



## From The Headmaster's Desk

This past week Macarthur hosted the NASSA Junior Cross Country and the Association of Independent Co-Educational Schools (AICES) Cross Country Carnival for students in the secondary years. Special congratulations to our Year 3 to 6 students who competed at NASSA and have progressed to CIS. This is an excellent result. In the secondary years an extra level of representation takes place between NASSA and CIS, which is the AICES Carnival. Many of the Macarthur students who represented NASSA at AICES will now progress to represent AICES at CIS.

The students who have achieved this have done very well indeed. A number of Macarthur students have also gained selection at a CIS level in Soccer Football and other sports and their dedication and achievements are heralded in later pages of this Bulletin.

Another group of students who need special mention are our musicians. This week has seen several recital opportunities catering for our youngest performers in the Junior School through to our oldest senior students as well as the Music Scholars. The level of performance has again been wonderful to witness and these individual and small ensembles have done themselves very proud. One of the major ensemble performance opportunities lies in the near future, that is, the Festival of the Performing Arts which coincides with Foundation Day. This is always a spectacular evening of performances and I warmly encourage you to attend.

In the next week or so all families in the School, along

with our considerable supporter network, will receive the 2014 Annual Appeal information. Macarthur's wonderful purpose built facilities are a result of great generosity from current and past parents and supporters to who we are ever thankful.

Recently I worked closely with School Council and together we have reviewed the School Building Master Plan and I am delighted to say that specific planning has begun for the next phase of building.

A schematic plan, as shown below makes up part of the Annual Appeal as we seek to gain financial support and input for the next building phase. The current focus is either a Science Centre or another secondary building of five general purpose learning areas or classrooms. The GPLA building is helpful as it facilitates future building plans and would make room on the campus for a future auditorium and performance centre.

I commend the 2014 Annual Appeal to you.



# From the Deputy Headmaster

---

At Macarthur we often talk about 'the Macarthur family'. We would always hope that you and your children see the School as a community – your community, rather than simply a transactional relationship based on a fee for service.

For many people the 'family' nature of Macarthur is clearly evident. Did you know, for example, that we currently have thirty-five children from nineteen families in the School who have at least one parent who was once a Macarthur student? And a further twenty students of Alumni are enrolled for future years. Of our current staff, including casual teachers and music tutors, fifteen are alumni. I often joke that once enrolled at Macarthur, like the Hotel California, 'You can check-out any time you like, but you can never leave.'

Then of course there are children of staff in the sSchool. Currently on the roll there are thirty-two children of staff. However, if you were to count all the children of current staff who have been through the School it would number close to seventy! This is a great vote of confidence in our school, as who know a school more intimately than teachers – warts and all?

There is an increasing longevity of our staff in terms of years of service. All but a few have been with us for more than five years. Almost fifty staff members have been at the school for ten years or more. Incredibly six staff members have been with the school for twenty-five years. Some have taught the parents of the students they now teach! In the eighteen years I have been at Macarthur I have

spent more time with some staff members than I have with my family! In fact, some I regard like close family.

The key to community is participation. Even our local communities like sporting clubs and churches can't operate effectively without community participation. As students become older and more co-curricular opportunities become available, they spend more time with their friends, other students of varying ages and their teachers in very different and enjoyable contexts. This builds and deepens relationships that then crossover to the parent body and into our homes. Therefore, to enjoy the benefits of a community like Macarthur, encourage your children, especially your older children to get the most out of what the School has to offer by getting involved. Who knows one day they might be on staff!

In a similar way, the Headmaster's impetus over time to change parent involvement from attendance at formal meetings to a variety of possibilities of social engagement such as Men@Macarthur, Women@Macarthur, Talkback Thursday, The Headmaster's Golf Challenge and Playgroup allows busy parents to maximise their limited time building relationships rather than analysing balance sheets of canteen profits and losses. Engagement builds relationships and relationships build community. And it is community that builds the 'Macarthur family'. My hope and prayer is that everyone finds their place in the family.

**Andrew Kokic**



# From the Dean of Studies

---

## **Does Co-curricular Involvement Interfere With My Child's Academic Progress?**

There is often a misconception that involvement in co-curricular programmes and sport hinders a child's academic progress as they are sacrificing academic time by spending too much time on activities such as learning lines for a play or on the soccer field.

The reality is, learning new things positively contributes to a student's academic programme for several reasons. Students who are involved in a range of co-curricular and extra curricular programmes are generally happier as they have the opportunity to be involved in activities they enjoy. They are also able to mix with like-minded students and make more friends. This state of mind has a powerful influence on their motivation levels to study both in class and at home. Maintaining sound mental health at school is becoming increasingly important for our students. Of course, being involved in sport and similar activities also has a positive impact on a student's physical health as well.

There are also compelling academic reasons as to why a student should be involved in a range of programmes. Evidence from a range of brain researcher and psychologists suggest that learning new and different things helps the neural bases grow and strengthen the brain's synapses.

A study conducted by researchers at the University of Michigan found that *"Participants in most extracurricular activities achieved better educational outcomes than non-participants even after controlling for social class, gender, and intellectual aptitude. Participation in service and religious activities predicted lower rates of drinking and drug use. Participation on school sports teams also predicted better educational outcomes"*

Research has also shown that music training in children results in long-term enhancement of visual-spatial, verbal, and mathematical performance. This is clearly another excellent reason why children should become involved in the Choir or Band Programmes.

## **Subject Selection**

Students in Years 8 and 10 will soon be making choices about which subjects they wish to study in Year 9 and Year 11. In making these decisions, students should consider which subjects they most enjoy and which subjects they do well in. Year 10 students who have an idea of what they want to study at university should also consider studying subjects that will be useful for their field of interest or subjects that will maximise their ATAR. The Head of Senior School is currently speaking to Year 10 students about careers in relation to the recent career profiling and academic testing that the students completed. Students and parents who would like more subject specific advice are welcome to make an appointment with the Head of Middle or Senior School or myself.

**Melissa Gould-Drakeley**

# From the Dean of Students

## Transport Changes - Macarthur Region Bus Companies 2014

Students and parents are advised of the following details:

Busways ceased operation in the Campbelltown and Macarthur areas on 31 May 2014. Busways Camden and Campbelltown depots will close.

Busabout will take over all Busways routes in the Campbelltown/Camden/Narellan areas on 1 June 2014. The depot is at Smeaton Grange. Any SSTS applications are to be forwarded to Busabout at PO Box 158 Hoxton Park NSW 2171. Please contact Busabout on 9607-0004 or [www.busabout.com.au](http://www.busabout.com.au) for information about school buses. General bus timetables for the Campbelltown/Camden/Narellan region is available at [www.transportnsw.info](http://www.transportnsw.info).

Busabout ceased operation in the Liverpool area (Liverpool, Lurnea, Casula, Prestons, Glenfield, Miller, Hoxton Park, Austral and Bringelly) on 31 May 2014.

Interline will take over all former Busabout routes in the regions above on 1 June 2014. All SSTS applications to be forwarded to Interline Bus Services, PO Box 263 Ingleburn NSW 1890. Please contact Interline on 9605-1811 or [www.interlinebus.com.au](http://www.interlinebus.com.au) for information about school buses.

Note: There will be changes to school routes and timetables. Students should continue using their regular bus passes. Students are advised to check the route number and destination signs in the first weeks to ensure they are on the correct bus. Liverpool, Lurnea, Casula, Prestons, Glenfield, Miller, Hoxton Park, Austral and Bringelly buses may be Transport for NSW, Busabout and Interline colours during the transition period.

Parent and student enquiries should be directed to [www.transportnsw.info](http://www.transportnsw.info) or phone on 131500.



M@M dreaming about a new car!



# Chaplain's Chat

## Senior Oasis Getaway Weekend

"Best camp ever!" was how a number of students described the Oasis weekend away, held from 30 May – 1 June at the Youthworks' Telford camp site in the National Park.

Our guest speaker, Gillian Davis, showed us from the book of Esther that we can be confident God is always at work in the world, even when it may not be evident at first sight. In fact, our memory verse from Romans 8:28 reminded us that, not only is God at work, He is always working for our good. We celebrated God's goodness on Saturday night, with a dress-up banquet dinner.

Aside from great bible talks and discussion, the weekend was full of times to enjoy fellowship together on the waterslide, around a bonfire, singing with our fabulous band, playing cards or X-box, or simply chatting with friends in the beauty of the camp setting.

**The Reverend David Hayman**



# Community Chat

---

## Parents and Friends

The W@M High Tea was held on Saturday 17 May at Harrington Grove Country Club. Thank you Linda Ebeling for being our MC for the day. Jonathan Bekes on 'Cello, accompanied by his mother Jiann on keyboard, played as guests arrived. During the afternoon Yvonne Butler held a Floral workshop where she demonstrated a quick and easy way to prepare a floral centrepiece for the home dining table. This activity certainly brought out the competitive edge in our mums!

Sarita's, A Collective Emporium, along with our school mums as models, hosted a fantastic fashion parade. Thank you Sarita and all involved in the parade. Solveig Coulon-Legay, HOLALA. 100% Made In France provided a beautiful display and stall of linen and accessories. Thank you too Charmaine Smith, Cut It Out Hair Design for ensuring all our models had perfect hairstyles. Absolutely Fabulous, Natalie Herd transformed the room with crisp green table overlays. Thank you to all who donated lucky door prizes. A very special thank you to the W@M for hosting this event.

The M@M BBQ breakfasts continue every fourth Friday of the month. Thank you Manny Ornelas for providing a heater for this event. It is sure to get used over the next few months of Winter. This activity continues to grow in popularity and we thank the M@M for your persistence in the earlier months. It was great to see a sell out event last week. Thank you Michael Banks RAMS Home Loans for continuing to donate all produce for these events.

The W@M along with Anna and Café Macarthur staff held Australia's Biggest Breakfast events during May. A grand total of \$650 was raised. This money will be directed to the Cancer Council. W@M provided the staff morning tea on Friday 23 May. This was a fantastic time for staff and W@M to meet together and raised much-needed funds. Thank you to all who were involved with these activities.

## Community Chat

It is good to see extended family members participating in the daily school life. Thank you to all who help out with Canteen duty, class reading, assistance with Playgroup and so on. Mrs Henson was spotted reading with Matthew Ferguson last week. Thank you to all who assist with activities here at Macarthur.

## Save The Date

The Annual Fundraising Dinner will be held Saturday 16 August. Please place this date in your diaries.

Thank you to all who contribute to our school life through donation, in kind or financially. The assistance is greatly appreciated.

If you would like any further information about M@M or W@M or being involved with the Annual Fundraising Dinner please contact Sharon Pascoe-Thomas on 4629-6207 or [spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au](mailto:spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au)



W@M High Tea



Mrs Henson and Matthew Ferguson  
enjoying reading in the sunshine

Richard Turnbull, Owen Sinden and The Reverend David Hayman at the W@M Biggest Morning Tea for staff. The theme was to dress in blue and yellow to support Cancer Council NSW.



# Student Achievements

Congratulations Rebecca Mathews Year 8. Rebecca was recently awarded Honours in Grade 4 Singing for Leisure along with Honours in Classical Grade 2. Well-done Rebecca!



**MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL**  
*Established traditions, proven success!*

**Festival of Performing Arts**  
**Friday 20 June 2014**



**Chapel Courtyard**

**5.00pm**  
Drama Performances and Junior School Music Ensembles

**6.15pm**  
Family Spit Roast

**7.00pm**  
Orchestra, Choir, Concert Bands and Music Ensembles



**Find your place at Macarthur**  
*where opportunities abound*



## Focus on Learning

The students have been learning about honesty, respect, integrity, excellence and now 'learning' as part of our OWL theme.

Our focus over the past week has been on 'on task' behaviour or 'making sure we are doing what we are meant to be doing, both inside and outside the classroom. It has been pleasing to see most students trying very hard to be focussed on the task at hand and I have even seen some students encouraging others to stay on task. It is important for the students to realise that 'on task' is not always being quiet. Sometimes tasks allow us to work in groups and we need to be able to work collaboratively with our peers to achieve a common goal.



## Mr Langley Gets Married

In the Summer Term holidays Mr Peter Langley was married to his now wife Roslyn. Several Year 2 students attended the wedding. Our students wore their uniform with pride and it meant a lot to Mr & Mrs Langley that they made the effort to be a part of their special day.



## JS Young Performers Concert

The recent Young Performers Concert held on Tuesday 27 May

was a wonderful showcase of our young talent. A number of soloists from Years 1-4 performed and they should be very proud of themselves. Congratulations to the students for their outstanding performances.

## IPSHA Travelling Art Show

Congratulations to the following students who had their art work selected to be a part of the IPSHA Travelling Art Show.

Ethan Hartley  
Annabelle Logan  
Keira Henson  
Elizabeth Ha  
Savannah Fuller  
Jaden Acres  
Luca Bazdaric  
Rebecca Dunbier  
Lilly Siemon  
Jorja Baker  
Sophie Ristancevski  
Angus Townsend

## NASSA Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the students who represented Macarthur at the recent NASSA Cross Country.

The following students will represent NASSA at the CIS Carnival on 12 June.

8-9yrs Eden Kautz 2nd  
8-9yrs Joel Offord 2nd  
Caleb Groves 14th



MAX MEDICH

YOUNG PERFORMER'S CONCERT



THE NEWLY MARRIED

MR & MRS LANGLEY



SHAY JENSEN

YOUNG PERFORMER'S CONCERT



# LOVE YOUR LAGOONS DAY

On Tuesday 3 June Year 2 were fortunate enough to participate in a 'Love Your Lagoons Day.' This is a cross curricula sustainability project linked to the University of Western Sydney. Students visited the school dam to take photographs on their iPads and collect a sample of the water. The water was inspected under high tech microscopes and what the students found was astonishing!



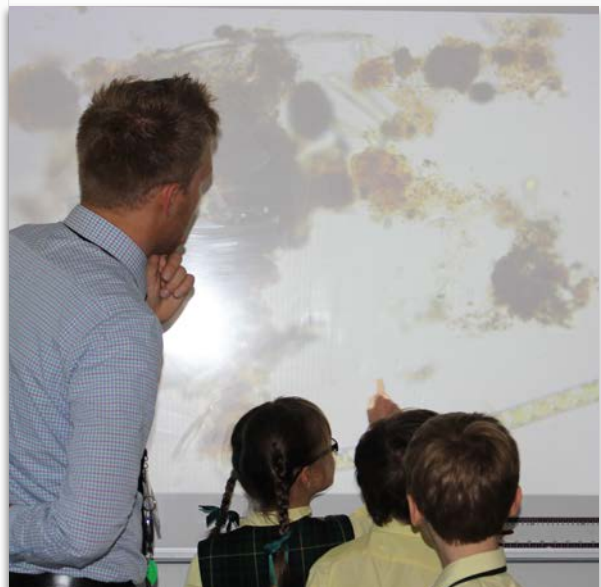


# LOVE YOUR LAGOONS DAY

The purpose of the 'Love Your Lagoons Day' was to enhance the student's understanding of water conservation and environmental sustainability.

A big thank you to Mrs Ha for organising the day for Year 2 and for Mrs Jane Doria (a parent) teaching the students a creative dance which helped them to understand the water cycle and how it works.

We Love our Lagoons!





# BUDDING ARTISTS ! IPSHA TRAVELLING ART SHOW





## Autumn

Autumn Term has continued to highlight the many academic, sporting and musical opportunities that students in the Middle School have, as they engage in their learning.

NAPLAN testing was undertaken in Week 3. NASSA Cross Country for Year 5 and 6 and AICES for those in Years 7 to 9 have taken place with some outstanding results. We have been entertained by students in Years 5 to 9 as part of the Young Performers Concert and Middle School Recital. Students in Year 8 and 9 have participated in the Language World Championships at school. While later this term Athletics Carnivals and Photo Days conclude the many activities of the term.

### Semester One Reports

Semester One reports for students in Year 5 and Year 6 will be available to parents by the conclusion of Week 7 and the opportunity will be available early next term for parents to speak with teachers to discuss these in more detail.

### Year 8 Subject Selection

May I take this opportunity to remind Year 8 students and their parents that Subject Selection evening was held on Wednesday 4 June at 6pm in the Chapel. If parents missed this evening they should contact either myself or Mrs Gould-Drakeley



Congratulations all Students



NASSA Cross Country Team



# Managing Screen time

## Tips for Parents and Students

### At a glance

- Set a screen time limit of no more than two hours a day.
- Busy kids are less likely to have screen time issues.
- Eliminate food and drink in front of the screen.
- Ask your child how they are going to spend their time so they get into the habit of planning their screen time.

1. You're the boss: some parents are hesitant to lay down the digital law and limit screen time, but all the research shows that it is in your child's interest to set limits.
2. The two hour screen time grab: tell your child they have two hours per day and how they use that time is up to them so long as they don't go over the time limit (or set a lesser time limit if you prefer). This is similar to financial budgeting – you have \$20, spend it as you see fit.
3. Have a plan: ask your child how they are going to spend their time so they get into the habit of planning their screen time, as opposed to just letting it roll on.
4. Watch the clock: have your child get in the habit of writing down when they started, and when they ended. Logging time helps everyone to see that the rules are being followed.
5. Food and drink free zone: eliminate food and drink in front of the screen. Family time in front of a movie together can involve a bowl of popcorn or other treats, but eliminate this element during solo screen time.
6. Physical time: make sure your child is getting regular physical activity, which can include an evening walk with the dog or scheduled sporting commitments. And even if your child opts to take their screen time in one two-hour hit, get them into the habit of getting up at the one hour mark and taking a ten minute break.
7. Hobbies and other pursuits: busy kids are less likely to have screen time issues and, in general, report being more fulfilled and interested in the world around them.

Reference: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/using->





# LANGUAGE PERFECT

**247,503:** This figure is the total number of questions answered by sixty four Macarthur students during the annual Language Perfect World Championships, held from the 19 – 29 May. The highlight of the event was our inaugural Pizza Perfect night where students answered questions together, enjoying a pizza dinner part way through the evening.

Special congratulations to Elise Driver who gained an Elite Award, earning 10,028 points! The following seven students gained Gold Awards, an amazing achievement: Nikhil Goyal, Amy Lidbetter, Kaitlin Taylor, Julia Kokic, Tate Lindsay, Isabella Tyson and Patrick Dickinson. In addition, Macarthur students also gained two Silver Awards, twelve Bronze Awards and fifteen Credit Awards. Thanks to efforts such as these, as a school we came first for Indonesian in the 51-100 students category and tenth overall in Indonesian in the world. Congratulations to all participants.



## YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY

Year 7 Geography students are currently studying World Heritage Areas. Australia is fortunate to have some of the world's finest examples of natural beauty and The Blue Mountains are justifiably on the World Heritage List. Once at Katoomba the students were able to view the majesty of Echo Point, the Three Sisters and look across the Jamison Valley to Mt Solitary.

The students completed a range of field work as they rode on the Scenic railway and Scenic Sender. From valley floor to the Skyway, the students were able to appreciate the many aspects of this World Heritage area through their Geography eyes.





# STUDY SKILLS

This week Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services ([www.enhanced-learning.net](http://www.enhanced-learning.net)) ran a study skills session with Years 9-11. Year 9 students reviewed the diary planning principles and looked at the concept of completing two half hour blocks of schoolwork each night. If students do not have any homework, then they work on assignments and after that comes independent learning: reading ahead in the text, doing extra questions or research, making study notes. Year 9 also examined the study techniques they normally used and chose some new techniques they could try this Semester. The main area covered for Year 10 was the importance of using the next six months as a training period to prepare for Senior studies. Students need to learn how to work effectively at home, manage distractions, make brain-friendly study notes and work out which study techniques work best for them. Year 10 students should also complete the self-evaluation quiz at the back of their handout which will give them an indication of how ready they are for Senior studies and what areas they need to work on.

Parents can also find extra study skills tips on the following website: <http://studyskillstoptipsparents.com/>.

All secondary students at our school also have access to a great study skills website to help students develop their skills.

Go to [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)

username: **formasonly**

password: **27results** and start improving your results today!



**Year 9 Elective History  
Melbourne Site Study  
29 July - 1 August 2014**  
**Permission notes  
now due!**





## Autumn Term

Even though this is only Week 6 and there are still three weeks to go until the end of term, this is the last bulletin for the term. I have no doubt that our Senior Students have a lot on their minds at the moment and I would encourage them to come and seek guidance if they are feeling as though they are becoming overwhelmed in the coming weeks. Students in Year 10 will be asking questions regarding what subjects they should be studying in Year 11 and 12, students in Year 11 will be reflecting on their recent examinations and thinking ahead to assessments to come and students in Year 12 will be thinking ahead to the Trial HSC examinations which begin in Week 2 of Winter Term.

### Events to Come in the Senior School This Term

Year 12 Parent Teacher Night - 12 June

Athletics Carnival - 16 June

Foundation Day and Festival of Performing Arts - 20 June

School Photos - 26 and 27 June

### Subject Selection

Students in Year 10 will be thinking through what subjects they should be studying in Year 11 and 12. When considering this it is important that you follow some key principles.

1. Select subjects you are interested in or enjoy. Do not select a subject because your friends are doing it and you think it will be fun to be with them.

2. Select subjects that you are good at. The saying 'success brings success' holds very true for students in the Senior years.

3. Start to think about where you may like to head in the future. While there are fewer prerequisites for University study than in the past, there are still some subjects that are considered assumed knowledge. For example it may be difficult to study Engineering at University if you have not studied at least 2 Unit Mathematics in Year 11 and 12.

4. Be realistic in your selections. Do not just pick a subject because you think it scales well. If you are not good at a subject, why would you select it? There is a lot of misinformation regarding scaling in the HSC and do not be led to do a subject because of what you hear.

If you have any questions regarding subjects for Year 11 and 12 make sure you speak to either Faculty Heads, the Dean of Studies or myself.

### Holiday Activities

The upcoming holidays hold a lot of different activities for students in the Senior School including Snowsports, Duke of Edinburgh Hikes, Global Young Leaders Conference and a range of Holiday Classes for Year 12. (The dates of these will be sent home with students in the coming weeks).

### Snowsports 2014

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our students all the best as they head to Jindabyne and Thredbo these holidays to compete in the Regional Snowsports Interschools Championships. I too am looking forward to this wonderful event. For three Year 12 students, Montana Byers, Emma Cosier and Nicholas Masjuk it will be their ninth and final time competing at these championships. Congratulations on this wonderful achievement.

# CAREERS EXPO

Students in Year 10, 11 and 12 had the opportunity last Friday to attend the Sydney Morning Herald HSC and Careers Expo, held in the Royal Hall of Industries in Moore Park. This expo provided students with the opportunity to find out what courses Universities have to offer and to ask questions as they prepare for making University Applications or choosing their subjects for Year 11 and 12. All students came back with a greater appreciation of what is available beyond school and a little extra incentive to get through their HSC studies.





# EXAMS AND STUDY SKILLS

## YEAR 11 EXAMS

Congratulations to Year 11 for their fantastic efforts during their recent Half Yearly Examinations.

As students receive their results back they should be encouraged to look past the mark and ask what the mark says about what they can and can not do.

There is no doubt that the feedback provided by staff is much more valuable than the mark on the page.

Students should also be encouraged to not dwell on their results but to evaluate what they did well and what they could do better in preparation for future examinations and the HSC.

## STUDY SKILLS

Students in Year 10 and 11 recently attended a Study Skills Programme with Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services - writer of the online Study Skills Handbook. I have no doubt that our Senior Students received some wonderful tips to help prepare them for future examinations. For Year 11 it was particularly timely as they were able to reflect on the things they did wrong in the lead up to their Half Yearly examinations and begin to think ahead to what they can do differently in the future.

Our school's subscription details are:

[www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)

Username: formasonly

Password: 27results



### A tip from the study skills handbook...

The biggest mistake students make when studying is to not do enough practice under examination conditions.

You need to set yourself time limits and do questions **WITHOUT** looking at the answers. Then you mark your work and see what you could do and what you could not do. Then you go back and work on the areas you got wrong.

If you give yourself unlimited time and let yourself look at answers or notes while doing the questions you will end up with an unrealistic view of what you can and cannot do. And then get a nasty shock in the examination!

# OTHER HAPPENINGS

## ELLEN AND HENRY ON C91.3

Following their Pride of Workmanship Award at the end of last term Ellen House and Henry Cartwright were invited by 'Captain Pat' to speak on C91.3 on Sunday 11 May. They were asked a wide range of questions including their involvement with Thailand Outreach and their School. Both Ellen and Henry were fantastic ambassadors for Macarthur.



## BLAST FROM THE PAST - GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRESENTATION

Congratulations to Daniel Robinson, Anna Clinch, Chloe Maric and Katie Harris (Year 12 - 2013) who were presented their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Their awards were presented at a Vice-Regal ceremony at St Stephen's Church in Sydney on 7 May 2014. It was a fantastic occasion and was great to catch up with the alumni and find out what they have been up to since leaving school. They wished the current group of Gold candidates all the best as they continue to work through their award.

