At Club Mudgee

Program includes:

A Speaker (or guest speaker) talk about application of Mathematics, History of Mathematics, statistics, technology and other matters relating to mathematics.



Contact:

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cudgegongvalleymathematics.wordpress.com

Forum on mathematics topics

Maths trivia

Group forum/activities for students

Everyone is invited

Details:

Cudgegong Valley Mathematics is a not for profit organisation, aimed to support members who may have difficulty in Maths, provide award for excellence in Maths, a forum and further learning for adults who want to extend their previous knowledge in Mathematics, invite guest speakers for specific topics and conduct regular social activities.

CVM will conduct Numeracy projects:

- Group forum/activities 1 (year 1 – 6)
- Group forum/activities 2 (year 7 –9)
- Group forum/activities 3 (year 10 –12)

These three programs are a type of group tutoring to help families from various demographics to promote basic numeracy and analytical skills. This will change their lives, particularly around our local community who are left behind.

One on one tutoring is also available for anyone who is interested.
