

Monday  
21 November 2016  
Term 4 – Week 7



# MHS Newsletter

Mudgee High School – Locked Bag 2004, MUDGEE NSW 2850  
ABN: 25 074 408 459 Telephone: (02) 6372 1533 Facsimile: (02) 6372 6321  
Website: [www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mudgee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au) Email: [mudgee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mudgee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

A Member of the  
Cudgegong Learning  
Community



SEE OUR WEBSITE  
FOR THE FULL  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Coming Events:

- Dec 13 – EoY Presentation Evening in the Gym 7pm
- Dec 15 – Year Assemblies in the Gym
- Dec 16 – Last day of Term 4

## This issue:

- Principal's Message
- Awards
- English News
- End of Year Presentations
- Hat Order Form
- Christmas Giving Tree
- World Vision Appeal
- Sponsor – Glencore

## Principal's Gold

Interviews will take place this week to select those students who have been successful in their application for Principal's Gold.

Regardless of academic position in their respective courses, students may apply for The Principal's Gold Medal at the end of each year. The Principal's Gold Medal recognises the achievements of students across a broad range of school activities, not only those students who obtain high academic, sporting or cultural excellence. As I tell the kids; you don't have to be first, you just have to be giving everything you do a red hot go.

The field this year has been good but perhaps a little worrying for me as the father of three boys, devoid of girls entirely. Both boys and girls are encouraged to make application, but it would seem that girls, the early developers that they are, are the only ones who see the merit in doing so. Parents and carers of boys, it's time to light a fire under some of them! Successful students will be presented with their medal at the final presentation of the year.

## Stewart House Ferry

Over the next two weeks, students from our western cluster including students from Cudgegong Valley PS, Mudgee PS and Mudgee High, will take part in activities at Stewart House.

Stewart House has a proud history of providing respite care for students from needy backgrounds.

Stewart House itself stands opposite Curl Curl Beach on Sydney's north side. The facility was built in the 1930s, an amazing outcome given that the '30s was a decade of privation. It is on the north side of Sydney was pretty much bush, only connected to the south side by the Harbour Bridge in 1932.

Dr Harvey Sutton, the then Principal Medical Officer of the Department of Education, and Mr Arthur McGuinness, President of the NSW Teachers Federation, were the visionaries who began it all. Their vision to have a place by the sea where remedial and preventative measures to overcome the effects of malnutrition could be addressed has expanded considerably.

Nowadays, Stewart House runs residential schools for 1,800 public school children in need from NSW and the ACT each year. During their stay, children are provided with optometric, dental and medical treatment as well as emotional support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost their self-esteem and promote healthier lifestyles.

The NSW Department of Education provides infrastructure and staffing support for this school. Traditionally, teachers and staff from the NSW public education system have donated through fortnightly salary contributions around \$1.6 million of the \$3.8 million needed to sustain the enterprise. Public school children through school-based fundraising contribute around \$500,000. The remainder is gathered from personal and corporate donations and applications for private grants and subsidies.

It would be fair to say that Stewart House runs on a great deal of goodwill.

Last Sunday I chauffeured twenty students to Stewart House after a mammoth amount of organisation by Gill Armstrong from Cudgegong Valley PS. We left Mudgee at 6.45am to collect kids in Dubbo, then retraced our path to Gulgong to gather another student, before returning to Mudgee to collect the balance.

Then we headed for Curl Curl.

I have never seen Stewart House before, except in pictures, so it was good to finally lay eyes on it. Spectacular views of the South Pacific – or is it the Tasman? – and well appointed, the kids are going to have a great time!

I'm not sure what time Mrs Armstrong arrived home, but I walked in the door at 10.14pm. Well done to her for all of her organisation. Well done too Stewart House for the opportunity it provides.

... and never for a moment think teaching is a 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday caper. It clearly isn't.

### **Some individual student news**

Jesse Boness (Year 11) headed off to Spain on Tuesday to represent Australia in Futsal and is wished all the best in his endeavours.

Sam Gorrie (Year 11) will travel to the United States a few weeks from now to play basketball and he too is wished all the best.

Finally, Mitali Sharma was granted Australian Citizenship last Friday. Mitali is a one of our high achievers in Year 7 and welcomed to Tribe Australia!

Until next week...

Wayne Eade

### **TERM 4 WEEK 6 AWARDS**

**P & C Awards:** Year 7 – Phoebe Smith; Year 8 – Eric Milne; Year 9 – Grace Pearce; Year 10 – Faith Douglas; Year 11 – William Knott

**SRR Award:** Lachlan Date Year 7

### **ENGLISH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

In English we like to stay up to date, to offer our students the best practice and the newest reading. To that end, Miss Tetley and I spent Friday and Saturday at a conference at the University of New South Wales.

We attended a range of workshops. Some about writing and new, vibrant ways to help students to explore their ideas and do their very best. Another was about poetry and the importance of creating and installing student work: we now have lots of creative ideas about how our students' work can become a focal point for both the school and community groups. Yet another was about creative ways to teach grammar: those of us who endured the endless routine of exercises will be particularly surprised to hear that there are ways to make this learning great fun. Miss Tetley has a surprise in store for her Year 10 class!

We were able to attend discussions about the best ways to implement the new senior syllabus which will start in 2018. That sounds a long time away, but our current Year Nine students will be the first year affected when they go into the senior school, so it's not that far away! This is one of the hidden jobs of teachers: planning and resourcing the new curriculum, but it is essential to our students' success.

One of the highlights of the conference is always the opportunity to learn about new books: novels, poems, plays as well as resources for teachers. We try very hard to buy books that will interest and engage our students. We look for books that offer challenge – in ideas, in language, in interesting characters and in offering wider views of the world our students live in. This year there were lots on offer: some, like "A Monster Calls" and "When Friendship Followed Me Home" we have already purchased. Students in Mrs Willetts' Year 8 and 9 classes are test driving these for us! There were a lot of exciting new titles available and we have some sample copies of texts to read. If your son or daughter comes home with one of them, they're doing a very important job and we take on board the comments that they make about the books. We have limited resources and we like to spend our money well.

Mrs Daniels

## END OF YEAR PRESENTATIONS

As the end of the school year fast approaches, so does the time to acknowledge the fine efforts of our student body. Throughout the year, the efforts of students are recognised in sporting, academic, cultural and community pursuits. At the end of the year, student achievement is acknowledged at the School Presentation Evening, which this year will take place on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm** in the school's gymnasium.

At this ceremony, students will be presented with Effort and Achievement awards for individual subjects in addition to Special Awards. The parents of students who are receiving awards on Presentation Evening will receive an invitation in the mail.

In addition to this ceremony, individual year groups will have their own Year Assemblies on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December, in the gymnasium. It is at these assemblies they will receive their reports. They will also receive Gold and Silver Awards, as well as Attendance, Canteen, Participation and Sporting Excellence Awards. Students will be able to ascertain whether they are receiving an award at this ceremony by checking their Year Group's noticeboard.

The schedule for Year Assemblies is: Year 8 – 9.30am; Year 7 – 11.00am; Year 9 – 12.30pm; Year 10 – 2.30pm

## ORDER FORM – HATS

Mudgee High School encourages the wearing of hats at school. We are not a 'no hat, no play' school but we realise the importance of being sun safe. Mudgee High wants to promote the wearing of hats by our students as well as raise awareness about the importance of taking care of their skin.

In 2017 there will be a range of hats available for purchase. The hats are \$15 each.

Samples for sizing will be available at the Front Office.

If you would like to order a hat for 2017, please indicate the hat you wish to purchase. Payment can be made to the Front Office at Mudgee High.

**Orders close 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016.**

Regards  
Penny Smith  
PDHPE teacher Mudgee High School

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## ORDER FORM – HATS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

VISOR



(ONE SIZE FITS ALL)

CAP



(ONE SIZE FITS ALL)

BROAD BRIM



(XS, S, M, L)

BUCKET HAT



(XS, S, M, L)

Please tick the box and indicate sizes XS, S, M, L

## **Christmas Giving Tree**

From November 28<sup>th</sup> the SRC will be collecting non-perishable items and gifts for Barnardos to benefit our local community, alternatively these can be delivered to the School Library.

As items are for gifting please ensure they are suitable and of good quality.

## **World Vision**

This year The SRC would also like to support World Vision. They would like to purchase items for a third world community such as a cow, toilet or access to a teacher.

Cash donations can be given to Mr McNeill at the English staff room from 28<sup>th</sup> November until the end of term.



## **SPONSORSHIP**

**MUDGE HIGH SCHOOL – LINK PROGRAM  
GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY  
GLENCORE**

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