

Monday

5 June 2017

Term 2 – Week 7



MHS Newsletter

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A Member of the
Cudgong Learning
Community



SEE OUR WEBSITE
FOR THE FULL
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Coming Events:

- June 16 – Yr 11 & 12 vaccinations
- June 19 – Yr 11 Reports issued
- June 30 – Yrs 7-10 Reports, Silver & Gold Awards issued

This issue:

- Principal's Message
- P&C Awards
- SRR Award
- Yr8 Maths Day
- PBL Focus
- Enid Presentation
- Reduce Speed –lcy Conditions
- Science Experience
- Glencore Apprenticeship Information
- Community Announcements
- Sponsorship

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The importance of the spoken word

Now and again, I am let off the leash. Now and again, I get to accompany kids from Mudjee High to an event where they stretch their figurative academic and linguistic legs and in the process and without fail, demonstrate themselves to be wonderful ambassadors for our school and indeed our community.

On Thursday, together with Mrs Willetts, I took a band of debaters and public speakers away to a place where they engaged with kids of similar ages in some serious verbal jousting. On Thursday, several teams of students proficient in what is a distinctly human facility – the ability to speak – headed off to the 51st Lithgow Festival of Speech.

You should be in no doubt that words are powerful. The archaeological record suggests strongly that the spoken word is somewhere between 50,000 and 200,000 years old, as old as *Homo Sapiens*. Indeed, it may be much older in that the physiology of *Homo Neanderthalis*, a sub species that appeared about 400,000 years ago, is so similar to that of modern humans that language was almost certainly one of that species' evolutionary achievements.

By way of comparison, written language is a relative newcomer. Writing began with numbers before the long, slow gestation of written words around 5,500 years ago. It would seem our species were accountants and auditors long before we became chronologists and novelists.

Spoken language almost certainly led to the cultural explosion of 50,000 years ago. At that time and across the planet, human populations began to engage in a range of exciting and new cultural practices. As a species, we began painting as art, the manufacture of sophisticated jewellery, the production of advanced stone tools, the practice of complex ritual systems and social structures. We became boat-builders and, tied to this, improved anglers – something of which Mr Browning and Mr Whittington would approve. We also became accomplished travellers.

With language, prehistoric “teachers” could teach and learned skills could be effectively passed on.

So speaking is quite an evolutionary advantage. It has allowed us to develop the material culture we now possess and be this planet's dominant species.

It is therefore incumbent upon us to insist as parents, carers and teachers that the children in our care embrace opportunities to develop their oratory skills. The ability to be able to speak well and in the company of strangers or to large assemblies of others is considered so important that it is mandated in both the junior and senior English syllabuses.

Now I get that some people find speaking in public challenging. That is understandable. It can be a stressful experience, but stress alone is not an excuse to resist. Life is a series of new challenges. Learning to drive, applying for a job and leaving home can all be challenging, but few of us would expect our kids to take up permanency in the nest, embrace lifelong unemployment or be chauffeured to and from the places they go.



School is about "raising the bar." It is about understanding where kids are at and challenging them to push on to the next level. It is about improvement. It is about understanding personal limitations and then working to grow beyond them.

Critical thinking is very much tied to language proficiency. The greater one's vocabulary, the more able one is to make their thoughts known. At the conclusion of the Lithgow Festival of speech, I knew a great deal more about what our kids think of the idea of sports people being accountable for their public lives, the relative merits of free popcorn at the cinema, and the culpability of the fast food giants in Australia's ever-widening obesity crisis.

An inability to speak has a name: aphasia. What a wearisome world this would be if aphasia were the order of the day. How boring it would be if the gift of language and the power that is the spoken word were not able to be taken out for a spin. Thanks for letting me come along for that spin last Thursday Emma Clulow, Claire Finter, Isabelle Hauville, Maree Ioane, Luncida Lillis, Blake Micallef, Isabella Shearman, Phoebe Smith, Ethan Spice, Lara Stubbs, Daniel Trevethan, Ashley-Kate Wright and Hilary Wright. It was a good day.

Until next week...

Wayne Eade
Principal



TERM 2 WEEK 5 AWARDS

P & C AWARDS: Emily Cowden – Yr 7, Claire Anderson – Yr 8, April Cain – Yr 9, Matthew Chapman – Yr 10, Melanie Close – Yr 11, Thomas Burke – Yr 12

SRR AWARD: Arian Pearson – Yr 7

YEAR 8 MATHS DAY

Friday 12th May saw a team of four very keen Year 8 Mathematics students rise very early to get to Armidale's University of New England for a Year 8 Mathematics activity day. William Evans, Ruby Forrest, Lara Stubbs and Travis McDonald, accompanied by their teacher Miss Jodie Palmer and parent Mrs Michelle Evans, participated in a day full of age appropriate mathematics based problem-solving questions encompassing both non-routine and real-life problems. This was also a fantastic opportunity for school groups to work collaboratively and students from different schools to socialise.

All students gave very positive feedback, recommending the day to anyone interested. They not only competed against some tough schools academically, they were given a tour of the university.

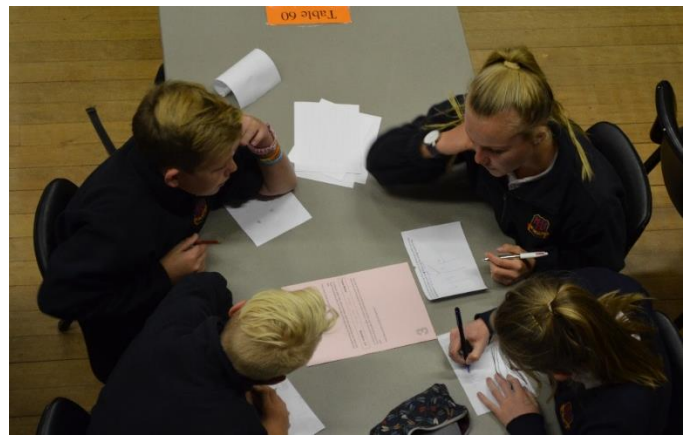
These students performed very well, placing in the top 25% of 64 participating teams coming from all over the New England Region and broader NSW, including some of the so-called elite private schools in the area.

One of the sample problems from the day:

The larger of two integers is $\frac{5}{2}$ the smaller.

If twice the smaller is subtracted from twice the larger, the difference is 12.

Find the two numbers 10 and 4



AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Once again, Mudgee High School invites students to accept the challenge that this competition offers. The AMC is primarily aimed at our more capable mathematicians in each year group but is open to all students. Questions range from basic skills such as:

$0.8(0.3 + 0.7)$ equals

- (A) 0.94 (B) 0.08 (C) 0.176 (D) 0.8 (E) 8

The above question is from a Junior (year 7/8) practice paper. Then of course the level of question continues through to the following (from a Senior (y11/12) practice paper) and beyond.

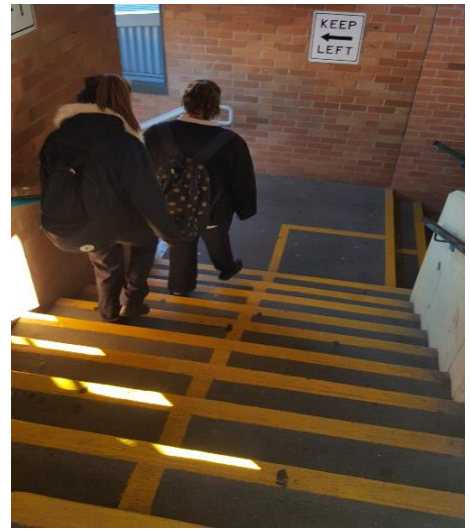
The smallest value of $x^2 + y^2$ on the line $4y + 3x = 12$ is

- (A) $\frac{144}{25}$ (B) 9 (C) 16 (D) $\frac{81}{25}$ (E) 25

Students wishing to seek practice papers can do so by approaching Mr. Lynn in the Mathematics staffroom. The cost of the competition is **\$6 and needs to be paid to the front office before the 23rd of June**. The competition takes place on Thursday 27th July (Week 2 Term 3) during periods 1 and 2. Any further queries regarding this can be directed to Mr. Lynn.

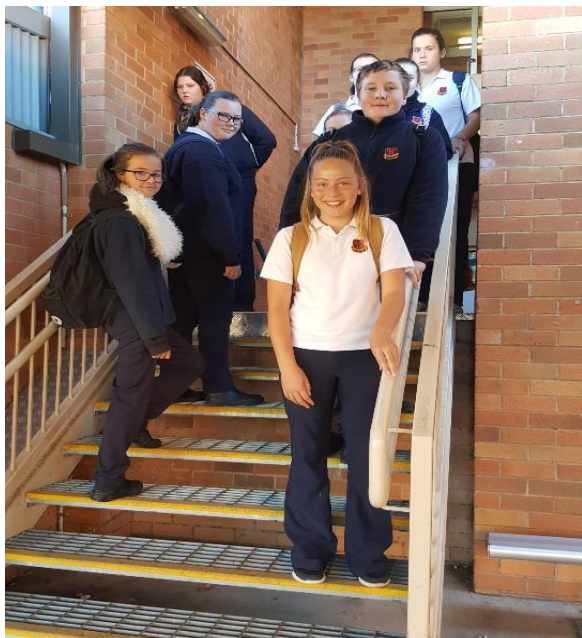
PBL Focus this week

Mudgee High School is a positive behaviour for learning school. We expect all students to follow our universals and be **SAFE, RESPECTFUL** and **RESPONSIBLE** in the hallways and stair areas



To be Safe.

- . Follow staff instructions
- . Walk on the left side
- . Take care with your school bags
- . Wait against the wall near your classroom



To be Responsible:

- . Move quickly and quietly between lessons
- . Allow room for others to pass where necessary

To be Respectful

- . Show consideration for staff and students as you move between classes



ENID PRESENTATION

Recently Year 9 and 10 girls attended a presentation called

ENID Aim High. Think Big.

The presentation discussed a range of topics including:-

- See what opportunities are out there and how to achieve them
- Get inspired to create your dream career
- Discover what's next: travel, work or study
- Build your own personal networks

We received an email from the presenters, which is included below.

Thank you so much again for having us (and for being such a great help in organising the trip) - we absolutely loved working with your girls!

We've collated the feedback: 56% of girls said they "loved it" and 29% said they had "good times" (our top two responses)! Great news all round!

When asked to describe ENID in 3 words, here are a few of our favourite responses:

- *Intriguing, interesting & inspiring*
- *Inspiring & courage building*
- *Inspiring, bubbly & relatable*
- *Trusting, education & entertainment*

When asked to for any final comments for ENID, here are a few of our favourite responses:

- *You made me realise what are my goals in life so thank you*
- *The girls were really nice and relatable and they seemed really cool and easy to have a conversation with Such an inspiring talk. It made me realise that it's okay to be me*
- *I loved every minute of it! You both spoke clearly and were able to convey a positive message.*

Thank you again - we'd love to work with your girls in the future!

*Sign up: www.eenidnetwork.com
enid@enidnetwork.com*

REDUCE SPEED ICY CONDITIONS AHEAD!



Our school in partnership with Roads and Maritime Services are concerned with the safety of our students and staff and their families especially when commuting to and from school during the winter months.

Winter weather is unpredictable and there can be sudden drops in temperature that mean road conditions can change quickly and driving on icy roads can be challenging, even for experienced motorists on the roads they know well.

Roads and Maritime Services are urging motorists to take extra care when driving during winter by reducing speed, especially in icy conditions.

Quick Checklist for Safe Motoring in Icy conditions –

- Obey speed advisory signs and be prepared to reduce speed in line with the conditions
- Be alert for ice on the road particularly in shaded or low lying areas
- Drive with your headlights on

“If you do hit ice, travelling at a reduced speed will help you to maintain control of the vehicle and reduce the force of the impact if there's a collision,” the Roads and Maritime spokesperson highlighted.

For more information on road and weather conditions call the Transport Management Centre on 132 701 (24 hours) or visit www.livetrafficnsw.com.au



THE CONOCO PHILLIPS SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

Nationwide STEM outreach program for Students in year 9 or 10 in 2017

A three-day or four day hands-on practical STEM program, will be conducted again in 33 Australian universities and tertiary institutions throughout 2017-2018. The programs are non-selective and open to all students in Years 9 and 10. Each program includes a wide variety of practical activities, excursions, career information together with interesting presentations by leading Australian scientists and engineers.

This is a Rotary Youth Services Project, supported by the Australian Science Teachers Association and The Young Scientists of Australia. Local Rotary clubs are often willing to sponsor students to attend, so please contact your local Rotary club for details, if funding is required.



Enjoy 3 or 4 days of science, engineering, technology & mathematics



Perform interesting experiments in a university laboratory



Hear leaders in science, technology and engineering speak



Learn about careers in the science area



Located on 33 campuses nationally see the where and when page on our website.



Financial assistance maybe available for those who require it through the local Rotary club.



Cost \$150 for the 3 day program, \$200 for the 4 day program



For the full brochure and other information are available from your school science teacher or The ConocoPhillips Science Experience website www.conocophillips-scienceexperience.com.au or by phoning 03 9256 7534 or email admin@scienceexperience.com.au. The ConocoPhillips Science Experience, PO Box 158 Monbulk, Vic 3773.





APPRENTICESHIPS *with* GLENCORE

“Earning while I learn is perfect for me. I wouldn’t trade this opportunity for anything.”

Glencore Coal Assets Australia Apprenticeship Intake 2018

Glencore is one of the world’s largest globally diversified natural resource companies and a major producer and marketer of more than 90 commodities.

The Glencore Apprenticeship Intake for 2018 will be offering positions in Electrical and Mechanical trades across our New South Wales operations.

Training will involve a mix of on-site, off-site and TAFE training.

Candidates will need to have completed at least Year 10 to be eligible.

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Apply now at www.glencore.com/careers

GLENCORE

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**23RD ANNUAL MUDGEES BASKETBALL DEBUTANTE
BALL**

**Registrations for Expressions of Interest are now
being taken for intending debutantes and their
partners from years 10, 11 & 12,
for the 23rd Annual Mudgee Basketball Debutante
Ball, to be held Saturday 5th August 2017.**

***Please ring or text Helen, on 0427 220 776 for
enquiries or to register, by Friday 9th June 2017.***



MPAS' much awaited 2017 pantomime production of "Robin Hood" opens
June 16 at Mudgee's iconic Town Hall Theatre!

Cheer the dashing outlaws! Boo the wicked Sheriff! Gasp at the amazing
swordfighting! Shudder at the One Doored Tower of Doom!

Terrific panto fun for all ages!

Dates: 16th, 17th, 18th, 23rd, 24th and 25th June. Matinees available.

**Cost: Adults \$20, Conc \$15 (High School student, senior), Child \$10 (primary and preschool)
Family \$50 (2 adults and 2 primary aged children).**

**Tickets: Online at mpas.org.au, over the counter (cash only) from Hannaford Cox, Market
St (between the Library and the Anglican Church). Please book early – assigned seating and
our pantos usually sell out.**

Info: 0458 017 527 or 63723592 Or like MPAS on Facebook!

YOUTH COUNCIL MOVIE NIGHT



LOOKING FOR ALIBRANDI 7.30PM

FRIDAY 16 JUNE
THE STABLES, MARKET
STREET MUDGEES

\$3 for 1 movie OR
\$5 for 2 movies
Snacks for sale



FINDING DORY 6PM



For further information phone
Virginia Handmer 6357 5000



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