Welcome back to Spring Term 2012, the final term of the Year for Transition to Year 6 and the beginning of a new Academic Year for students in Year 8 to Year 12.

Students in the Middle School and Senior School have all received their new 2013 Diaries and those students commencing Year 8 to Year 12 have received their new timetables and book packs. The new Academic Year always brings opportunities for a fresh start and to set new goals and work conscientiously towards them.

With the new Academic Year, I was delighted to be able to induct the new Prefects and House Captains on Monday and we wish them well as they take on their leadership responsibilities across the School.

Could I please ask you to keep the HSC cohort who began their examinations on Monday in your prayers. The students should feel well prepared for their examinations with a significant number of students making wonderful use of Champ Camp and the Seminar and Consultation Week last week. The teachers focus on the HSC cohort at this critical time is such a blessing and I would like to thank these staff for all the extra time and effort they have given to seeing the students well prepared.

All parents should have received from me a mail out earlier this week introducing the one to one iPad roll out, that when complete, will see each student in the secondary years issued a personalised device. This innovation is not so much about the hardware but about the potential it has in changing the teaching and learning dynamic.

Technology to date has provided wonderful tools that have aided teaching and learning. The iPad and other mobile devices have the capacity to do so much more. The ability for teachers to create content, for students to access electronic text books and for communicating in the ‘world’ with which they are so familiar, has transforming capacities.

While the roll out and full infrastructure required will not be complete until next year, 2013 provides a year to set up the procedures and structures needed and the opportunity to pilot them with Year 7 and Year 8. The staff and I are confident that this innovation will be a great blessing to our students.

Works by Sydney Water

Parents could not have failed to notice the work that Sydney Water has been conducting on Cobbitty Road outside the School gates. It has been a great frustration to the School that while a general notice was given, no specific information was forthcoming regarding dates and times. As a result the scheduled work has created considerable inconvenience to the School and parents. The School, along with a number of parents, have contacted Sydney Water concerning the disruption. I am pleased to say that Sydney Water have now agreed to commence the work at 9.00am each day easing the morning congestion. The frustrating news is that the work is likely to be ongoing for at least four weeks.
Imagine a world without teenagers (perhaps you’re thinking of Eden). You may be surprised but you don’t have to travel so far back in time to encounter such a world. Before 1921 no teenagers existed. In 1921 the word ‘teen-age’ (as an adjective) appeared for the very first time in a Canadian journal. It took a further two decades for the hyphenated noun ‘teen-ager’ to come into common usage. Prior to this time one was either a child or an adult….and an adult was twenty-one years old or older!

Much and all as some might like it we cannot wind back the clock. ‘Teenagers’ (without the hyphen) are here to stay and no denying their existence can make them go away. I for one, am glad. I like young people and that’s why I went into teaching. They are indeed a special group (albeit sometimes challenging) with particular strengths and particular needs.

In recent years we have seen the emergence of a further demographic – the ‘Tweenager’. The tweenager is a preadolescent from about nine years old to twelve or thirteen. The onset of puberty usually marks the end of one’s ‘tween’ years. You may have noticed that our tween girls have put their Barbies away long before their mothers did at the same age. Similarly, the boys show less interest in imaginary games than their fathers did at the same age. Instead our children are ‘up-aging’. The iPod and iPhone and other gadgetry are the new toys…toys shared by the teenager. Even scientific evidence suggests that the average age at which the onset of puberty occurs has dropped significantly since the 1840s.

I don’t doubt that many of you, like me, lament this up-aging and loss of childhood. But like the teenager, the tweenager is not going away. In fact, we helped create the tweenager. It was our generation who introduced them to baby chinos and replaced the Kraft slices with Camembert...what were we thinking?? Add slick marketing, a few episodes of Hannah Montana, Bratz Dolls and Justin Bieber and the tweenager is born and is here to stay...whether we like it or not.

And now what to do? How do we manage this? Resist? Give over to this emergence completely?

Macarthur’s answer has been to bring Years 5-6 into the Middle School. To shield our students from unnecessary and inappropriate up-aging, but to recognise the new demographic and guide students appropriately through this important stage of their development. And so Years 5 and 6 are separate in some ways, still being taught and guided in a primary setting so as to preserve those essential elements of childhood, but gradually included, where appropriate, in the bigger world of a secondary context.

Macarthur’s independence and K-12 context allows us to adapt cautiously to the changes so evident in society without the frustration of outdated and outmoded structures. In the opinion of so many, parents, teachers and students, the Middle School structure in serving us well.

Andrew Kokic

MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL presents a production of
Charles Dickens’
A Christmas Carol
Adapted for the stage by ANTHONY E. POLERMO
Musical score composed and arranged by ANTHONY E. POLERMO
Donation at the door
Tickets available on Macarthur website
7.00pm 2 and 3 November
Welcome back to a new Academic Year. I am sure the students are excited about their new timetables and classes.

**Assessments and Assessment Calendars**
A change has been made to the way students receive assessment calendars from the start of Spring Term. Students will no longer receive a print out of the due dates of assessments for the entire year. Instead all assessment dates will be uploaded to the School’s website. To access these dates you need to click on Parents and then click on Calendars. These are available now for Spring Term 2012 and will be available for the remainder of the academic year before the start of Summer Term in January. Students will be shown how to access this information during House Group and are reminded to check the dates regularly in case of changes. However, changes will only occur because of unforeseen issues.

At Macarthur, we are placing an equal emphasis on ongoing assessment tasks as well as tests and examinations. Importantly, the ongoing assessment tasks are aimed at providing students with guidance of how they can further improve rather than just being a measure of what they have learnt.

**Warren Scholarship (Year 11 2013)**
At the end of Winter Term students in Year 11 (2013) were invited to apply for the Warren Scholarship. The Warren Scholarship is awarded to a student entering Year 11 in recognition of their demonstrated leadership skills and leadership potential. The Scholarship is open to both current and future students of Macarthur.

Full details and applications forms for this award are available from Miss Willsmore, the Headmaster’s Personal Assistant and applications close on 26 October 2012.

Those students short-listed will be required to attend an interview with the Headmaster in Spring Term. The Warren Scholar will be announced at Speech and Awards Night.

**Reports**
Parents will soon receive the Semester Two Reports for students who are now in Years 8–12. These reports will give parents an indication of your child’s application and achievement. The 1–5 grades are used for effort, organisation and behaviour with a 3 being Satisfactory. The A-E grades used on these reports demonstrate your child’s achievement according to statewide standards.

**Scott Bedingfield**

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**Join us for:**
**Twilight Christmas**
**At The Chapel**

**Sunday 16th Dec, 2012**
Family Barbeque from 6pm and Carols from 7pm
The Castle of Adventure- Bible Holiday Club

Damsels with beautiful hats and tunics; knights with tunics and helmets with face visors and plenty of team leaders dressed in tunics or long dresses were seen entering across the drawbridge into the ‘Castle of Adventure’!

The occasion was the Bible Holiday Club and the Chapel was transformed into a castle with much of the action happening in the ‘Great Hall’.

Much fun was had as the forty or so different K-6’s were led by a terrific ministry team of twenty-two high schoolers and seven adults. The costumes were kept on for the whole four days of an enjoyable holiday program.

Each morning the student band would lead singing followed by an episode of ‘Rory in the Castle of Adventure’ and a Bible talk and Memory Verse. Lots of craft and activity in small groups was followed by sports - including a medieval sports carnival!

In a delightful way we learned about what it means to follow Jesus as we reflected on Rory’s choices to follow the Lord of the Castle and shun the Black Knight.
HICES Debating Results 2012

HICES Debaters have done very well this year – engaging in some lively and at times close debates. Both the Middle (Year 7/8) and Senior Debating (Year 9/10) Teams are in the younger age bracket for their category, so next year augurs well as these two teams will debate again in the same division.

The new structure of HICES debating this year has meant that we have often traveled long distances after school to debate at different schools in the region. This requires commitment from students, parents and coaches. We are delighted to say that the students’ behaviour, presentation and sportsmanship has again been of a particularly high standard. Thank you, both students and parents for your commitment to HICES debating and your efforts this year.

The debaters in the Middle Competition deserve special mention for their efforts and success having progressed to the Quarter Final against Central Coast Grammar School. Unfortunately they did not win this debate, but have nevertheless done very well to progress this far, and by all accounts thoroughly enjoyed competing this year.

The team consisted of

Julia Kokic, Aidan Gandy, Noah Gray, Stephanie Hennings, Emma Whitelaw, Matilda Offord, Kaitlin Taylor and Kiara Watson

A number of students have also received awards for Best Debater Preliminary Rounds or Best Debater Preliminary Rounds Runner Up in their division within the Southern region. This is an outstanding achievement.

These students are

Sophie Frankum Best Debater Preliminary Rounds Runner up Junior Division
Jessica McLean Best Debater Preliminary Rounds Runner up Junior Division
Sarah Stone Best Debater Preliminary Rounds Runner up Senior Division

Eve House Best Debater Preliminary Rounds Runner up Open Division
Emily Mackie Best Debater Preliminary Rounds Runner up Open Division

Special mention must also go to Julia Kokic who had the honour of being timekeeper for the HICES Middle Division Grand Final Debate in Sydney last week. Julia has also been awarded the Overall Winner of the Best Debater Prize in the Preliminary Rounds of the HICES Middle Division. Congratulations Julia, on an outstanding achievement.

MISA Debating Results 2012

This year’s Year 8 MISA debating team consisted of

Courtney Hayes, Tate Lindsay, Madeline Elliott, Isabel Ingram and Mitchell Biggart

The competition this year was very strong with many close debates and our team debated very well, gaining confidence each week. We won two of our five debates but unfortunately did not make the Grand Final. A continued focus on rebuttal and technique though should see some excellent results when this team enters HICES Senior Division in 2013. The behaviour, presentation and graciousness of these students when visiting other schools is exemplary. It was a pleasure to work with them and I look forward to working with them again in the future.

Amanda Metua
Co-ordinator Debating and Public Speaking

Vaccination Reminder

Year 7 will have their last vaccinations on the morning of Wednesday 24 October with NSW Health at school.

Final doses of Hepatitis B and of Gardisal (HPV) for girls will be given. Only those who have had the previous doses at school will be vaccinated.

Any queries please contact Sister Cameron 4629-6214
Welcome back to our last term of 2012. It is hard to believe Christmas is just around the corner! At the end of last term Macarthur participated in Relay for Life. I am pleased to report back that our team raised in excess of $2,000. Thank you to all who supported this event. It was great to see our school family connect with our wider Macarthur Community in support. Camden area raised $200,000 over the weekend for the Cancer Council.

Macarthur has committed to repairing a community wagon. It is to be restored to working order and the School has partnered with the Camden Historical Society in this venture. I am pleased to let you all know that we have been successful in securing a grant of $5,000 to start this project. If you have any interest or expertise in this field please contact Mr Tim Cartwright. Tim will be heading up the Wagon Restoration Team.

It is with much sadness we bid farewell to Macarthur’s Talk Back Thursday leader, Jane Gray who has retired from the leaders position. Thank you Jane for all your effort over the years leading this group. T.B.T has needed to undergo changes and will now be held on a Wednesday. It will from this week forward be known as Women on Wednesday (WOW). We welcome Debbie Bannister as new leader of this group. WOW will continue being held in the After School Care Room commencing with coffee at 8.30am. The session will be completed by 10.00am. All welcome including children.

The School Calendar is well underway for 2013. There are only a couple of advertising spots left. If this opportunity resonates with you please contact me for more information on spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au.

Community Chat

**Art4Agriculture Archibull Prize**

Once again Macarthur Anglican School is taking part in the Art4Agriculture Archibull Prize. We are learning all about WOOL and how it is sustainable. Our task is to complete three components by 6 November this year. They are:

1. Weekly Blog on Wool written by our students
2. Video presentation of our learning journey on the sustainability of Wool
3. The painted cow. This task requires us to paint a life-size fibreglass cow into the story of wool.

Students from Years 7-9 have been meeting each Wednesday lunchtime in SC2 to prepare for our tasks.

Abbey Glover, Kaitlin Taylor, Laura Perich, Asheligh Sherrell, Cate Ward, Sofia Seaton and Isabella Nesci came to school in the holidays to get working on the painted cow, blog and video. The cow (named Shorna) went up to the Uniform shop to get outfitted in the School WOOL blazer. We have enlisted the wonderful support of Mrs Stovell in the artistic design of our cow.
W@M will host a Pink Ribbon Luncheon next Monday. Thank you to all who have committed to attending this event. This event is being held in Bistro Calavia this year. I will include photos in the next Bulletin.

M@M will be hosting another early morning BBQ breakfast for the Dad’s of the School. Please place Friday 26 October in your diaries men. This event will be held on the grass area adjacent to the School Café. It will commence at 7.00am and conclude at 8.30am. Spend as much time as you are able meeting with each other.

M@M will be holding a short planning meeting directly after the BBQ Friday 26 October. Please let me know if you are interested in being a part of this great team in 2013. Women interested in being a part of W@M should also contact me for more information.

Please remember to use our Community Partners where possible. Matthew Chisholm from Chisholm and Turner Travel Associates, Kylie Lyons from Handprint Photography and Angela and Matthew Daley from MAD Excavations and Landscaping are always happy to assist you. Please support those who support Macarthur.

For more information about any of these events, please contact Mrs Sharon Pascoe-Thomas.

Aidan Gandy (Year 7) represented Softball Macarthur in the Under 13 Representative Boys team. They were runners up in the Ghosts Classic at Ingleburn in July, winners at the Regional Championships at Hawkesbury in August and winners at the State Championships on the Central Coast during September. Aidan was nominated for the Rising Star programme following his participation in the State Championships.

Mitchell Robinson, Year 9, competed in the GKR Karate NSW State titles on 16 September and received a Bronze medal in the 14-15yrs Kata event and a Bronze medal in the 14-15yrs Kumite (sparring) event.

Gold Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulations to James Sawyer, Roseanna Raymond and Blair Cameron (Year 12 2007) who have been awarded their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. They will be presented their awards either later in the year or early next year at a vice-regal ceremony.

With grateful thanks to our Annual Community Partners
The State Interschools Snowsports event was held from 23-26 August 2012 at Thredbo. Macarthur was well represented with fourteen students across four disciplines. We had students compete in Snowboard Giant Slalom, Snowboard Cross, Skier Cross and Giant Slalom.

Students must be invited to participate in this tournament through competing at the Regional competition in the July School Holidays. The top five teams and up to the top ten individuals are invited through as long as they achieve competitive times.

Congratulation to all our State Competitors: Alexander Lintern (Yr 12), Jackson Bartlett (Yr 12), Elliott Russell (Yr 12), Matthew Egan (Yr 11), Luke Kennedy (Yr 11), Tegan Bremner (Yr10), Montana Byers (Yr 10), Emma Cosier (Yr 10), Nicholas Masjuk (Yr 10), Bessie-Lucile Platt (Yr 10), Edward Oliver (Yr 9), Addison Kubik (Yr 8), Callum Masjuk (Yr 5) and Sascha Masjuk (Yr 1).

Macarthur as a school finished fourteenth in the State in the girls and twenty-third in the State in the boys. Considering the high quality competition this is a pleasing result and we are very proud of our student efforts.

The following results were exceptional and these students were invited through to the Australian Interschools tournament. To participate in this event you need to be in the top five teams or be one of the top ten individuals in the State.

- Montana Byers (Year 10) fifth in the State in Giant Slalom and seventh in Australia in Skier Cross.
- Emma Cosier (Year 10) tenth in the State in Snowboard Cross.
- Tegan Bremner finished twenty-seventh in Snowboard Cross.

Congratulations to all these students and there is no doubt we are looking forward to continued success in 2013.

2013 Snowsports
The dates for the Macarthur Snowsports programme should be as follows (this will be confirmed shortly):

- Macarthur Snowsports Camp – Sunday 30 June - Tuesday 2 July 2013 at Thredbo
- Regional Interschools – Wednesday 3 - Saturday 6 July 2013 at Perisher
- Scots and Redlands Cups (TBC) – Sunday 7 - Tuesday 9 July 2013 at Perisher and Thredbo

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate contacting me.

Scott Bedingfield
Snowsports Co-ordinator
Welcome Back to Spring Term
A warm welcome back to Spring Term to all our families. It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of yet another year in the life of our school. Our teachers only have a number of weeks to further prepare the boys and girls for the next stage of their schooling. After speaking with most of the students it seems that they had a wonderful holiday with their family and friends. It is delightful to hear about the exciting traveling opportunities many of our students are given.

Sports Equipment Arrives
Our Junior School shed is now almost full to the brim with equipment for use in fitness and PE lessons across the T-6 classes. The equipment will also be available for the students to use at lunchtime.
Money to purchase this much needed equipment was primarily donated by our generous parents. Other money was also provided in the form of a grant from our participation in the Live Life Well at School programme.

Word Mania
Students are encouraged to register for the Word Mania Challenge at www.wordmania.com.au. Literacy Planet and Nickelodeon have teamed up to design an Australian competition that promotes literacy in a fun and exciting way. The aim being to boost literacy standards in Australia.

The game involves building as many words as possible from 15 given letters. There are lots of prizes to win including i-pads, i-pod touch’s, trophies and certificates. I would encourage all the boys and girls aged 5-12 to register and contribute to the goal of trying to create one million minutes of literacy across the nation.

Special Events
Rehearsals are underway for the upcoming T-2 Christmas Concert to be held on Wednesday 5 December in the gymnasium. This year will see a change in format to the K-4 Presentation Day on Monday 10 December. We look forward to seeing all K-4 parents in attendance at this very important event for the Junior School. We will celebrate the achievements of our students in the many different areas across our school. There will also be performances from the Junior School Choir, Handbells Ensemble, Recorder Ensemble and Junior School String Ensemble. What a wonderful way to conclude the year.
On the first Saturday of the recent holidays, two boys and two girls soccer teams were invited to play in the Tiger Shield primary school soccer tournament at Ron Dine Oval, South Camden. Macarthur Anglican School was one of twenty-five public, independent and Catholic schools represented in the competition. Macarthur’s four teams combined with another fifty-nine teams that were organised into a comprehensive draw of Yr 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 boys and girls categories. This was a huge logistical challenge which was managed most effectively by Camden Tigers Soccer Club.

Each game was fifteen minutes long and started and finished at the sound of a siren through the loud speakers. No time for a break at half time - the clock kept ticking! The main strategy was to attack and make the most of every opportunity score within that short time frame. Macarthur’s Junior and Senior boys teams had some success with scoring during their three qualifying games, but not enough to secure wins and a place in the quarterfinals. The Junior and senior Girls’ teams, however, were successful in qualifying for the next stage but lost to strong teams, St Clare’s and Mawarra Public School respectively, who continued on to compete in the grand finals. Although the Macarthur teams finished early, the final rounds continued until nearly 4.00pm, after which ABC sport’s commentator Debbie Spillane presented the grand final school teams their trophies and medals.

The tournament was a great opportunity for the students to be involved in a local community event along with nearly nine hundred other young soccer enthusiasts. It was a beautiful spring day for soccer and the boys and girls loved the fast paced nature of the games. Each student is to be congratulated on their fabulous effort, and the way their respectful behaviour and sporting spirit reflected so positively on the community of Macarthur Anglican School.

Camden Tigers Soccer Club is to be congratulated on hosting and organising such a successful event. Sincere thanks goes to our wonderful parent body that supported our students and Mr Groves and Mr Wood throughout the day! Special thanks to our super coaches, Mr Neil Pash and Mr Jonathan Fielder, and a particular mention must be made of Mrs Sandra Pash’s outstanding effort in washing and folding all forty-eight soccer shirts!

Andrew Wood and Peter Groves
Students in the Junior Literacy Class recently enjoyed a visit from former Macarthur student and member of the Australian Youth Paralympian team, April Bamford. April brought along many of her medals that she has won in swimming, track and field, as well as photos. She shared with the students how she became involved in paralympic sports, and how she did not let disability get in the way of achieving her goals. She reminded the students to trust in God, as all things are possible through Him. Many of the students were motivated by her determination to succeed and to persevere at a task. Since leaving school, April has continued her involvement in wheelchair sports and rowing and is hoping to gain a place in the 2016 Paralympic team competing in Rio.

Mrs Susan Byers
Learning Support Co-ordinator
At the end of Winter term Year 1 and Year 2 visited Featherdale Wildlife Park as a culminating activity for their study of Australian Animals. All the boys and girls had a fantastic time learning about many of our amazing Australian animals that God created. A special thank you goes to the many parents who came along to assist on the two excursions.
Welcome back to Spring Term!

I hope you and your family had an enjoyable holiday time together. I look forward to students in the Middle School continuing to be engaged and energised in classrooms as we undertake an exciting term – and the beginning of a new academic year for students in Years 8 and 9!

For students in Years 5 and 6 it is a time of reflection on 2012 as they re-evaluate the goals they have set for the year and work to attain them to reflect proudly on the uses the boys and girls have made of their God-given gifts and talents. It is also a time of preparation for 2013 as students prepare to move up a grade. Students in Year 5 are preparing to set an excellent example to the younger students, academically, socially and spiritually as they are soon to enter Year 6. It is also a time for Year 6 students to evaluate and work on their progress as they use this term to prepare effectively for their transition to secondary schooling.

For students in Year 8 and 9, a new academic year presents us with the opportunity to set new goals and study habits and routines to achieve to our best. What a great focus for us all as we undertake the Spring Term ahead of us!

The Spring Term promises to be busy but rewarding with the IPSSO Summer Finals for Year 5 and 6 to be conducted in addition to the Strings and Band Evening on Monday 5 November which will showcase the benefits of the music practice that students have undertaken all year.

The Bathurst Excursion for Year 5 and 6 is on 15 and 16 November. Please return forms and payment promptly for this activity. Year 6 students are also looking forward to celebrating their traditional bush dance at the end of the term on Thursday 6 December.

It was wonderful to have a visit from the local charity Boxes for Christmas last Friday with the Year 5 and 6 students performing important community service as a component of the visit.
Thank you Year 9....
Year 9 have been a wonderful year group over the course of 2012. Thank you for the increased application and diligence that you have applied to your studies and for your mature and responsible leadership of the students in the Middle School. You have provided a wonderful example for the next Year 9 to aspire to in their leadership and school work as well as giving yourselves an excellent foundation to build on as you progress into the Senior School.
Thank you for the memories and for being an enjoyable year group to work with!
P.S. Year 9 - I hope the selection of photographs brings back some memories of your time in the Middle School over the last few years!

ACHIEVEMENTS...

Congratulations to Renee Scheffer of Year 6 who achieved a Distinction from The Royal Academy of Dance for her Grade 5 Ballet Exam which she attended late last term.
AWARDS...

Head of Middle School Uniform and Mathletics Awards

Amera Sarkis
Samuel Egan

BOXES FOR CHRISTMAS VISIT

It was a pleasure to welcome Mrs Margaret Chivers, CEO of the local charity ‘Boxes for Christmas’ to the school last Friday. Margaret was able to present to the Year 5 and 6 students at a special assembly, explaining the work that her charity does to provide gifts to elderly folk in nursing homes on Christmas Day. The ladies and gentlemen to whom the charity caters would not otherwise receive a visit or gift at this special time as their immediate family have often passed away or reside interstate.

Students were privileged to wrap some of these gifts which will be delivered to nursing homes this Christmas and also donated balls of wool to the charity which will be used to create jumpers, blankets, scarves and the like for the elderly.

It is a very special thing for our students to be both exposed to, and to be able to act out our School Motto ‘Enter to Learn, Go Out To Serve’ and they conducted themselves admirably in this endeavour.

A hearty thank you to Margaret Chivers and her team members Suzanne and Rebecca for their time and efforts in being able to visit the School to both inform students about the important nature of charity work and to provide the children with a valuable opportunity to serve others.
The talented languages day at Teen Ranch in September was *asyik* (*awesome! in Indonesian*). The students enjoyed the wide variety of hands-on activities such as the QR Scavenger Hunt and Sate making. The amateur Indonesian chefs quickly completed the task of translating the recipe and started skewering the mixture. The clock wore on and we were forced to work faster before handing our sate to the resident Indonesian Master Chefs, Pak Blake, Elias Hordern and Marlee Priest to roast on our Barbecue.

Meanwhile we went on with our main activity for the day - filming a short movie for the MLTA Short Film Competition. We came up with many great ideas but in the end the People’s Choice Award for the best film was won by Meghan Sproule, Courtney Hayes, Silky Aguilar-Perez and Elise Mackie.

All in all it was a great day, but the hardest part was trying to speak in Indonesian. I hope next year’s students enjoy it as much as we did.

*By Tate Lindsay and Austen Perich*

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Macarthur was proud to host a number of students from the local region on Friday 12 October to attend a range of seminars and workshops with gifted writers. All of the students who attended were extremely enthused by the day. Our thanks go to Mrs Margin for her outstanding organisation of the day.
Examinations conclude.... and a reminder!

With the conclusion of Yearly Examinations for students in Years 7-9, we now enter a time of reflection on our academic strengths and areas for improvement. It is a good time to seek feedback from teachers on examination and course results and to then look forward to the new academic year.

Many students have used the Study Skills Handbook, accessible through the Macarthur Intranet, to great advantage this examination period - it is a valuable tool to explore further in effectively preparing for the Spring Term.
On the first Saturday of the Spring break, two boys’ and two girls’ soccer teams were invited to play in the Tiger Shield Primary School Soccer Tournament at Ron Dine Oval, South Camden. Macarthur Anglican School was one of twenty-five public independent and Catholic schools represented in the competition. Macarthur’s four teams combined with another fifty-nine teams that were organised into a comprehensive draw of Yr 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 (Junior and Senior) boys’ and girls’ categories. This was a huge logistical challenge that Camden Tigers Soccer Club managed most effectively.

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Welcome back to school this Spring Term! The holidays gave the Senior students an opportunity to attend Duke of Edinburgh hikes and have fun leading younger students at the Bible Holiday Club where the theme was ‘Castle of Adventure’.

We will continue to pray for our students who began their Higher School Certificate examinations on Monday 15 October and will not finish until Thursday 8 November.

The start of the holidays was an opportunity for the 2012 Year 12 cohort to attend Champ Camp along with a number of staff. The students managed to complete approximately eight hours a day of study. The staff organised seminars and were able to give students practice responses.

The count down is on - only 86 school days

The new 2013 School Prefects attended Leadership Camp at Rathane last week where they had the opportunity to plan for the coming year and were challenged with the responsibilities before them. The Prefect Induction Service held on Monday 15 October has seen the students now sworn into office.

We wish these students all the best as they take on the responsibilities of leadership as Prefects and House Captains.

**Spring Term**

This term consists of a number of events for the Senior students.

The Year 10 Harbour Cruise on Friday 19 October is a new event this year and is a formal event to recognise the students entering the Senior School.

Other events through the Term are in place to recognise the students right of passage as they progress through the Senior school. With the conclusion of the School Certificate and the leaving age of students moving to seventeen years, we see the final year of the Year 10 Formal at Belgenny Farm on 7 November.

The Macarthur Ball on 26 October is always an enjoyable evening as the Year 12 students who are becoming the new leaders of the school and their parents are able to celebrate entering the final year of school together.

**2013 History Tour Update**

There will be a final information evening on Thursday 25 October at 7.00pm in the Chapel for those who are travelling to Europe on the History Tour in April 2013. A representative from Educational Travel Service will be available to answer any and all questions that parents may have regarding packing, expenses, etc.

A view from the Patonga Hike
OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

Making the most of opportunities as they arise.

Leadership Camp

Silver Hike - Patonga
STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR OCTOBER: TYPING VS HANDWRITING NOTES

Should students type or handwrite their notes?

Short answer, they are better off doing whatever the examination or test will be. So if the examination is handwritten, it is better to handwrite notes. This creates muscle memory, it sets up a pattern in the brain of what they will be doing in the examination. If they do not have examinations, then it does not really matter, they can choose to either type or handwrite their notes.

For students who do have written examinations, they are better off getting used to writing as much as possible, especially as these days students do less and less pen to paper and more and more on the keyboard. It is also argued that by writing the information, you set up pathways of familiarity and recognition in your brain that will kick in when you are in an examination situation.

On the other hand, some subjects have so much content that to try and wade through it with handwritten notes would take forever. A good compromise for students who would prefer to type is to start making initial notes on the computer as this allows you to cut and paste, group information and rearrange it with ease. Once you have a core set of notes completed, you may like to further summarise some sections on paper using a more graphical or visual form of note-taking such as mind-mapping. And when you are learning the notes, read a section, then see what you can write without looking, this way you will be testing if the information is in long-term memory and practicing your handwriting at the same time!

Given that students now have to be masters of both the pen and the keyboard it is important to develop both legible handwriting and touch typing skills.

The Study Skills Handbook site www.studyskillshandbook.com.au has sections that can help with both of these skills.

Visit the ‘Improving Handwriting’ section in the ‘Writing Skills’ unit (found on the home page) to learn lots of techniques to improve handwriting. The ‘Technology Tools’ unit (on the ‘For Students’ tab) has a section about learning touch typing with links to free online touch typing tutors. Being able to touch type will definitely make life easier for the students in the senior years and beyond. Ten minutes practice a day could end up making a big difference.

Parents may also like to click on the ‘For Parents’ tab, and then the articles button at the bottom of the page to read Rocky Biasi’s new article: ‘Motivating Your Student To Learn’.

Our school’s details to log in to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au are:

(click on the For Students tab).

Our school’s subscription details are -
Username: formasonly
Password: 27results
Williams Business College Information Night
11 October, 6.00pm
1 James Place, North Sydney
Talk to staff at Williams Business College about their Diploma and Bachelor courses, college life and the employment support Williams offers to its students.
For more information or to register contact Catherine on (02) 8263 1288 or email cgodwin@williams.edu.au
https://www.facebook.com/events/162273217244024/

UNSW Year 12 Parent & Student Information Evening
15 November, 6.00pm
Sir John Clancy Auditorium, Kensington Campus
This evening will provide students from Year 12 and their parents with an insight into the UNSW application and offer acceptance process, plus information on student services and other opportunities at the University. There will be presentations by speakers from across the university.
http://www.whatson.unsw.edu.au/events/view/83/year-12-parent---student-information-evening

Student Programs/Workshops:
UTS Discover Architecture Summer School
7–17 January, 10.00am to 4.00pm.
UTS School of Architecture, 702-730 Harris Street, Ultimo.
The UTS Discover Architecture Summer School is aimed at Year 11 students who are considering a career in architecture.
Students will get to explore the Sydney CBD, make models and drawings using advanced digital equipment, meet and work with architects working at a variety of levels, and more.
The course costs $599 and does not cover day-to-day costs such as meals, flights or accommodation.
For more information contact Joanne Kinniburgh on joanne.Kinniburgh@uts.edu.au or call 02 9514 8849.
http://www.utsarchitecture.net/discoverarchitecture/

Taronga Western Plains Zoo Meet a Keeper
20 November, 9.30am to 3.30pm
Taronga Western Plains Zoo Education Centre, Obley Road, Dubbo
This one day intensive program will allow students to find out all they want to know about a zoo keeper’s career and to experience first-hand a day in the life of a keeper.
During the day students will learn about all aspects of zoo keeping, including the qualifications required, career opportunities, responsibilities, and more.
The program is only open to Year 9, 10 & 11 students who have a serious interest in zoo keeping as a career, and it costs $20 per student.
For more information contact Kim Wood on kwood@zoo.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 6881 1433.
http://www.taronga.org.au/node/6150

A Day @ UNSW – The UNSW Experience
27 November, 9.30am to 2.45pm
Kensington Campus
All of UNSW’s faculties are offering a range of activities, lectures and information to help students determine what university program is right for you. This day is designed to give students a taste of university life and find out if UNSW is right for them.
http://www.whatson.unsw.edu.au/events/view/90/a-day---unsw---the-unsw-experience-2

Apprenticeships/Traineeships:
NSW Government Apprenticeships and Traineeships
The NSW Government is offering a variety of apprenticeship and traineeships across the state in a range of positions.
https://jobsnsw.taleo.net/careersection/all_jumpstart_jobs/moresearch.ftl?lang=en&jobtype=8

Hitachi Construction Machinery Australia 2013 Apprenticeships
Hitachi Construction Machinery Australia is looking for people for their next intake of apprentices in 2013. Positions are open in Sydney for becoming a Heavy Vehicle Mobile Equipment Mechanic.
Applications can be made online, and for more information contact Garth Quinn or Huey Le on (02) 8863 4800.

For queries or information please contact Neil Davies at ndavies@macarthur.nsw.edu.au