

Monday
18 May 2015
Term 2 – Week 5



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 20-21 – White Card Training
- May 21 - Science Comp
- May 25 – P&C Meeting Library 7pm
- May 27 – Cross Country
- June 8 – Public Holiday
- June 16 – Gold & Silver Year 11 & 12
- June 16 Mini MAD Concert
- June 25 – P&C Meeting, Library 7pm

is issue:

- Principal's Message
- P&C and SRR Awards
- Careers News
- Languages
- Community Announcements
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Last week concluded with our annual athletics carnival at Walkers Oval. Our sporting carnivals offer all of our students the opportunity to challenge themselves physically in a variety of track and field events while in the company of friends.

On Friday the weather was perfect. More importantly, on Friday students were actively involved.

So a huge "well done!" to all of those students who variously ran, jumped, swung, hurled or sprinted on the day, especially to those students for whom physical activity is something in which they seldom engage. The willingness of so very many of our students to test the boundaries of their physical ability in a range of events was gratifying. It was also good to see so many senior students from both Years 11 and 12 having a go. Senior students in the past have been conspicuous by their relative absence. The young men and young women I observed were excellent role models, especially after I convinced some of them that creating a human pyramid in their down-time was an activity best undertaken away from a school event... if at all.

The last big "well done!" must naturally go to the organising staff who put it all together, as well as the great body of teachers we have at Mudgee High who made it all happen like clockwork. Well done all!

And now we come to Week 5 of Term 2. This week promises to be a busy one at Mudgee High. In addition to the normal 1600+ lessons that will be offered here at school, a range of extra-curricula activities will take place, including:

- Country Cup Rugby League will see more than fifty students travel away on Tuesday to compete.
- Construction students will undertake White Card training on Wednesday and Thursday. The possession of a White Card indicates that the holder is trained in the Work Health and Safety requirements of working on a building site. Students who earn a White Card are certified as ready to make the transition from school to a future in construction, if that is a vocational path they intend to pursue.
- Vaccinations against cervical cancer, hepatitis B and whooping cough will continue for all of Year 7 and a small number of senior students on Thursday.
- Finally, the Term 2 Macquarie Network (MacNet) Principal's meeting will take place on Friday. Principals and their respective Teachers' Federation representatives, totalling almost 60 visitors, will toil away in our library on a variety of reform agenda matters including the new procedures for teacher professional accreditation.

A busy, busy week indeed.

Wayne Eade
Relieving Principal

TERM 2 WEEK 4

P & C AWARDS: Year 7 – Nicholas Hopson Year 8 – Hamish Fittler Year 9 – Barry Nemeth Year 10 – Shaun Mooney Year 11 – Jack Beasley Year 12 – Jessica Downey

SRR AWARD – Congratulations to: Raymond Atkins (Y9)



University of New England (UNE) Trip

On 30th April and 1st May a group of Year 12 Mudgee and Gulgong High students travelled to the University of New England at Armidale. The purpose of the excursion was for students to engage in Agricultural activities on Thursday and a Careers Open Day on Friday. The students inspected the plant and animal science faculties and received talks from research specialists in these fields. This provided an insight into the latest research projects occurring in the plant and animal industries. Students and staff sampled wonderful food, hospitality and accommodation on Thursday night in one of UNE's residential colleges. On Friday, students attended the UNE Careers Open Day which involved students choosing lectures of interest, touring the Campus and speaking to university students and staff.

Overall it was an enjoyable excursion with a group of students who were excellent ambassadors for the school.

LANGUAGES

All Year 7 classes have been working their way through the programmed topics and the majority of students are applying themselves in a positive manner. They have role-played meeting and greeting or presented じこしょうかい (self-introductions) in Japanese. They have also learned how to talk about where they live. Students have been developing their understanding of the Japanese writing system, learning a trick as to how you can read words without knowing all the *Hiragana* characters. Classes have been comparing cultures and learning that 'the way they (the Japanese) do it isn't dumb – it's just different'.

Students have learned about a major Japanese festival each month and have created various symbols that represent each festival. This month they have experienced 子供の日 or Kodomo-no-hi (Children's Day). Students have completed a significant portion of their assessment for this semester. Those that have shown a thorough understanding of the language presented have consistently applied themselves in class and have also revised their work regularly.

Elective classes have been building their grasp of Japanese through topic work that is focused on everyday, situational language. The Ja03 introductory class has been working on developing ひらがな (*hiragana*) skills with all language activities being presented in full script. The majority of students have been showing great promise in this area and enjoy the idea of being able to write secret messages that few other people can understand. The Ja04/05 class has introduced an additional script to their repertoire: カタカナ (*katakana*). This is commonly used to represent words used in the Japanese language that are borrowed from other languages. For example パン (*pan*) is the Japanese word for 'bread'. This word was 'borrowed' from the Portuguese missionaries who introduced bread to Japan.

Study Tip

A great study tip for language learners is to create revision cards for the topics covered. This is particularly good for learning vocabulary and 漢字/ひらがな/カタカナ (*kanji/hiraganakatakana*) characters. On one side of the card write the Japanese word and on the other write the English meaning. Punch a hole in the corner and put them on curtain rings based on themes. For example: greetings, food, activities, time etc. Students can study their cards anytime, anywhere. In fact, as little as five minutes, four times a week can make a huge difference. Parents can also help with this technique by testing their child every once in awhile. Encourage your child to help you learn the Japanese words. Teaching someone else is the best way to remember something!

Exchange Visit

We have had recent confirmation of dates and numbers for our exchange visit this year. 25 students and 4 teachers from our 4 friendship schools in the north of Osaka will be visiting Mudgee from July 29th until August 9th. This is a 12 night homestay and 7.5 days school program.

This exchange program has been running at Mudgee High School since 2003. Our friendship with schools in Osaka has allowed us to incorporate homestay experiences in our own tours to Japan in 2012 and 2014. We hope to be able to include a family/school visit in the proposed 2017 tour.

Hosting a student from another culture can be a positive experience for a family and provides many learning opportunities for all involved. At the least, it opens an appreciation of other cultures and allows students to gain a perspective that 'we are all the same on the inside'.

Requests for host families will be distributed to students studying Japanese this week. Naturally, priority will be given to these students; however, we welcome anyone who is interested in participating in this unique opportunity.

The Japanese teaching staff offer support to host families and are very proud of the program that they have developed over the last 12 years. The fact that these schools continue to request Mudgee High as their destination is testament to the fabulous Mudgee family culture! Please consider hosting a Japanese student and contact Ms Date or Ms Kim if you have any questions.

Japanese Culture

May 5th in Japan is a day that celebrates children called “Kodomo no Hi” or ‘Children’s Day’. It is one of the most popular national holidays. It actually started long ago as “Tango no Sekku” or ‘Boys’ Day’, a holiday celebrating the male child. After World War II it was changed to celebrate the health and growth of all children, in hopes of uplifting the spirits of Japan. Many of the traditions and decorations related to Children’s Day still reflect those of Boys’ Day.

To bring good fortune to the boys in the home, ‘Koinobori’ (colourful carp streamers) are flown outside of houses to wish them luck for the future. Koinobori are believed to be strong, spirited fish that are known for their determination in fighting up streams and through powerful waterfalls. Families also display ‘Kabuto’ (samurai helmet) and samurai dolls representing Kintaro, Momotaro and others that symbolise courage.

Another tradition is the offering of kashiwa- mochi, a rice cake stuffed with bean paste and wrapped in an oak leaf, which is also a symbol of strength. Iris flowers also bloom during this time, and are placed in the home to ward off evil. *Ms Date and Ms Kim*



Koinobori flying on Children’s Day



Kabuto

The Fully Equipped Recreational Diver

- BCD
- Weight system
- Exposure suit
- Mask
- Snorkel
- Fins

- Cylinder
- Regulator
- Dive computer
- Alternate air source
- SPG
Submersible pressure gauge

YR 10 – WHY NOT STUDY 2 UNIT MARINE STUDIES FOR THE HSC in 2016 - 2017!!!

If you choose to study Marine Studies in your senior year, you have the option to learn to scuba dive. If you already scuba dive, you can extend your skills and complete other dive-related courses. Of course you don't have to learn to scuba dive in Marine Studies if you don't want to. It is completely optional. Below is a picture showing the typical equipment of a scuba diver and the equipment you would wear and use if learning to scuba dive in Marine Studies.

The Fully Equipped Recreational Diver

Mask – Traps air around eyes so you can see.

Snorkel – Used at surface to allow breathing in waves or face in water without using air from the cylinder.

Regulator – Delivers air from cylinder when you inhale.

Alternate air source – An extra regulator for sharing air with another diver in an emergency.

SPG Submersible Pressure Gauge – shows you how much air you have left.

Cylinder – Holds high pressure compressed air.

Exposure suit – Provides insulation for a comfortable dive (different types for different water temperatures).

Fins – Provide a broad surface area for your legs to push against, allowing you to swim without using your hands.

Cutting tool – (not visible) Safety device for freeing yourself in case of entanglement.

BCD – Buoyancy Compensating Device – uses air from your cylinder to adjust your buoyancy so you're neutral ("weightless"), negative (sink) or positive (float). BCD includes the harness system that holds the cylinder on your back.

Weight system (integrated into BCD) – Holds lead weights to offset buoyancy so you can descend, with a quick release mechanism for dropping the weight in an emergency.

Dive computer – Tracks your depth and time underwater, calculating your remaining allowable time underwater.

Compass – Aids underwater navigation.

Underwater slate – For communicating with another diver or carrying other information.

Surface signaling devices – Attracts the dive boat's attention if you surface a distance away.

Recreational Dive Planner dive tables – For dive planning and backup in case of a computer problem.

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

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Fundraising Movie Event

Saturday 30th May 3pm

Town Hall Theatre

Want a ticket?

It's easy!! Follow the link below.

Donate \$20 online.



Great movie,
donation of \$20

to the Mudgee Cancer Council Fundraising Event movie and afternoon tea at the Mudgee Town Hall Cinema – get your friends together for a great afternoon and know that every dollar raised helps – this event is organised by Mudgee locals, and we'd love to see a full cinema – follow this link for more information and to donate.

<https://secure.cancercouncilfundraising.org.au/registant/FundraisingPage.aspx?registrationID=866078&langPref=en-CA>

great cause...
will get you a ticket

EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM DENMARK

Mudgee Rotary Club is looking for Host Families to accommodate an overseas exchange student from Denmark. She is 16 years old, can speak English and is looking to stay with three to four families over the next 12 months from July 2015. We also have a Spanish boy coming.

She needs to be with a family who have students at Mudgee High for the first stay.

Anything from 2 months to 4 months would be acceptable.

Last year Rotary hosted (through local families) Antoine from France and currently Magdalena from Poland and Sydney from USA who are at MHS.

Previous Host Families have really enjoyed their time with exchange students and found the friendships have lasted. If you can help or even would like to discuss please phone Des Dowdy 0427 724744.

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