



*Established traditions,
proven success!*

From The Headmaster's Desk

This week began with a significant event at Macarthur as we once again hosted the NASSA Cross Country. Since NASSA began, Macarthur has been the proud hosts of what has proven to be a wonderful carnival within this sporting association. The standard of competition continues to improve and I wish to congratulate those Macarthur students who represented our School so well at this carnival. To those who have progressed to represent NASSA at AICES or CIS we wish you well.

On sporting matters special mention needs to be made of Georgina Seton's recent achievements competing for CIS at the All Schools Swimming Championship. Georgina finished third in the U13 50m Breaststroke and fifth in the U13 100m Breaststroke. What fantastic results, congratulations Georgina.

Over this week there have been several Parent Teacher Interview evenings with others to be held in the coming week. These evenings are important events in the academic life of the students and I would encourage you to make every effort to be there. It is also important, particularly for the older children, that they attend these evenings along with parents. The benefit of engaging in conversation with the teacher, student and parent together is very powerful.

Next week is NAPLAN testing week. It needs to be said again in light of all the media attention that these tests receive, that NAPLAN is a useful tool when its purpose is understood. These tests should never be viewed as 'high stakes' tests and teachers at Macarthur do not make any special attempt to prepare our students for them. The results are very helpful to us as a School as we seek to plan

teaching and learning strategies for the individual students in our classes. However, as aggregated test results they are not useful at all. NAPLAN tests measure a very limited number of items and it is very easy for a student's results to be skewed on a day, either positively or negatively, with one correct or incorrect answer. To therefore overanalyse a student's academic performance, or indeed that of the entire cohort, is foolhardy in the least. In order to provide better data, Macarthur conducts its own diagnostic testing in the offset years to NAPLAN,

that is in Years 4, 6, 8 and 10. These tests have proved far more useful to our teachers as we track student progress.

For those who are intent on using NAPLAN as a comparison, no matter how misguided this is, no doubt Macarthur students

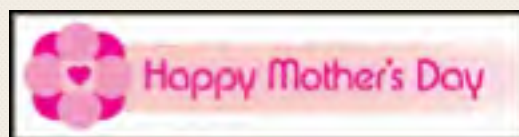
will again perform well. The real key is what the Macarthur teachers will do in light of the results, which only come out in September.

This Sunday is of course Mother's Day and I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all our marvellous Mums for your support of your children as they study at Macarthur. I, and the rest of the staff, wish you all a very Happy Mother's Day on Sunday.

I would like to particularly thank the Women@Macarthur for their organisation of the Mother's Day High Tea that takes place soon. The growing popularity of this event meant it sold out in record time!

CONGRATULATIONS

GEORGINA SETON
PLACING 3RD AND 5TH
REPRESENTING CIS AT THE
ALL SCHOOLS SWIMMING
CARNIVAL



From the Deputy Headmaster

'Soldier on, soldier on!' the Codral Cold and Flu ad tells us. And many of our students do just that. Our Senior School students particularly feel the burden of missing a day's work and the catch up this will involve. I can sympathise with them. A year 10, 11 or 12 student can miss a great deal of work in a single day.

Then of course there are those scenarios common to all parents of young children. You're running late for work, gulping your coffee and dragging the two children out the door when one of them says, 'mummy I feel really sick.' You don't want to acknowledge it because by doing so you will be forced to miss those appointments that just can't be missed. The child begins tearing up in the car, glassy-eyed and clearly feeling miserable. You arrive at school and with a late rush of guilt you give them a cure-all kiss and gently push them out the car.

These are common stories in most households. And the more we 'soldier on', the more we all suffer because schools, being what they are, are great breeding grounds for the spread of colds, flu and viruses. And so all of us - the teachers, students and parents need to think about the bigger picture.

After last weekend's cold snap the amount of coughs and sniffles in the student body has increased markedly. If your child is ill and especially if they are contagious, please keep them at home. All of our homes will be happier and healthier if we are diligent and don't send unwell children to school. I have given the same message to our teachers who often feel the same burden of responsibility.

Although we all like to think our workplace cannot survive without us for a day or two, the truth is it probably can and will. My long service leave last year was evidence of that. The business of school continued so well that I felt almost...well....redundant....(shhhh!)

Further, by occasionally staying home with your sick child you send them the message that although work is important, they are more important. And senior students need to know that their entire life ambitions will not be thwarted by a day or two at home recovering. We won't beat the army of Winter germs by 'soldiering on.'

Andrew Kokic

From the Dean of Studies

Assessments, Homework and Parental Involvement

The dilemma – my child has 3 assessment tasks due in Week 5. They also have homework for Maths and English. What do I do?

- a) help them organise how to manage these tasks
- b) do some or all of their tasks/HW for them
- c) sit with them and help them work out what to do
- d) leave them to work it out

If you answered 'b' you are not alone. In recent surveys overseas, 20% of parents in England (poll of 2000) and 43% of parents in the United States (poll of 778) admitted to doing their child's homework. I wonder what the percentage would be in Australia, or even at Macarthur?

It is important for parents to get involved in their child's learning and, indeed, we encourage this as studies show that parents who show an interest in their child's learning and learning goals have a positive impact on their academic success. However, parents who do their homework for their children are having a negative impact on their child's learning, independent thinking and academic achievement.

So, if you do your child's homework is it because you:

- a) want your child to get a higher grade
- b) feel the assessment task is too complex
- c) want to alleviate the stress levels your child or you experiencing
- d) want your child to spend more time with the family
- e) avoid family arguments

The above are all reasons cited by both teachers and parents as to why parents do their child's homework and/or assessments for children. By far the most common reasons were wanting children to attain a higher mark or reducing stress levels. The study revealed that "four in ten parents claimed they got a real 'buzz' if their child got top marks on a project they had helped with, while a third said they felt there was a competition between themselves and other parents when it comes to homework."

While some parents may feel like one or more of the above are valid reasons, doing your child's homework does not help your child learn or even take responsibility for themselves.

The tasks that parents are more likely to do are assignments that involve creativity, model construction or research (how many of you have made volcanoes, castles, solar system models or games?). Other parents write their child's essays or solve their maths problems.

Helping a child with homework is to be encouraged, especially one who is struggling with a complicated assignment. However, the line between parents helping and doing homework is becoming increasingly blurred.

Whatever the motive is, doing your child's homework or assignments has a proven detrimental impact on their learning. Apart from not learning additional skills or content associated with completing the homework or assignment, children who do not do their own homework do not learn how to be independent learners. Moreover, they lack the motivation to try their best in class. They also don't learn how to learn from their mistakes, or even how to recover if they fail.

It is important to remember that a child will not learn how to learn if you do the task for them, whatever the motive. If you have been already been 'over-involved', take a step back. Be clear that you will not do any homework or assignment work, but will help them organise their time, unpack the question, think through the problems or examine the criteria.

If students don't know how to do their homework or assignment or you feel the task is too complicated or time consuming, it is important to contact the school.

Dos and Don'ts:

- DO help your child plan their time
- DO seek help/clarification from your child's teacher about the HW or assignment
- DO talk to your child about what their HW and tasks entail
- DO read your child's novel so that you can discuss the ideas and characters with them
- DO go over marking criteria with your child
- DO take your child to the library or encourage them to write notes for research tasks
- DO talk to your child's teacher if the task seems too complicated or complex
- DON'T do the HW, projects or essays for them so they can get a better mark
- Don't rescue your child by doing their homework if they stop doing their HW. Let the teachers deal with the issue.
- DON'T get upset if you don't get a good mark for the task you have done

Melissa Gould-Drakeley

From the Dean of Students

Student achievement both in the School and pursuits followed by students outside of School are always worthy of mention. Two students who have achieved outstanding results in activities demonstrating their individual excellence are Stephanie Hennings and Jessica Tripp. Both girls are dedicated to pursuing their passion – Stephanie in the field of Agriculture and Jessica through Show Jumping.

Stephanie was awarded the Champion Junior Judge at the Royal Easter Show, after competing against a strong field of competitors much older and more experienced than herself. This is an incredible achievement at very high standard of competition and demonstrates her ability to critically appraise livestock where there is little variation between each.



Stephanie Hennings - Year 9

Jessica has once again proven that she is impossible to beat when it comes to Show Jumping. Jessica achieved First place in the Junior Showjumping Rider competition on her horse 'Lovegrove'. Again, this is an exceptional result and reward for the hours of practice needed to achieve at such a high level.

Within the School based competitions, Georgina Seton has achieved what few students have ever accomplished. Georgina has competed at NASSA, AICES and more recently represented Combined Independent Schools at the NSW All Schools meet at Homebush. To represent at this level is outstanding in itself, however, Georgina has placed third in the Under 13's 50 metres Breaststroke and fifth in the 100 metres Breaststroke. Effectively, this means

that she is the third fastest under 13 girl in NSW, and now awaits confirmation of whether she has gained placement to represent NSW the Nationals competition.



Jessica Tripp - Year 11

Mention should be made of Caitlin Bowman who competed at the Royal, representing Macarthur in the fleece Junior Judging State final. In this event students were required to judge fleeces of Mohair and Angora and to give an oral presentation of their appraisal. Caitlin was awarded the Junior Champion ribbon in this competition and went on to receive Reserve Champion ribbon in the Merino Fleece judging. Again, this is an exceptional achievement at a very high level of competition.

In each of these cases, practice, dedication, self-discipline and passion have combined to achieve these results. Can I encourage all students to pursue an area of passion and interest and build on successes, learning from upsets so to perhaps reach levels that may have been considered of out of reach when they first began.

Timothy Cartwright

“We will remember them”

These words ring out around the nation on ANZAC Day each year. At Macarthur Anglican School we have a commemorative service for the Middle and Senior Schools and a modified service for the K-4s.



It is obvious to me that the students approach these services with due reverence and do indeed reflect on the sacrifice of those who have given of themselves, sometimes their lives, in service to others and in order that we may live in such a great and peaceful country.

I attended the Anzac service in Moss Vale and I'm staggered each year by the large and diverse crowd of 600-1000 who gather there.

Across the nation this is duplicated many times over and it seems to be gathering momentum as we gear up for the centenary of Gallipoli.

In our school service, as well as the Liverpool Area coordinator of Army chaplaincy, Chaplain Bill Phillips, we also heard Renee Cowper speak powerfully of her experiences visiting the Western Front memorials

and we appreciated the involvement in the service of many others including the superb bugle playing of James Key.

In addition to the fallen and the brave we also acknowledge the one who gave himself for all people; Jesus Christ. As Jesus himself said, “[He] did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (John 20.28). That Jesus gave himself as a sacrifice for us and paid the price for our sins brings the opportunity for a peace that endures and affects every aspect of our lives and society, if we follow Him as our Lord and Saviour.



ANZAC Day will continue to shape our nation. Following Christ will give us direction.

Rev'd David Hayman



Community Chat

I hope this finds you all well and rested after the Easter break. Welcome back to Autumn term everyone. The Camden Show was held just prior to our School break. Macarthur Anglican School provides support to the Society through sponsorship.

This event provided a great opportunity to showcase our School to the wider community. Thank you to all staff and students who assisted with our School display. The face painting team was a huge drawcard, thanks girls!

The Annual Appeal will be mailed to you all early June, please consider this giving opportunity. Thank you to all who continually support Macarthur financially or in kind.

Save The Date

The Annual Fundraising Dinner will be held on **Saturday 16 August**. Tickets will go on sale mid June for this event. If you are interested in a Sponsorship opportunity please don't hesitate to contact me. I will be forwarding information regarding this opportunity to you all by email.

What's On Thursday (WOT) finished the term of with a visit to The Evangelical Sisters of Mary at Theresa Park. This was a morning that allowed time to reflect on the significance of Easter. Time was available to meander through the beautiful prayer garden. Thank you to the sisters for allowing our group this special opportunity.



JONATHAN BÉKÉS AUTUMN CONCERT



Estivo Trio

Fox Chan - Violin Jonathan Békés - Cello
Ying Ho - Piano

*In a fundraising concert for their
upcoming European tour*

5.30pm - Sunday 25th May, 2014

Macarthur Anglican School
Cobbitty Road, Cobbitty

Entry by donation

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Mother's Day stalls were held this week. It was a delight to see the excitement amongst our younger students as they selected that special gift for their mum. A special thanks goes to the twenty ladies who donated time wrapping gifts and selling on the day. Without the help of these women this event would not have been anywhere near the success that it was. Gift-wrapping and selling provided a great opportunity for women to meet with and mix with mothers from other school years.

The Annual High Tea will be held on Saturday 17 May. Bookings have now closed for this sell-out event. Photos will be provided in the next edition of the bulletin.

Playgroup also celebrated Easter with an Easter egg hunt. A book telling the Easter story along with Easter eggs were given to all students.

M@M had their first BBQ breakfast for the term last Friday. Thank you Michael Banks, for continuing to provide all produce for these events. Thank you to all men who continually support this regular event.

For more information regarding Community or Parents and Friends please contact Sharon Pascoe-Thomas at spascoe@macarthur.nsw.edu.au

International Student Homestay Opportunities

Each year a number of overseas students visit our School. Some visit for only a couple of weeks, and others stay for several years.

We seek to accommodate students either in families who are members of the School community or those in our wider community who have a heart for hospitality to these students.

In 2014 we have the need to seek some accommodation for the following periods of time:

1. Nihon University The Third High School – our Associate School in Tokyo, Japan visit every year for 13 nights during August. Students are aged 15 or 16 years. Families in the School community (with any age children) are welcome to host a student. The students need their own room and attend School each day during their visit. Homestay accommodation for this tour needs to be finalised before the end of June.
2. Short Stay Students – Overseas students considering long term study at Macarthur occasionally come and visit for 4-6 weeks to experience our School, before making the considerable decision to move here to complete their secondary studies. Homestays are currently required for the Winter Term (commencing July 2014).
3. Long Stay Students – Overseas students who decide to enrol as a full time student for their secondary studies require accommodation in local areas close to the School and along major school bus routes. Students are aged Year 7 to year 12. Any families interested in this opportunity (for two or more terms) are encouraged to contact the School.

Our international students appreciate the hospitality of our families. Please note that homestay fees are paid for all the above hosting opportunities. Homestays for short stay and long stay students are subject to the New Working with Children Checks. Any interested families are encouraged to contact Mrs Trish Cartwright on 4629-6229 or pcartwright@macarthur.nsw.edu.au Alternatively homestay application forms are available on the international student page of the School website.

Social Science News

Recently in Social Science the Year 9 Commerce and Year 12 Business Studies students have been engaged in some dynamic learning and skills activities in the classroom.

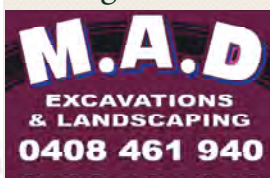
The Year 9 Commerce class have been working hard on Business in the Quad, which will took place in Week 2 of Autumn term. The students have formed groups and have been developing ideas on how to run their businesses. This is putting into practice the theory covered in the topic "Running a Business". Each group developed some great ideas and their hard work was rewarded when they get to operate their own businesses during lunchtime at school.

The Year 12 Business Studies classes also recently experienced some practical application of the theory being taught during the "Operations" topic. The students have been studying the operations processes and the importance of plant layout and quality control used in the operations process. They did this through a controlled lesson in which they had to manufacture pancakes. Of course the most rewarding element of the lesson was eating the pancakes that they made.

Mrs Nadine James
Social Science Teacher



With grateful thanks to our Annual Community Partners



Student Achievements

Congratulations Jackson Buda and Isaac Sampson for your outstanding efforts at the NASSA Football gala day. Both students were selected to represent the NASSA team. This team went on to compete at the CIS event. The team was successful in winning at this level. Great effort boys!



Jackson Buda
Isaac Sampson
-Year 6



Madison Hale
-Year 11

Madison Hale received a silver medal whilst competing at the Australian Schools and University Karate Championships earlier in April. She later went on to win two more silver medals at the Australian Open Karate Championships. Congratulations Madison on your amazing results!

Jessica Tripp has once again excelled in the Equestrian world! She competed recently at The Royal Easter Sydney Show and was awarded Junior Champion. Jess also took out the award for most successful junior rider at the Show.

Congratulations Jessica for also being awarded the title Junior Champion at the recent Weekend of World Cups.



Jessica Tripp -Year 11

Music at Macarthur

George Ellis's first rehearsal with the School Orchestra and Preparatory Orchestra took place on Monday 5 May. It was a longer than usual rehearsal, 2.40pm through to 5.30. It was a fabulous time for students to work under the baton of George who gave lots of very helpful musical hints on how to achieve great musical results. Students worked on playing repertoire by Grieg, Khachaturian, Tchaikovsky, Bizet and Mozart.

This was the first visit for the term. George will be returning on the 19 May to continue working with our Macarthur Music students.



Upcoming Music Diary Dates

- 27 May: 3.30pm Young Performers Concert for years 1-4
- 5pm Middle School Recital for years 5 to 6;
- 7pm Middle School Recital for years 7-9
- 3 June: 5pm Music Scholars Recital
- 7pm Senior School Recital

Macarthur Music recitals provide our students with a great opportunity to perform as soloists, with accompaniment, to a friendly and supportive audience.

- 20 June: Festival of Performing Arts
- 5pm Junior School Ensembles and Drama performances.
- 7pm All Middle School and Senior School ensembles.



Welcome Autumn Term

Welcome back to Autumn Term. I do hope you all had a fantastic holiday and found some time to relax and unwind after a long Summer Term.

We started our term with an ANZAC Day ceremony to honour those soldiers who fought for our freedom. It was wonderful to see the students reflecting on this and linking it to the way Jesus died for us so that we can live with him forever.

Interviews/Reports

All T-4 families should have received a letter regarding the upcoming Parent Teacher Interviews to be held on Thursday 15 May. Parents will be able to book in for these interviews online through the Macarthur website using the log in details provided.

Uniform Expectations



Students will be required to wear their full Winter Uniform from Monday 12 May. Students should be reminded that they need to have their blazer at school every day. The blazer should be worn to and from school each day.

Important Dates

Monday 12 May

Change to Winter Uniform

Tuesday 27 May

Young Performers' Concert

Friday 13 June

Athletics Carnival

Friday 20 June

Foundation Day



LET'S CHAT OVER LUNCH



WELCOME TO CHERYL VELI -
NEW STUDENT IN 4R



AFTER SCHOOL CARE

326 DANCE FUN



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

T-BALL STARS

Leah Macklinshaw, Jorja Baker and Shelley Feeney were all selected by Macarthur Softball to play in the zone representative T-Ball team this year.

They played in the Zone Regional tournament held at the Olympic Softball fields at Blacktown and were lucky enough to play their games on Diamond 1 where our Olympic Games were held in 2000.

The girls travelled to Newcastle this year to compete in the 2 day State Softball Tournament. They played 5 games of T-ball over the weekend and despite the rain on Sunday had a great time.



WRITE 4 FUN

Our students have achieved outstanding results in the Write4fun 2014 Schools Writing Competition.

We had over 10 students progress past the initial judging. Less than 2% of schools showed this level of achievement.

The competition was held throughout primary and secondary schools within Australia and over 11500 entries were received.

We were awarded a Certificate of Excellence shown here.

The winners of the comp will be announced Wednesday 14 May and can be viewed on the website www.write4fun.net

Congratulations on a wonderful achievement Macarthur Junior School students!



GOING BACK IN TIME...SUMMER TERM

YEAR 3 MAYORAL VISIT

Councillor Symkowiak's visit with Year 3 last term was a success. The students were really engaged during her presentation and had lots of pertinent and insightful questions to ask.

Mayor Symkowiak certainly provided some practical insight regarding the function of local government and its support of the local community.

The students were also delighted with the gifts they received of colouring pencils, stress balls and USB sticks.



YEAR 4 IN THE GROOVE

Year 4 has settled into their role of being the seniors of the Junior School very well. They are working hard preparing for Skip For Bibles as they share the importance of reading God's Word with the Kindergarten children. Our older students are always keen to accept responsibilities given to them by Mrs Elling.

It is a delight to see their dedication to the Strings Programme, Chapel and sport.

Several of our Year 4 students competed in the Camden Show displaying maturity and discipline.

Stage 2 students thoroughly enjoyed our Summer Term units of work and showing off at Grandparents Day. They are in a good routine and have returned to Autumn Term ready to work hard towards achieving their learning goals.



Autumn Term

Welcome Back

A warm welcome is extended to everyone as we return for the start of a new term. I trust that all families had the opportunity to spend time together celebrating the Easter period and the important message this presents. It was wonderful to see the children so happily returning to school on Monday, joyfully sharing stories with friends of the events they enjoyed during the holiday period.

Two weeks in and we have already had



activities galore. We had our first Fun Run where a group of students represented the school at the Lions Club Anzac Day Fun Run and performed very well for their first event, winning the Primary 5km team event, along with some outstanding individual performances on the day.

Students are already getting into the learning as Year 6 have been out drawing and



learning about Cartesian planes in the playground.

Students in Year 3 - 6 enjoyed the efforts of Mr Hordern and the Prefects at the annual 326 Dance on Friday 2 May.

NAPLAN



NAPLAN testing will be conducted for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 on Tuesday 13 May (Language Conventions and Writing), Wednesday 14 May (Reading) and Thursday 15 May (Numeracy). Students in Year 5 will sit these tests in class during Periods 1 - 3 whilst Year 7 and 9 students will receive examination timetables.

A 'make up day' will be conducted for students who were absent from one or more of these tests earlier in the week due to illness and the like on Friday 16 May.



STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR MAY

Thinking Ahead

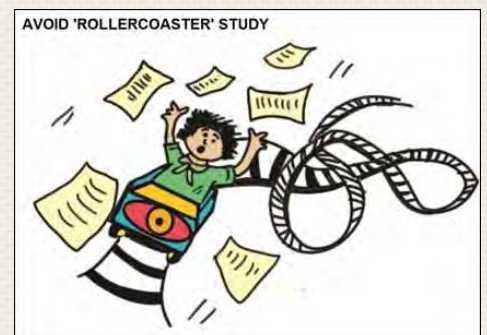
Are you riding a rollercoaster at school? Rollercoaster study is where you stay up late doing last minute assignments, then you take it easy for a while and do very little, then panic again when something is due and have to spend huge amounts of time at the end completing the work. If you plan ahead and are prepared, you will find school much less stressful and more rewarding.

Here are the top tips for thinking ahead:

1. **STUDY NOTES:** If you know that you have a test at the end of each topic or examinations approaching, then on the nights you do not have much homework start working on your study notes and summaries. File them in folders at home so they are ready to go when you need them.
2. **ASSIGNMENTS:** Always start the assignment the day it is given to you, even if it is just a little bit. Make sure you understand the requirements and if you don't ask your teacher straight away the next day. Brainstorm the steps the first night and do a rough plan of when you will do each step.
3. **ASK FOR HELP EARLY:** There is nothing more frustrating than a student who says 'I haven't understood anything we did in the last 3 weeks'. Ask for help as soon as you have a problem. Keep a list of questions for your teacher on a post-it in your textbook or sticky notes on your computer or a list in your phone. Don't let problems or issues build up, ask for help early and often.
4. **THINK ABOUT WHO YOU SIT NEXT TO:** Choose wisely who you will sit with in class. This can make a world of difference to your results. If you sit with someone where it is a productive relationship, you encourage and help each other and stay on task in the classroom you will understand your work better and have less to do at home.
5. **CONSIDER YOUR WEEK:** Plan ahead for busy times. If you know you have nights where you can't do much work or a busy weekend, plan ahead and get things done early. Always look ahead for possible times where you could be caught short of time and make plans to avoid problems.

Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au - our school's access details are:

Username: formasonly
Password: 27results



SHOW SEASON



Congratulations to the Students and Staff who have given of their time to show the Goats and Steers at Shows around NSW. They have produced some pleasing results along the way.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations **Jackson Buda** and **Isaac Sampson** for your part in the NASSA Soccer Championships.



Lauren Tisdale

Lauren Tisdale competed on the 6th April this year in the Elite NSW State Gymnastics Championships. Lauren competes in the International Development Program, Level 5 on the Artistic Gymnastic apparatus Bar, Beam, Vault and Floor. Against strong competition from around NSW, **Lauren placed first overall and was awarded the State Championship.**

Lauren has now qualified to compete at the National Gymnastics Championships which will be held in Melbourne in November and has also been selected to attend a training camp at the AIS in Canberra with the top Junior Australian gymnasts and the Olympic Women's Coach Peggy Liddick.



Congratulations to **Joshua Hand** and the Macarthur Orioles NSW Baseball Little League who have qualified for the National Championships to be held on the Gold Coast in June.

A reminder: if your son or daughter is doing some amazing things please email Mr Davies or their Head of House, so we can share this with the school community.

Autumn Term – not long to winter!

As we enter Autumn term in the Senior School it is hard to believe that we are entering the second Semester of the academic year. As always at Macarthur there is a lot to do over the next few weeks including multiple assessment tasks for Year 10 and 12, Half Yearly Examinations for Year 11, Athletics Carnival, Foundation Day, Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions and so much more. Therefore, it is vital that students in the Senior School keep themselves as organised as possible and have a plan to follow in their study times to ensure everything gets done in a timely manner.

What's on!

In the business of life it can be difficult to keep up to date with all the happening around the school. In the Senior School we use a variety of media to try our best to keep both our parents and our students informed. Our Senior School at Macarthur Facebook page is one attempt to try and keep you all as up to date as possible with what is happening.

The Senior School Portal on the Intranet is another. Students are encouraged to keep an eye on this portal at least once a week. Also, a number of notes that are often sent home.



However, it always amazes me of the number of notes that remain in diaries or in bags. Could I please encourage parents to ask their children (even in the Senior School) regularly if they have any notes and assist our teaching staff by ensuring that notes and forms are returned on time.

Half Yearly Examinations

Students in Year 10 and 12 will have the majority of examinations back now. I encourage students and parents to look past the marks and delve into what the result highlights about their progress. Students should not see a half yearly examination as an end point but as a checkup along the way. I also encourage students to discuss with their teachers what this means in regard to their strengths and weaknesses in order to improve into the future. Year 11 should be well under way with their study for the half yearly examinations that begin in week 4.

The Macarthur Ball - Year 11

Students in Year 11 have now been given information regarding the ball. This letter include information about how the evening is structured, dress requirements and the cost. It is vital that students have paid their \$70 deposit through flexi-schools by Monday 16 June 2014.



PREFECT CORNER

FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN

At such a busy time in the life of our school, it is easy to forget all of the exciting things that have been happening. Although as an individual, it is impossible to be involved in every facet of school life, it is important to be aware of what is going on and appreciate the efforts and achievements of others. We have commemorative days and celebrations in order to refresh our understanding of things that are important to us as a school, as a nation, and as individuals. The challenge is to enable these lessons and values become more than one day of the year, one way is to continue to reflect on them and what they mean to us.

Happy Day 2014

A little while ago now, the school celebrated Happy Day. It is a highly anticipated event, always filled with colour and smiles. It is important to remember that the day is only possible due to the hard work of volunteers, who organise and plan the day so it can run smoothly. What many students may not know, is that a prefect group who wanted to make a positive change in the school started Happy Day about 10 years ago. Their idea established a legacy that has since become a highlight of the school calendar. But why must there just be one day of happiness and generosity? Every day is an opportunity to make somebody's day. It is possible to create your own legacy through your actions toward others.



PREFECT CORNER



Anzac Day 2014

Macarthur had a great representation in the Camden ANZAC day march. Before the march students benefited from hearing a unique perspective on the significance of ANZAC day from Commander Gordon Pert. Formerly serving the Royal Air Force in Britain, he moved to Australia in 1998 to join the Royal Australian Air Force, and had to quickly learn the significance of ANZAC day afresh. It intrigued him that it in fact marked the event of a



military failure. After doing some research, he came to discover that it has become a day of remembering sacrifice, the importance of community and the enduring value of mateship as demonstrated by the Anzacs under the banner of a newly Federated Australia. These are events that are significant to recall regularly, as they influence our lives and identities as Australians today.

Maire Playford
School Captain

OTHER HAPPENINGS

PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP AWARDS



Congratulations to Year 11 students Ellen House and Henry Cartwright for being awarded by Camden Rotary the Pride of Workmanship Award. Ellen received her award for Excellence in Academic Studies and Henry for Excellence in Community Leadership. Both students and their families were invited to a special presentation night where they were presented their awards.



CHAMP CAMP 2014

22 - 26 SEPTEMBER 2014

- Consolidate study before the HSC without distractions.
- Access teachers to advise, clarify and mark responses
- Set up a study pattern for the HSC
- 'The best thing I did in Year 12' (Past HSC student)
- More details to follow later in the year.



STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK

Don't forget about the study skills handbook...

Our school's subscription details are:

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Username: formasonly

Password: 27results

