



Text

From The Headmaster's Desk

Welcome back to Macarthur for 2014. For those families that have joined our community for the first time it is wonderful that you have done so and we look forward to getting to know you.

At the outset I would like to thank Mrs Diane Brinkworth for her last two years as President of the Parents and Friends. Diane has decided to step down from this role and I want to publicly acknowledge the great work she has done and the time she has committed to the School.

I am delighted to say that Michael Banks takes over the mantle as President of the Parents and Friends. Those of you who have enjoyed the Men at Macarthur Breakfasts will know Michael. I look forward to his leadership and input in this area of School life.

As the new year begins it is a pleasure to welcome a number of new staff to Macarthur. In the Junior School we welcome Mr Peter Langley who will be teaching Year 2 this year. We also welcome Miss Sally Rogers who is teaching Year 3. Sally is a former student and is covering Mrs Abdoo's maternity leave.

Our Music faculty is strengthened this year with the arrival of Mr Tim Norman.

It is also a pleasure to welcome Mr Ian Garrett to the School. Mr Garrett takes up the responsibility of Faculty Head of English.

Mr Malcolm Forsyth, who is part of the Chaplaincy Team has decided to take up a role in Junee. Mr Forsyth is keen to return to parish work in the country and so this is an ideal move for him and his wife Jess. We wish them both God's speed as they plan to move especially with Jess expecting their first child in March. I am sure you join with me in praying for them

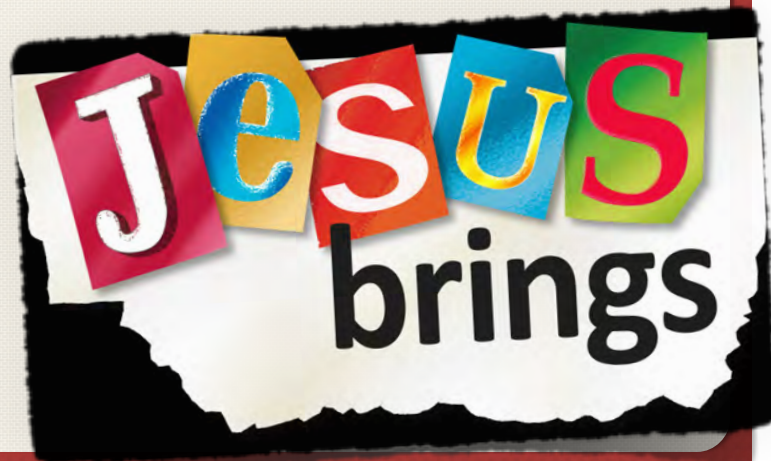
as that make the necessary arrangements.

Mrs Christina Wong who is currently a part time teacher in the Technology and Creative Design Faculty will now become full time and take on the Chaplaincy Team role vacated by Mr Forsyth.

This week has just seen the first full week of teaching across the entire school as Years 7 to Year 12 students return to class following camps. The outdoor Education programme has again been a great success and while many of the students were challenged they all achieved great things. There are, of course, more fulsome reports of the camps in the following pages. The Year 3 to Year 6 camps are now having the final organisational touches put to them and I am sure the students who attend these camps later in the term will find them a great blessing too.

You may well see a similar sign to that below appearing in Anglican churches across Sydney. Macarthur is looking forward to partnering with our local Parishes in this event throughout the year and so I encourage all families to get involved in an event that suits them as together we discover what Jesus Brings

David Nockles



From the Deputy Headmaster

'Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise.' - Proverbs 20.1

I am sure many of you have been troubled as I have by the recent spate of senseless violent acts in Sydney that has resulted in young men being seriously brain injured or killed. It is impossible when one has children of your own, not to spare a thought and a prayer for the families who suffer as a result of such brutal and mindless assaults.

Sadly, the common denominator, though not the only factor involved, is alcohol consumed in copious amounts. Binge drinking amongst our young people is a scourge on our nation. I speak as one who lived through the very same culture (as no doubt many parents have) and happily managed to survive unscathed. But this was a result of more good luck than good judgment. Do we really want the same for our own children? I know I don't.

For some truly perplexing reason the ability to drink heavily is worn as a badge of honour by many people in Australian society. I am not some teetotaling wowser, but in my opinion it shows a lack of creative imagination in our national psyche that so many find it difficult to celebrate or enjoy oneself without drinking too much.

I first became acutely aware of this fact on a trip to Israel when I was in my early twenties. I

arrived in Jerusalem on May 14 1990, Israel's 'Independence Day'. The streets were surging with people, young and old, celebrating, really celebrating, their national day. There was such a festive spirit that there were large crowds singing, flag waving and dancing together in great circles on the streets. What was so remarkable (to me) was how little alcohol I saw being drunk on the night. In fact, I can't remember seeing any! There was no drunkenness and no violence. It was a stark contrast to my experience of Australia's liquor-ridden Bicentennial celebrations of two years earlier.

Building your personal culture begins before you turn the legal age of 18. At Macarthur we try earnestly to provide students with a bigger vision of enjoying a rich and celebratory life. A greater vision and guidance was lacking in my own young life or at least it was swamped by the alcohol-fuelled culture around me. But at Macarthur, it is our aim that students are exposed to the great outdoors, to art, music, sport, drama, faith, technology, culture, language, history, books, sport, service and the love of learning, so that they will develop a richer outlook on how to really enjoy the breadth of what life has to offer and if they choose to drink alcohol, they will do so in moderation and with self-control. And of course we will have a greater chance in achieving our aim if your homes and lifestyles

Junior School Canteen

Thank you to the parents and new parents who have volunteered their time to the Junior School Canteen.

Please check your new price list as there has been a few price increases for some items. We have Quench fruit sticks now instead of Zooper Doopers which are 60 cents and the frozen fruit cup (both apple and orange) are also now 60 cents.

Marilyn Rowe
Junior School Canteen Supervisor

From the Dean of Studies

Learning Goals

This year Kindergarten to Year 12 students will be involved in a number of exciting academic projects. One of projects focuses on learning goals. Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will be working with parents and teachers to plan learning goals for the year. Academic research into the motivation and effort of students has indicated that students tend to achieve more when they set their own goals rather than when goals are set for them by the teacher. Studies have also shown that it is important for parents to take an active role in the goal setting and monitoring process. Apart from being part of the goal setting process, you can encourage your child to tell you what they are doing to stay on track and what the next step might be in the achievement of these goals.

Teachers will also help students evaluate effective ways of learning and think about what they may need more help with and how they might improve their knowledge, skills and understanding.

To facilitate the goal-setting process, collaborative Three-Way Interviews with students, teachers and parents of children in K-6 are being held on **Monday 17 February**. Parents should have received separate notification

about this and instructions of how to book online interviews.

Students in Years 7-12 will also be encouraged to set academic goals in their House Groups by completing the goal-setting section of their School Diary. It is important for students to set realistic goals that are suitably challenging yet not too hard to attain. Parents are encouraged to ask students about these goals and take an interest in how they are working towards attaining these goals.

Progress Reports

This term, Progress Reports are being issued for all students. These will be issued to parents commencing with Years 8-10 and 12 in March and concluding with Transition to Year 6, Years 7 and 11 at the end of the term.

Parent Teacher Interviews

This term, the following Parent Teacher Interviews have been scheduled.

- Transition-Year 6 Meet the Teacher – 6 February
- Kindergarten-Year 6 Goal Setting Three-Way Interviews – 17 February
- Years 8-10 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews – 13 and 17 March

Melissa Gould-Drakeley

Peripatectic Instrument Programme

Peripatectic have a very key role in identifying the students' skill level and enhancing all aspects of musical development. Lessons are available during school times (8.00am to 2.30pm) throughout the school year. Macarthur is fortunate in having a large group of specialist music educators of outstanding calibre. After school lesson options are also available with a selection of Music Tutors. Application forms are available from the Administration Centre or the Moroney Staff Centre.

Currently tuition is available for the following instruments: bagpipes, drums, strings, voice, piano, woodwind, guitar, brass, theory and musicianship and percussion.

From the Dean of Students

Travel Passes

Please be aware that Travel passes applied for in 2013 have arrived in the School and are being distributed. By Friday Week 3 all students should have received these documents and will be required to present them in order to gain free travel. If your son/daughter misses the distribution day they must collect their pass from the Administration Office as soon as possible to avoid inconvenience when traveling.

Absences

Student absences should be reported to the school as soon as possible via a written note, telephone call or personal visit to the Attendance Clerk. For Year 5-6 students, absence notes should be handed to classroom teachers. For Year 7-12 students, absence notes may be taken to the Heads of Schools Office or the Administration Centre.

Extended Leave

By law only the Headmaster may grant an exemption from attendance at school and only for a small number of reasons. The law does not give the right to parents to absent their children from school without due authority. Parents must apply directly to the Headmaster, using the official application form for an Exemption from Attendance (available on the School's website).

Uniform

It is always wonderful to see students wearing their uniform correctly and the comments by parents and community members are often focussed on the high regard placed on student dress and bearing. While the standard remains very pleasing there is always an area needing specific attention, and the support of parents in reinforcing school uniform standards is always appreciated. This includes particular attention to jewellery and hair. Please be aware that no jewellery is permitted including earrings, sleepers or studs of any

description. A more detailed reference is found on page 23 of the Diary for Middle School and Senior School students and page 22 for Junior School students. Could I encourage you all to familiarise yourself with the School Expectations and Procedures section of the Diary as it contains the standards we expect of the students attending the school. It would be most beneficial if you also discussed these at home.

Pink Medical Form

A number of T-6 students have not returned their pink medical form. We seek your co-operation in returning this form to ensure the proper care is given in the Clinic and on Camps as the need arises. Please check all details and add or amend where necessary signing page 2 of the form before returning to the class teacher.

Students Achievement

It is recognised that many students are achieving exceptional results outside of the School in pursuing their passion. Please inform me directly of any achievements so that mention might be made to the staff and students of the School and proper recognition made.

Timothy Cartwright

Community Chat

Welcome to all existing Macarthur families and those new to the School. I hope it is not long before both you and your children have settled in.

Community is very important at Macarthur so if I can assist you with the settling in process please contact me. My phone number is 46296207 or alternately you can email me at spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au.

Thank you Brenda and Simon Tripp, Fernhill Estate for allowing Macarthur to use the beautiful wine cellar at Fernhill. The School was able to thank Sponsors, Community Partners, Women at Macarthur (W@M) and Men at Macarthur (M@M) for their kind support throughout the year at this event. Macarthur looks forward to continuing and building on the relationships with all these supporters.

If you would like to find out a little more about how you can become involved in Sponsorship or become involved in one of the community groups at Macarthur please contact me. We have a variety of events throughout 2014 through which we will be seeking support.

Thank you to all who have donated to the School Building Fund. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Headmasters Golf Challenge will occur this year on Monday 14 April. This will be held at the Glenmore Heritage Valley Golf Club. Please get together a group of friends and join the Headmaster for a game of golf.

P&F

A new family breakfast will be held Tuesday 18 February. All new families to Macarthur will have received an invitation to this event in the

mail last week. RSVP for this event is due Tuesday 11 February. Can I encourage those invited to attend. It is a fantastic opportunity to meet with Senior Staff along with members of our school community groups and our Community Partners.

At the end of the year the P&F outlined the partner projects for 2014. The Parents and Friends Levy will be distributed and directed toward the projects listed below: Chapel kitchen refurbishment, Gymnasium flooring

project, school signage, and the back bone for iPad implementation extension. Funds will also be directed toward the ongoing support of end of year prizes.

Parents activities throughout the year are organised

by the W@M and M@M members. These events will be advertised throughout the year in the Bulletin and signage around the School.

Parents and Friends Playgroup has recommenced for the year. Playgroup was pleased to welcome new comers. This activity is held every Monday from 9.00am in the vacant Kindergarten room. It was good to see some of our playgroup children progress to Transition and Kindergarten this year.

What's On Thursday will re-commence next week. This group provides an opportunity to meet with members of the School family to explore Christianity.

If I can assist you in anyway with any of the above information please contact me. Have a great first term at Macarthur!

Sharon Pascoe-Thomas



Co-Curricular Programme

2014 offers some exciting Music and Performance opportunities for our Macarthur students in the Junior School, Middle School and Senior School. Orchestra and String ensembles will be under the guidance of Mr George Ellis which will give our Macarthur students some amazing performance opportunities throughout the year. The Choral Programme will have a small ensemble focus with the options being Boys Acapella, Girls Choral Ensemble, Years 5 & 6 Vocal Ensemble and Middle and Senior School Vocal Ensembles. Mr Timothy Norman and Mrs Sarah Piggott will be directing the Choral Programme throughout the year. The Drums Corps will have a focus on preparing for Community opportunities to perform with Anzac Day Parade preparation being the goal for the first part of the year. The Band Programme this year will provide students with the opportunity to pursue Swing and Stage Band options from Year 5 to Year 12. Drama Club will continue to take place on Friday lunch for Years 5 and 6 and after school for Years 7 to 12. This promises to be an exciting one, culminating in a theatrical production in November under the guidance of Mrs Allie Margin. All Co-Curricular groups commence in Week 3. Information is available from the Administration Centre or Moroney Staff Centre.

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE STUDY TOUR FOR STUDENTS YEARS 7 TO 11

21 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER 2014



CONCERTS, WORKSHOPS, GUIDED TOURS, MUSICALS,
SHOWS AND MORE will be attended in:

New York, Nashville, Memphis, New Orleans and
Disneyworld, Orlando.

**Information Night with the Travel Agent on
10 February @6pm in the Macarthur Chapel. It is not
too late to book a place for this exciting musical
experience !**

Chaplain's Chat

'Surf n Serve'

Macarthur Anglican School students 'come to learn' and 'go out to serve'...

So it has been a pleasure to be on camp with Year 11 who have had the opportunity to put that into practise. In the context of having a lot of fun and learning about surfing we also had time to reflect on what 'service' really means... In Mark 10, Jesus said,

⁴³ "Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

So following Jesus means that we want to serve others – in response

to his love and service (and sacrifice – on the cross) for us, we will want to serve others.

Pulling out weeds and trimming spiky trees can be hard work – especially on a hot day - but these Year 11 students, buoyed by the camaraderie and encouragement of the others in their group (and by very welcome cold water and scones by the elderly lady whose back yard we were in) made short work of it all. We were part of a programme of 'Back Yard Bless' organised by the Ulladulla Anglican Church.

What an opportunity... and there was still time for surfing!

Reverend David Hayman



Student Achievements

Nicholas Masjuk (Year 12) who has competed in the snowfields of Colorado during our Summer vacation. In the two events of Slopestyle and Rail Jam, he achieved third and seventh respectively. This is an outstanding achievement against a very high level of competition from around the world and just reward for the commitment to his training and lengthy traveling needed to compete at such a high level.



Teacher Exchange in Hungary – January 2014

For the past month Helen Glover, our teacher of Science and Agriculture has been on teacher exchange with our sister school Lévy József Református Gimnázium in Miskolc, Hungary. Her time in Hungary was spent at school assisting the English faculty in teaching English to students from Year 7 to Year 12.

Her daughters Abbey (Year 11) and Virginia (Year 9) also attended classes to gain a better understanding of schooling at Lévy. Whilst the structure of the school and lessons were quite different the students and staff are very similar to ours at Macarthur which made us feel most welcome. We were looked after very well in and had the opportunity to see and experience many places which are unique to Hungary which we are grateful for.



On returning to Macarthur Helen commented that it was an opportunity which not only extended our relationship with our sister school but one which will soon to be opened to the current Year 10 students who may be seeking to become an exchange student at Lévy.



With grateful thanks to our Annual Community Partners



Welcome Back

The start of a school year is an exciting time. A new beginning for our students and for our staff to create a unique learning environment. A selection of individuals that will create and develop into a group identity. I would like to welcome the many new students starting their Macarthur journey and hope that their time here will be enriching. Our Transition and Kindergarten children began their school adventure in a very positive way. Thank you to all of our parents who have worked hard to send the students back to school with their uniforms looking fantastic. I'm sure we can keep up this great standard for the rest of the year.

Goal Setting Interviews

All families with students in K-6 should have received a letter recently outlining the procedures for Student Goal Setting Interviews to be held Monday evening 17 February. Our aim is to build a culture where students are encouraged to develop their own learning goals for the term in the hope that they will take responsibility for their own learning and encourage that home-school partnership.

Our Wonderful Lord!

Each year the Junior School has a theme which is often represented by an

animal. I am sure you have noticed our theme for 2014 is 'OWLS', an acronym for 'Our Wonderful Lord.' It is a reminder for students that the Lord God is wonderful and He can forgive our sins so that we may live eternally with Him.



Parent Helpers

In the Junior School, we recognise the importance of developing a strong home-school partnership in order to help boost student outcomes. During the upcoming 'Meet the Teacher Evening' on Thursday 6 February, the T-2 teachers will be asking for parent volunteers to come into the classrooms and assist in many different ways with a particular focus on Literacy.

Cyber Smart Parents Link

This is a useful site I came across when researching some information during the holidays. As your children return to school and access technology to support their learning, parents may use this resource as a conversation starter.

<http://engage.acma.gov.au/cybersmart/2012/11/the-abcs-of-online-etiquette-a-guide-for-parents/>



YEAR 4 ENJOYING THEIR FRUIT BREAK



YEAR 4 GIRLS ENJOYING EACH OTHERS COMPANY



KINDERGARTEN SETTLING INTO CLASSROOM ROUTINES

MACARTHUR WELCOMES OUR NEW STUDENTS



NEW STUDENTS IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL



HAVING FUN IN TRANSITION

FROM THE LIBRARY: KIDS LIT QUIZ

This competition tests students' knowledge of books and literature. It is great fun and a good learning experience for the participants.

We will be entering two teams in this national competition on 21 March and 22 March at Mount Annan. Our students were successful in reaching the finals last year and we hope to do even better this year.

Students attend the library on Tuesdays at lunchtime for Tuesday Trivia to be part of the selection process. Teams will be selected from students who were in Years 4, 5 and 6 in 2013, because of the need for preparation last year.

First prize is the opportunity to take part in the International finals of the competition in Cornwall.

PARENT INTRANET ACCESS

Junior School Parent Intranet access login details are :

User Name: jsparent
Password: owl2014

Parents can access Class Pages under the T-6 Classes tab.



Junior School Canteen News

In accordance with our Live Life Well programme and healthy eating the Junior School Canteen will no longer be selling confectionery. Instead, students can enjoy an array of healthier options to assist them with their focus and learning.

SOME REMINDERS

A Few Reminders as we begin the School Year

Uniform

A reminder that students need to wear lace-up shoes. Please avoid velcro. Sneakers should be predominately white in colour.

Students need to have their hat at school each day.

Students are not permitted to wear earrings or jewellery to school (other than a watch).

Hair

Girls' hair must be neat and tidy and tied back with a black, yellow, bottle green or Macarthur tartan hair ribbon.

Reading Log

Please remember to fill in the Reading Log in the Student Diary each night



Student Pick-Up

In the interests of child safety please do not park in the pick-up area at the front of the school and leave your vehicle.

Bus Procedures

All students catching a bus from school in the afternoon need to meet the teacher on duty under the shade sails in the Middle School courtyard.

Handball After School

For the safety of the students, parents and younger siblings there is to be no handball played after school.

Welcome to 2014 in the Senior School

It has already been a very exciting start to 2014 with camps for students in The Senior School at Macarthur. There is no doubt that the camps were a great success and students have learnt a great deal about themselves and what they are capable of achieving.

Examination Term and Homework

For students in Years 10 and 12 Summer Term brings with it examinations as we count down until the end of the first semester of the academic year. Many students ask how to avoid examination stress and there are many different strategies. However, there is no substitute for early preparation and keeping on top of your work load from the beginning of the year.

In order for study or homework to be effective students should be doing a little bit often across all subjects. As a guide students should be completing the following amount of study or homework:

- Year 10: 10 hours per week.
- Year 11: 12 hours per week.
- Year 12: 15 - 18 hours per week.

Senior Study Nights

Senior study night provides the opportunity for students in the Senior School to use the Schools facilities outside school hours. They are nights that are supervised by Macarthur staff and run from 4.00pm until 7.30pm with a half hour dinner break. The library is normally open until 4.00pm each day. This is an ideal time for those students that want the support of a structured environment to assist in their studies, the use of a wide range of resources

or struggle with procrastination. Sessions are held on Tuesday and/or Thursday evening depending on demand and further information including cost is available on a note that went home with students on Monday. Spare notes are available from Administration.

Driving

Congratulations to those students who have obtained their Provisional Driving Licence over the holidays. A reminder to parents and students that in order to drive to or from school, students will need to apply for approval after they obtain the license but before they start driving to school.

Notes are available from the Heads of School Office. Driving is a privilege and it is important that students appreciate the responsibility.



University Visits

Students in the Senior years are strongly encouraged to be thinking about their life beyond school. As such on Thursday Year 12 attended at the University of Wollongong Discovery Day. This was a highly motivating day and has given our Year 12's a lot to consider. In Spring Term Year 11 visited a number of University's including UWS.



YEAR 10 CAMP



“Challenging but rewarding”

The Year 10 Camp this year was held at Action Learning Initiatives, which is located in Jindabyne, at the footsteps of the Snowy Mountains and the Kosciuszko National Park.

The students were divided into three groups and they participated in the following activities:

- 20km day hike from Thredbo to Charlottes Pass via Mt Kosciuszko.
- Full day mountain biking adventure
- River Sledding down the Snowy River
- Abseiling at the Jindabyne Dam wall
- Camping out for two nights
- Camp craft and raft building activities

The camp was a challenge for both students and staff. Many of the activities were very physically demanding. The students accepted and embraced these challenges with enthusiasm and determination. It is so pleasing to see the students gain many skills that they did not previously have, a couple of students even learnt how to ride a bike! They should be very proud of what they accomplished as they prepare themselves for the challenges of their senior schooling.

Nadine James
Head of Year 10 Camp



ABSEILING



RIVER SLEDDING



HIKE

YEAR 11 CAMP



“Surf and Serve”

Participants in the Year 11 'Surf and Serve' camp enjoyed great beach weather on the South Coast on New South Wales (Near Ulladulla).

The ethos of serving started with the students purchasing their food and arranging to cook in small groups and extended beyond our school to serve others in the community (at an aged care facility in Milton and gardening, which was arranged by the community outreach of the local Anglican church).

Surfing was great fun and included a lesson - some of us found easier than others! We also received instruction in stand-up paddle boarding! Back at camp we were able to reflect on all of this with devotions on service and in informal ways in our small groups.

David Hayman
Head of Year 11 Camp



SURFING



SHOPPING TOGETHER



COOKING FOR YOURSELF

YEAR 12 CAMP



YEAR 12 STUDENTS SURF
RAFTING AND LEARNING TO
SCUBA



The first of our lasts

This past week has been bittersweet. Ten years worth of Macarthur outdoor education camps have come to an end, and with that have come many fun-filled memories we will certainly not forget. Along with this excitement also comes sadness and uncertainty as we start to realise that our time at Macarthur is coming to a close. The end of a chapter always brings a strange feeling, and this was definitely an experience felt by Year 12 as we completed our final outdoor education camp at Coffs Harbour.

We were able to celebrate this end by spending our time at the beach, learning how to surf, scuba dive, white water raft as well as participate in a very interesting trivia night. Surf rafting, learning how to surf and the ocean awareness programmes were particular favourites of Year 12. Surfing was particularly amusing as we would all be in hysterics watching our friends try and catch the 'perfect wave' but instead just continuously fall off the board. White water rafting was also a highlight, although there were a few bumps along the way.

Although at the end of the week, we had our fair share of sunburn, it did not put a damper on the incredible week shared with friends. As we all shared memories on our time at camp while at Macarthur starting in Year 3 in 2005, we were also able to reflect on the fact that our camps have taught us how to persevere through challenges that we have been faced with on both a physical and mental level which will no doubt be helpful in facing the challenges that lie before us into the future.

Emma Nockles

Year 12 Student



READY TO RACE



PREPARING FOR TRIVIA



SURFING

An Exciting Year ahead

Welcome !

Welcome to new students entering Macarthur as we celebrate our 30th Year. We also welcome those who are returning to school. The teachers and I hope that all families enjoyed a safe and relaxing Christmas and New Year holiday period together, enjoying family time, and that everyone is energised, ready for the opportunities and adventures of 2014. The enthusiasm displayed by the students has been encouraging as we start a new year.

I look forward to meeting all the new families that have joined the Macarthur community.

Starting Well

The start of a new year means many things for the students. For those in the high school it means going to camp and catching up with friends. For those in Year 5 and 6 it means going into their new classes and learning new things and getting up early.

Having a good start to the year can mean different things. As part of encouraging the students in the Middle School to develop ownership of their learning, we are giving more time to the students with



the assistance of parents and teachers to help in identifying goals for the term and the year ahead.

'The game has its ups

and downs, but you can never lose focus of your individual goals and you can't let yourself be beat because of lack of effort.'

Michael Jordan

'SMART' Goals is something that you may hear the students talking about. If that's the case ask some questions help them identify what academic areas they are already doing well in, and some areas that they could improve. From there, when and how they can measure their goals. This process can be very effective. If you would like to find out more please feel free to contact Mr Davies or any of the teachers.

GOAL SETTING

S	Specific
M	Measurable
A	Attainable
R	Relevant
T	Time-Bound



Prefects and Student Leaders

Congratulations to the Year 9 Middle School Prefects and Year 6 Student Leaders on their induction into their roles for 2014. They have taken on an opportunity to serve others in the school community through their modelling and application through the year.

YEAR 7 CAMP



Year 7 spent the first day of their secondary schooling boarding buses and heading off to camp at Morisset accompanied by their Year 11 Peer Support leaders. After a couple of hours on the bus they arrived in time to settle into their rooms, have lunch and head out for their first exciting activity. It was not long before new friendships were made and all were having fun. Students were challenged on the ropes course, on the abseiling tower and the initiatives course. Sailing, kayaking, raft building and swimming gave the students opportunity to get wet and cool down. The dual flying fox and the giant swing proved to be very popular activities and lots of fun. However, the highlight of the week was 'Mud World' where students manoeuvred themselves through a series of obstacles and water-

slides. Students were able to demonstrate their culinary skills with the Spaghetti Bolognaise cookout and evening activities provided much laughter and entertainment. Throughout the course of the four days the Year 11 Peer Support leaders spent time getting to know the Year 7 students in smaller groups and discussing the different interests of group members in an effort to develop a groundwork upon which the students could better get to know each other. The students participated in a daily Christian Ministry session where they were able to hear the gospel and learn lessons from various bible verses. It was a fantastic few days and laid a good foundation for an excellent start for the Year 7 cohort.

Annette Fitzgerald

YEAR 8 CAMP

On 28 January 2014, Year 8 assembled at school at 7:30am and proceeded to embark on their journey to Waterslea, this year's site of their annual camp. Upon arrival, we were allocated into our rooms and were sent to unpack and prepare for the next four days. Once finished, we were sorted into our seven activity groups and told whom our instructors and accompanying teachers would be.

Each day consisted of six meals and a number of activities, most of which ended up being very tiring, yet extremely fun and rewarding. Some of the most anticipated activities included exploring and struggling through small spaces in a cave, repeatedly sliding down the waterslide and jumping from a jetty.

The first night, four of the activity groups packed their hiking bags. Half of them canoed, whilst the other half proceeded to hike almost five kilometres through the bush. All four groups met up at the scout camp where they cooked their own food rations, set up their tents and experienced a fantastic outdoor adventure.

The other three groups did the same thing the next day, shortly after their comrades returned home. The hike itself did not receive much positive feedback, although a sense of achievement was echoed throughout the groups.

On the second night of camp whilst the final three groups were away at the scout camp, the others were involved in an exciting game of 'Macarthur Anglican Minute to Win It'. There were many fun and challenging activities partaken, such as 'Hanky Panky', 'Dizzy Mummy', 'Shoe Toss' and 'The Apple Tower'.

Many activities were completed throughout the four days, including constructing and testing billy carts, abseiling down a cliff, manufacturing and racing rafts in the river, outdoor night games, trivia and several others that have been previously mentioned.

While some will remember this camp for its bad puns, blisters and chuck-ups on the waterslide, it was surely a memorable time for all those who had the opportunity to go, and will not soon be forgotten.

Mia Abdy and Cáitlín Crossman



YEAR 9 CAMP

Year 9 students of Macarthur participated in the Youthworks Horizon Programme at Rathane in the Royal National Park (Port Hacking). Students enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities in beautiful weather including Outdoor Climbing, High Ropes, Christian Discovery, Rock Climbing, and Initiatives. These activities allowed the students to further develop their outdoor skills and to engage in new activities that were challenging and rewarding. The Youthworks Programme at Rathane also included a fantastic Christian Discovery programme comprising of a series of presentations from the leaders at Rathane followed by small group discussions with teachers and Rathane group leaders. The students were to be applauded with the mature attitude and enthusiasm at these sessions and the Christian discussions that occurred.

All students participated in their Practice Duke of Edinburgh Hike doing the picturesque Coast Walk through the Royal National Park. The teachers and leaders of Rathane all commented on how positive the students were on the hike. The enthusiasm, spirits and teamwork shown on the hike by the Year 9 students was excellent and they showed a mature attitude regarding their first Duke of Ed hike. Some of the Year 9 comments from camp from the students when asked what they enjoyed about the camp were:

'The instructors and teachers (Mrs Molumby and Mr Horne) were great. They were helpful especially during the hike. They were great motivators.'

Dylan Aakhus

'The hike was pretty fun. Actually, during the hike it was one painful thing but after the hike you have a sense of euphoria. During the hike I really enjoyed the company of your Group.'

Georgia Klonis

'How everyone worked together and supported each other on the hike'.

Lulu Albarouki

'I enjoyed the challenges and experiences of my first long hike.'

Angus Hughes

'The hike was a great challenge and the assistance from the leaders and teachers was great.'

Richard Cartwright

Mr Stuart Hughes, Head of Camp

