



From The Headmaster's Desk

This past fortnight has been a busy time for our swimmers with the School Swimming Carnivals being held recently as well as the NASSA representative carnivals taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Over the years the sporting profile and therefore sporting success of Macarthur students has been steadily growing. I was delighted with both the School Swimming Carnivals. In particular I was pleased with the level of competition that took place which was finely balanced with a wonderful carnival atmosphere. The cheering and support for Houses as well as individuals was a great encouragement.

The Macarthur Swim Team has had wonderful success this year. In the Years 7-12 Carnival Macarthur came third of the eight NASSA schools, only being pipped by two schools with very strong swimming traditions in St Luke's, Dee Why and TIGS from Wollongong.

In fact our 17 and 18 year olds did so well that they won the Senior Division, breaking a five year stranglehold from TIGS.

The final over-all results from Years 3-12 is as yet to be finalised. Needless to say the

Macarthur Swim Team should be very proud of their excellent efforts and achievements. Special mention should be made of the Captain of Swimming, Nicholas Masjuk for his wonderful

leadership over the carnival period.

Over twenty students from Years 7-12 have now made it to the next representative level, making the NASSA Swim Team to compete at the next representative level. Well done to all.

Today we farewell the 2014 Thailand Outreach

Team. This year forty Year 11 students, accompanied by Mr Cartwright, Mrs Margin, Mrs Relyea and Mrs Stewart make a dedicated and well trained team. I will be joining the team a little later and spending the majority of

the Outreach Trip with the students in Chiang Mai in the north of Thailand before returning to Australia a few days earlier.

This trip is always such a seminal moment in the lives of the students who attend. Being able to put the motto of the School, 'Go Out to Serve', into practice in an international context is a truly wonderful experience. Please pray for the team as they depart, that they might have travelling mercies to and from Thailand. I am sure that they would also greatly appreciate your prayerful support of them as they serve others in what is often a challenging environment.



From the Deputy Headmaster

Talking Sideways

Sadly, when our children are born they don't come with general operating instructions. The other difficulty is, no two models are the same. Consequently, when they don't function as they should, getting the right expertise to fix the problem can be difficult.

Now I don't read a lot of self-help books, but occasionally you come across a gem. When I first read Steve Biddulph's classic *'Raising Boys'* I knew I had found the general operating manual I was looking for. I read it a few years ago and many of the lessons I learned then have stayed with me and have really worked when I have applied them at home and at school. I have found it a handy reference when dealing with both little boys and young men. Remarkably, though the male model comes in various sizes, the operational principles are largely consistent.

One small piece of wisdom that Biddulph suggests in his book is to 'talk sideways' to boys. It is such a small piece of advice, but I have applied it consistently to great effect.

Typically, boys and young men (and sometimes much older men) won't say three words if they think two are enough. At best you can hope for the headlines. Often, however, especially as boys get older, we are forced to make-do with primordial mono-syllabic responses from them that pass as language in the teenage universe.

This can lead to a great deal of parent and teacher frustration when trying to extract details about educational matters, friendship issues or troubled love lives. Being eyeballed by a parent across the dinner table or a teacher across the desk only frustrates the process further. Boys are typically uncomfortable in these situations and often get unjustifiably impatient with the questioner or simply clam up.

Biddulph suggests the best approach to getting a significant conversation happening between you and your son is to do something together alongside them. It may be washing the dishes, going for a walk, doing the gardening, building a campfire, sitting and staring in the same direction, fishing or any number of other activities where you are together, but not facing each other. For teachers this can be a little more difficult, but I often walk with students on the pretext of getting a coffee or needing the exercise. It never ceases to amaze me how much more readily students (both male and female) will open up on a short walk.

Biddulph doesn't explain why talking sideways works. But in the end you don't have to completely understand why your particular male behaves in certain ways...you just need a functioning model, because in the end you can't return him to the manufacturer.

Andrew Kokic

UNIFORM SHOP CLOSURE IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The Uniform Shop will be closed for the School Holidays as renovations to the timber ramp will be taking place and there will be no access to the Shop.

Parents wishing to purchase Winter Uniforms for their children should do so before Friday 11 April or Week 1 of Autumn Term to ensure stock availability.

Winter uniform commences Week 3 of Autumn Term, Monday 12 May.

Sue McKell

From the Dean of Studies

Creative and Critical Thinking

Thinking skills are a key focus of the Board of Studies for the new Australian curriculum. "Critical and creative thinking are integral to activities that require students to think broadly and deeply using skills, behaviours and dispositions such as reason, logic, resourcefulness, imagination and innovation in all learning areas at school and in their lives beyond school." Australian Curriculum - General Capability

To this end, at Macarthur, students will explicitly learn how to think by developing habitual thinking routines in K-6 classes and apply their thinking in a range of contexts in all subjects.

A team of Macarthur teachers will be engaging in action research to evaluate and determine effective strategies to promote thinking.



2H in thinking mode

Progress Reports

Progress Reports have been issued for all students in Years 8-10 and 12. Parents should take particular note of the effort that students are making in their classes as this is an important indicator of academic success. These reports will be a focus of the Parent Teacher Interviews scheduled for 13 and 17 March.

Half-Yearly Examinations

Year 8

Monday 31 March (for students who do English & Maths Honours) or Tuesday 1 April for all other students. Examinations conclude Thursday 3 April

Year 9

Monday 31 March (for students who do 5.3 Maths) or Tuesday 1 April for all other students. Examinations conclude Thursday 3 April. There will be an examination-free day on Wednesday 2 April. Students may study at school or (with parental permission) stay at home to study.

Year 10

Tuesday 1 April – Thursday 3 April

Year 12

Wednesday 2 April – Friday 11 April

All students are expected to remain at school for the Easter Service on Friday 11 April

Special Provisions

Students with special learning needs or medical issues will have been invited to have a range of provisions for the Half-Yearly examinations. These include a listening provision for students in Years 8 and 9, a reader and/or writer and extra time (for select students in Years 8-10 and 12 who have a diagnosed learning disability).

Help Needed

There are an increasing number of students who qualify for Special Provisions and we do not have enough supervisors. If you are willing to be readers and/or writers for the Half-Yearly examinations, please contact Anita Lesmana on 46296208. The shortest exams run for seventy minutes and the longest exams run for three and a half hours. Under new legislation, parents will, however, need to obtain a Volunteers Working With Children Check from the RMS.

Melissa Gould-Drakeley

Chaplain's Chat

Tips to Help Your Child Survive Year 7

Below is some practical advice for guiding your child through the challenges of Year 7. It is written by [Ruth Lukabyo](#), from a Christian perspective. Published: January 13, 2014.

A few years ago, my eldest daughter Hayley and I survived the transition to Year 7. It was a wonderful year where I felt so proud of my daughter for navigating through the challenges and becoming more independent and grown-up. So what would my advice be for parents this year with kids going into Year 7 in 2014?

1. Be Positive

I asked Hayley for the advice she would give to parents and she said, 'Don't let them watch 'Mean Girls' or tell them horror stories about your time at school'. Be positive.

2. Encourage independence but show grace

There are new skills to learn in Year 7 that will be useful for the rest of your child's life. Firstly, catching public transport rather than being driven to school. Hayley has to walk up the road and catch a school bus. In the first two weeks of Year 7, the bus was really late and sometimes full: this caused real anxiety! So for a couple of weeks, I walked her to the bus stop to make sure she was okay. We encouraged her to catch the bus even when we could have driven her, but occasionally (for example, exam time) gave her a lift.

The next big skill to learn is personal organisation. Hayley was given this huge diary with all the information she had to manage. She had to remember whether it was 'Week 1' or 'Week 2' and what books, sports gear or musical instrument to take each day. For the first couple of weeks I made her pack her bag at night time and checked whether she had everything, but after that it became her own responsibility.

3. Make home a 'safe haven'

As she started High School, Hayley's biggest concern was finding a 'group' – that is, a group of friends where she felt she belonged: but this can take some time. The Year 7 camp was very helpful in getting to know girls but it was not until Term 3 that the friend networks settled into 'groups'. It is really important for kids to feel that home is a place where they belong and are accepted, especially when they are feeling insecure with their friendship groups. Plenty of relaxed family time is needed this year!

4. Help them fit in, but not too much

Once Hayley had a 'group', she then had to manage the pressures of the group! The biggest pressure for her has been money. Having the right clothes (brand), the right phone, a big TV and house suddenly became very important to her. On top of that there was a pressure to spend lots of money with friends on movies and shopping at Westfield. We have tried to find the balance of being generous to Hayley but also trying to teach her that true joy does not come from 'stuff' but knowing who you are in Christ.

5. Strongly encourage them go to the Christian group

My husband told Hayley that she had to go to the Crusader group each week in Year 7 at least. Though you may disagree with our methods, it was helpful for her to 'come out' early as a Christian rather than it being a surprise to friends later on. She also made a cSixlose Christian friend who encourages her.

6. Pray with them

Starting Year 7 is an opportunity for both you and your child to depend upon God and his grace. Praying together will not only help you do this, but will strengthen your own relationship as you face the challenges ahead.

This article is from the 'Growing Faith' newsletter, published by the Anglican Youthworks.

http://growingfaith.com.au/parenting/6_tips_to_surviving_year_7?utm_source=GrowingFaith&utm_medium=email%2Bnewsletter&utm_campaign=20January2014

As Chaplain, I am pleased to say that a number of Year 7s are getting involved in the Monday lunchtime Oasis – Cru meeting (Cranmer Room) (voluntary Christian fellowship, run by the students (guided by staff); or the Thursday lunchtime Bible studies (Drama room - led by staff); or even helping to run the Year 3-4 Oasis – Cru meeting on Fridays or being involved in the Ministry Team meeting on Wednesday... but there is always room for more to come!

Reverend David Hayman

Community Chat

Parents and Friends

A successful New Family Breakfast was held last month. Thank you to all who attended. I hope the event was an enjoyable one. Thank you also to Yvonne Butler for talking on the



Parents and Friends behalf. It was encouraging to see so many Parents and Friend representatives in attendance.

Playgroup is up and running for 2014. Over the past few weeks we have had many new young members to welcome. Thank you Kareena, Robyn and Fiona for the amazing leadership you have shown and continue to show to this young group.

Guest speaker, Andrew Kovic attended Talk Back Thursday last week. The women enjoyed hearing him speak on "The Freedom of Boundaries". If you would like a copy of his talk please contact me and I will forward it to you.

Our Grandparents Day Tea Towel fundraiser is well underway. Can I ask all parents to please place their orders. Some tea towels will still be available at the Grandparents Day event. However, Numbers will be limited so please place orders to avoid disappointment.

Diary dates:

Women at Macarthur will again be hosting the High Tea at Harrington Grove this year. This event will be held on Saturday 17 May. Please set this date aside ladies.

The Headmasters Golf Challenge will be held on Monday 14 April. The venue for this event will be the Glenmore Heritage Valley Golf Club.

Community

I would like to welcome back Community Partners: MAD Excavations Pty Ltd, Handprint Photography, Chisholm and Turner Travel Associates, Macarthur Automotive Mercedes Benz and Kaczanoski & Co. We are very grateful and thank these companies for again partnering with us this year.

Please take every possible opportunity to support these businesses.

If you would like to find out about our Sponsorship opportunities available to you this year please contact me.

Sharon Pascoe-Thomas



Show Team News

Eleven students attended Kangaroo Valley Show on Friday 14 February to exhibit three steers they have been preparing here at school. While the steers were not placed in their classes they were competitive (our aim is to have them finished for the Sydney Royal in seven weeks time).

The students participated in Junior, Intermediate and Senior Parader classes during the day. Tahlia Darby and Mikaela Micallef reached the final in their age group - Mikaela was placed third. Macarthur competed against students from Chevalier College, Frensham, Elizabeth Macarthur High School, St Gregory's College and a couple of other schools - approximately sixty-five students were present.

Four of our students reached the final In the qualifying class for entry to the Sydney Royal Parader competition, they were - Jordyn Snape (Yr 8), Ellen House (Yr 11), Sean McIntosh (Yr 10) and Mikaela Micallef (Yr 12). Unfortunately none were successful in progressing to the Royal this year.

Our next show will be at Moss Vale on Saturday 15 March.

Milton Gower & David Baker



Junior School Canteen

Thank you to the Mums who have volunteered their time in the Canteen thus far. If there are anymore parents who would to spend a few hours in the Canteen, would you please contact Marilyn Rowe on 4629-6244 on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday between 8.00am and 2.00pm.

We have some new items: Mainland Cheese and Biscuit Individual Packs \$1.20, small tubs of dip - French Onion/Corn Relish 50 cents (available at Recess) Cheese Sticks 60 cents. Chicken Burgers will now consist of lettuce, tomato, cucumber and mayo or tomato sauce to make them part of the Green Category \$3.00.



+ *Art* History Europe Tour 2015

**Information Evening
Thursday May 1 2014**

Starts 7.00pm in the Chapel

**Positions are filling fast so get your Expression of Interest in
to secure your place on the tour.**

Swimming Carnival Report 2014

The Swimming Carnivals are a highlight in the school year. We were blessed with glorious weather for the 3-6 Carnival but unfortunately some wet weather for the 7-12. Participation and involvement in house spirit was very evident on both days with students supporting their house wearing house colours and the noise generated by each house in the "chant off" was amazing. The standard of competition was exceptional with ten school records being broken. Congratulations to the following record breakers:

Lauren Ward: 50m and 100m Freestyle in 11 Girls,
Owen Bazdaric: 100m Freestyle in 11 Boys,
Georgina Seton: 50m Freestyle in 13 Girls,
Adam Ebeling: 50m Freestyle and 50 Butterfly in 15 Boys,
Nicholas Masjuk: 50m Freestyle and 100m Freestyle and Luke Perich: 50m Backstroke

Nicholas Masjuk and Sophia Seton share the title of 'Swimmer of the Meet', both earning 72 points for Johnson and Marsh respectively.

Macarthur Swimming Representatives 2014

The following students represented Macarthur at the NASSA Swimming carnivals held at the Aquatic Centre at Homebush.

Junior Tuesday 4/3/12

Jorja Baker, Luca Bazdaric, Owen Bazdaric, Jackson Buda, Daisy-Meave Clapham, Holly Creber, Rebecca Dunbier, Austin Ebeling, Emily Groves, Grace

Jansen, Rose Jansen, Eden Kautz, Mackenzie Kautz, Jonathan Kennedy, Ginger Kennett-McLaughlin, Lucy Locke, Riley McNamara, Harrison Neumann, Lachlan Neumann, Kye Newman, Joel Offord, Zac Perich, Caroline Psarris, Charlie Smith, Lauren Ward.

Senior Wednesday 5/3/12

Esther Alexander, Robert Alexander, Sarah Alexander, Katrina Azzopardi, Amanda Bentley, Samuel Buda, Victoria Buda, Laura Chillmaid, Adam Ebeling, Jamie-Lee Hayes, Emma Houghton, Ellen House, Tobias Howard, Naomi Hughes, Abbie Jenkins, Jhett Kellner, Ruby Kennett-McLaughlin, Brodie Leone, Olivia Locke, Callum Masjuk, Nicholas Masjuk, Lucus Messer, Isobelle Offord, Andre Pearce, Austen Perich, Laura Perich, Luke Perich, Dante Petrin, Bessie-Lucile Platt, Ciara Platt, Keegan Potgieter, Georgina Seton, Sophia Seton, Morgan Smith, Alexander Spring, James Stelzer, Melissa Zenkis.

Thank you to all the parents who came and cheered and who volunteered to assist where needed.

**Wesley Horne
Head of Sport**

Student Achievements



Congratulations to Ruedi Holbeck (Year 11) on his recent AMEB results for Violin (Grade 7) and Trumpet (Grade 6).

Reminder to Parents of Year 7 and Year 9 Boys

Please return completed vaccination forms to the Administration Centre ASAP. The first scheduled vaccinations will commence on Wednesday 12 March.

Any queries please contact Sister Cameron 4629-6214.



Dads and Daughters Weekend
28-30 March, Telford, Port Hacking. A wonderful school arranged activity for dads and daughters (Yr 3-7). There will be limited spaces available. Please see Administration or Rev Hayman for details.



Congratulations to Karamveer Nagi in winning the 2013 Capture Photography prize for best photo.

Part of his prize was the chance to take some aerial photographs thanks to Mr Mark Kofahl of Solutions Outsource who was the sponsor the prize.

Details for this years Capture Photography Competition will be available shortly.

With grateful thanks to our Annual Community Partners



Student Learning Goals

I would like to thank the students, teachers and parents for their support of the new goal setting interviews that were held recently.

It is exciting to hear each of the students being able to not only articulate their learning goals but to be able to tell me their plan to achieve that goal and who it is that will help them to achieve it.

Here are some examples of student learning goals:

Matthew Patterson

(Kindergarten) - I am good at Art. I want to work on my Writing.

Sebastian Cabrera-Yee (Year 1)

- My goal is to improve at writing neatly and having great ideas to write about

Jasmin Smith (Year 2) - My goal is to get better at adding numbers together by the end of the term.

Lachlan Neumann (Year 3) - I really want to improve my Handwriting.

Luke Stewart (Year 4) - I want to improve the vocabulary that I use when writing.

iPads Galore!

By the end of next week each of the T-4 classrooms, including the Learning Centre will have a larger number of iPads in use for teaching and learning. It is wonderful for the students to be able to use these as a powerful learning tool in the

classroom. The young students are already beginning to use them in a variety of ways in each of the Key Learning Areas. I have also enjoyed seeing the students out and about using them to take photographs around the school grounds for a variety of tasks.



A Fruity Afternoon Snack

On Monday the Junior School were able to enjoy some delicious, juicy watermelon grown in our very own veggie garden. Thank you Year 4 and Mrs Relyea for providing us with some extra sustenance to get through our afternoon activities.

Important Dates

Wednesday 19 March

Senior's Week Concert - Junior School Choir, Choral Ensemble Camden Civic Centre

Friday 21 March

Grandparents' Day

Friday 28 March

2H Assembly 11.40am

Thursday 3 April

Year 1 Excursion to Featherdale Farm

Friday 4 April

Year 2 Excursion to Camden Show

9.00am-12.00pm

3W Assembly 11.40am

Friday 11 April

Easter Service and Last Day of Summer Term



YEAR 3-4 CAMP REPORT

Last Wednesday, seventy-six excited Year 3 and 4 students travelled to the Galston Gorge Crusader Camp, set in the bushland north west of Hornsby.

The students were faced with many fun filled challenges. The Year 4 students had to overcome the fear of heights in rock climbing and the fear of leeches while bush walking! They had to work co-operatively and think laterally in raft building and 'low ropes'.

Climbing on 'The Pole' was the fear factor for Year 3. They also had to work co-operatively as they constructed bush survival shelters and participated in initiative games. The challenge of hitting the archery target seemed to enhance their hand and eye coordination with a bow and arrow.

To have as much fun as possible in the swimming pool and on the games oval with the Crusader camp leaders was no challenge for all students! Even in the rain during the latter part of camp.

In addition to this, the students were encouraged to help with domestic duties such as dining hall preparation and clean up. Once the tables were set we all enjoyed plenty of healthy and delicious food.

One of the biggest challenges the students were faced with was how to respond to God's purpose for our lives. During the Christian Discovery time each morning, after learning some super-fun songs, games and dances, we were challenged about the potential of Jesus shaping the way we live our lives today!

During the evenings the fun and the challenges didn't stop! The first evening was a fantastic whole camp game of indoor 'Spotto' in the dark. The second evening was the 'Big Night of Fun' in the big gym hall where Crusader camp leaders co-ordinated one fabulous action game after another!

Along with the wonderfully friendly and experienced Crusader camp leaders and instructors, Years 3 and 4 were very fortunate to have the energetic contributions, of teacher leaders Mrs Stassen, Mrs Relyea, Mrs Neaves, Mrs Byers, Mr Langley, Mrs Stanley and Mrs Piggott.

All Year 3 and 4 campers are to be commended on their enthusiastic and co-operative behaviour and willingness to learn and have a go.

Mr Andrew Wood
Head of Camp - Year 3 Teacher



PHOTO GALLERY FROM CAMP



3-6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Swimming Carnivals are a highlight in the school year. We were blessed with glorious weather for the 3-6 Carnival. Participation and involvement in house spirit was very evident on the day, with students supporting their house wearing house colours and the noise generated by each house in the "chant off" was amazing. The standard of competition was exceptional with several School records being broken. Congratulations to the following record breakers:

Lauren Ward: the 50m and 100m Freestyle in the 11 Girls

Owen Bazdaric: 100m Freestyle in 11 Boys

Congratulations to the 2014 Swimming Age Champions:

8 Years Girls: Caroline Psarris
8 Years Boys: Luca Bazdaric

9 Years Girls: Eden Kautz
9 Years Boys: Zac Perich

10 Years Girls: Rose Jansen
10 Years Boys: Austin Ebeling

11 Years Girls: Lauren Ward
11 Years Boys: Owen Bazdaric

Mr Wesley Horne
Head of Sport



Week 6

Five Weeks at a glance.

The students in the Middle School have had an active five weeks so far in Summer Term. It has included; camp with its adventures and challenges, the routines of school, afternoon sport, the excitement of the Swimming Carnival for Junior and Senior students and auditions for the Junior School Musical 'Into the Woods Jnr'. We have also started a Running Group that meets on Friday afternoon.

iPads in the Year 5/6 Classrooms

The iPads have arrived in the Year 5 and 6 classrooms. The teachers and the students are very excited as they begin to explore the use of the tools to enhance learning. There are a couple of Apps that I would like to introduce to you that you may find the students using at home on their computer.



Evernote: This is a cloud based note taking and organisation tool. It is free and enables the students to create and organise notes that they can view both at school and home and that can be shared with their teacher.



Google Drive: This is a cloud based application that enables the students to create documents, spreadsheets, presentations and more both at school and home. Again enabling sharing when required.



If you would like to find out more about the applications we are using at school, have a look at the class pages which will give you a summary of the applications on the Year 5 and 6 iPads.

Managing Screen Time

Tips for Parents and Students

- 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.

For more answers to Frequently Asked Questions refer to the School Web Site.



GATEway Quest Students in Years 4-8

This action packed day of enrichment has some new activities like Mind Craft and Lego Motion and an Archeological dig with some that have been popular in the past like Robotics and Photoshop design.

Saturday 15 March from 8.30am-3.30pm
Register online by Friday 7 March.

YEAR 5/6 CAMP



The students from Years 5 and 6 were outstanding representatives of Macarthur last week when they attended Camp at Port Hacking. Nestled in a beautiful part of the National Park with easy access to the water students enjoyed participating in a wide range of outdoor and indoor activities. It was pleasing to see all students actively involved and having a great time despite the adverse weather conditions. Students experienced new challenges, acquired teamwork skills and enjoyed opportunities to develop relationships with students outside their own classes.



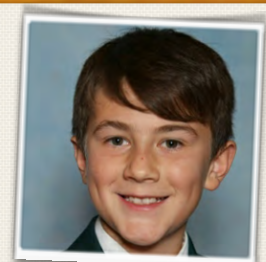
JUNIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Macarthur Baseball League
Selected in the NSW Little League Tournament.

Congratulations Joshua Hand Year 7 for making it into this team, where



Congratulations to the 2014 Swimming Age Champion

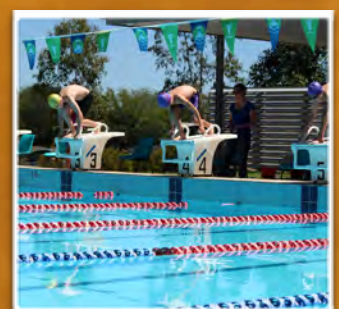
10 Years Girls: Rose Jansen
10 Years Boys: Austin Ebeling
11 Years Girls: Lauren Ward
11 Years Boys: Owen Bazdaric
Jnr: 12 Years Girls: Ginger Kennett-McLaughlin
Jnr:
12 Years Boys: Charlie Smith
12 Years Girls: Laura Chillmaid
12 Years Boys: Alexander Spring



'Mathlete of the Week'
5T - Madina

13 Years Girls: Georgina Seton
13 Years Boys: Brodie Leone

14 Years Girls: Olivia Locke
14 Years Boys: Callum Masjuk



OTHER EVENTS

Language Movie Night

On Thursday 27th February the Languages Faculty held an Indonesian movie night in the Chapel. "Denias", the film shown, is based on a true story about a boy (Denias) from a remote village in West Papua and it is a moving story of triumph over adversity. The film gives tremendous insight into the inhabitants of this remote region of Indonesia as well as absolutely breathtaking views of West Papua.

The night was a great success, with the students in attendance enjoying the beautiful weather as they ate authentic Indonesian food such as mie goreng (fried noodles) and beef rendang (a spicy stewed beef dish) "lesehan" style (outdoor dining sitting on mats).

Congratulations to Caitlin Crossman of Year 8 who won the lucky door prize of an iTunes voucher. "Terima kasih banyak" (a big thank you) to all who attended. See you at the next movie night!



Year 7 Welcome Evening

This was a fabulous evening where the Year 7 families and staff had an opportunity to get together in a social setting. Parents were able to see a video from camp and see the students participate in a Flash Mob. It was a marvellous time to get to know one another better and I would encourage parents to seek these opportunities through the year.



It's a HOOT in our Library!

Reading is a hoot down here in the library where the year has begun with lots of OWL themed activities and decorations. Everyone has been borrowing some wonderful books and we have had some great new titles that the students have been enjoying.

Transition are learning about routines in the library, Kindergarten are reading fabulous fiction books about food, Year One have been learning the differences between fiction and non-fiction books and Year Two have enjoyed playing the 'dice game' to learn about where we keep different books in the library.

Year Three have been following the 'Magic School Bus' through the human body, Year Four are

considering the impact of ebooks on reading culture, Year Five can tell you some very weird things about space as they compete to find the strangest fact and Year Six are honing their research skills as they look at journalism and fact finding in newspapers.

A great and busy start to Summer Term. We hope you are all reading something wonderful, don't forget that children who see their parents reading for pleasure are much more likely to do it themselves!

Mrs Shannon Laird and Mrs Susie McGlinn
Teacher/Librarians



'THE ZOOKEEPER' PRODUCTION

Students in Years T-4 were treated to an excellent Gospel story told through vibrant music, drama, dance and puppets on Monday 3 March. Naomi Reed's, 'The Zookeeper' begins in a wide open valley where the animals are known and loved and fed by the Zookeeper. They are reminded that the one place they can't play is on the other side of the sparkling river, in the dark forest. 'And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.' Matthew 28:20. This production encouraged all of us to reflect on what this verse means to us.



Year 1 Shelter Fun



SHARING STORIES IN TRANSITION



We love to listen to stories and look at lots of great books.

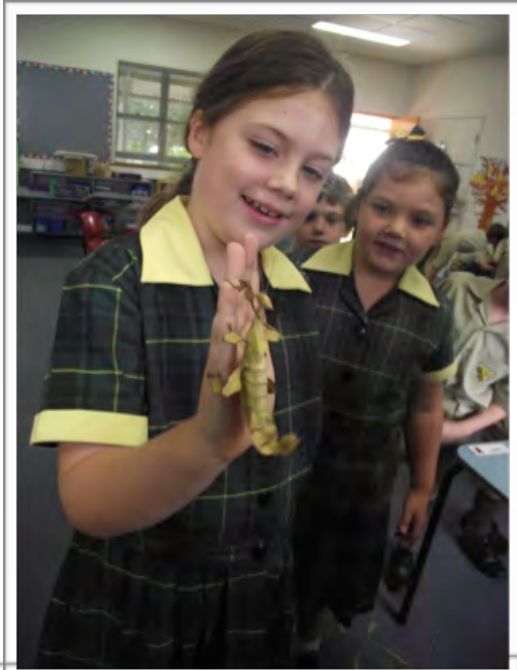
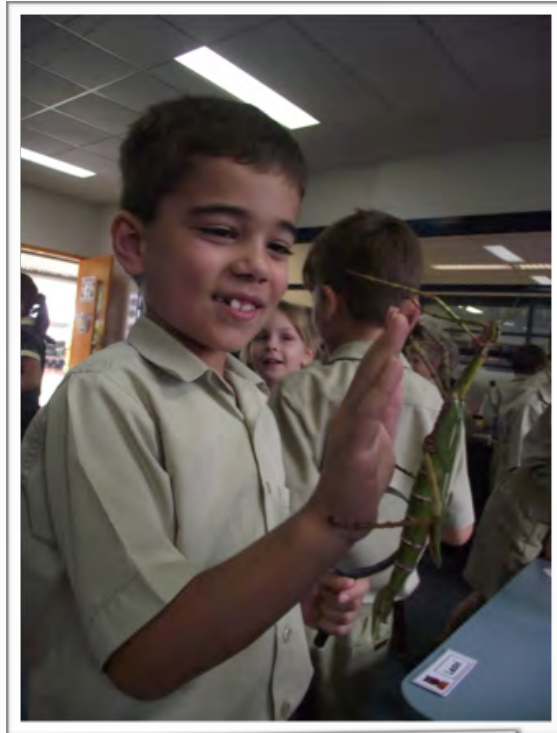
'Hairy Maclary' and all of his friends have many adventures and we enjoy hearing about 'Elmer the Patchwork Elephant,' 'The Gruffalo' and 'Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs' are always good fun too.

Mrs Morse
Transition Teacher



YEAR 2 'TRAVELBUGS' VISIT

Yr 2 had a wonderful experience learning about insects when Jacqui from Travel Bugs visited last week. She showed us many different insects and spiders and shared information about their habitats, food and behaviour. We learnt that they are very special creatures that God has created to do amazing things in our world. We are looking forward to seeing some of them in the school vegetable garden this term as we tend our newly planted vegetables.



Summer Term in the Senior School

Summer Term in the Senior School at Macarthur is a very busy time of year. It is once again wonderful to see so many students taking up the vast number of opportunities presented to them in the School. What has also been impressive is the number of students seeking advice as to how to improve their study habits and maximise their results this semester. Of particular note, is that almost half of Year 12 have taken up the opportunity to participate in the Year 12 Study Coaching Programme.

Study and Half-Yearly Examinations

Before the next Bulletin is printed Year 10 and Year 12 students will have started their Half-Yearly Examinations. Students should be beginning to increase their home study in preparation for these examinations. Students in Year 12 should now be doing approximately three hours of home study per night and Year 10 students at least two hours. Year 12 exams begin on the 2nd April and Year 10 on the 1st April.

Thailand Outreach

I would like to wish the Year 11 Thailand Team who are heading off today under the leadership of Mr Cartwright, Dr Nockles, Mrs Margin, Mrs Stewart and Mrs Relyea all the best for their travels. The students have put a lot of preparation into planning for this trip and are to be commended for their efforts. Our prayers are with the forty Year 11 students and staff who are willing to step out of their comfort zone to assist in a range of areas in Thailand.

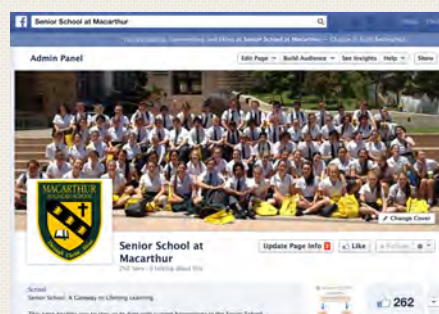
Year 12 visit UOW

Year 12 recently headed to the University of Wollongong to sample a day in the life at the University. A range of lectures were put on by the University to give the students a feel for what different faculties have to offer. Many of our students have since commented that this visit has motivated them to achieve more in their final year, while others have found out what they are not interested in. I would like to thank our students for their fantastic behaviour on the day. Should students wish to discuss their options for University they should not hesitate in booking a time to speak to me.

Senior School at Macarthur

To stay up-to-date with courses and happenings in the Senior School may I remind parents and students to keep tabs on our Senior School Facebook page. The purpose of this page is to keep our students up-to-date with what is happening in the Senior School as well as with information regarding tertiary studies.

However, it is important to note that it is not an expectation that students in the Senior School have a Facebook account. The information provided on the Facebook site is also directly linked to the Senior School Portal on the School Intranet.



NOTICES

YEAR 12 - CHAMP CAMP - SAVE THE DATE

22 - 26 September 2014

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



YEAR 11 COMMUNITY SERVICE

All Year 11 students are required to be involved in a Community Service Programme. As you are aware, our School motto is: "Enter to learn, go out to serve". This represents the commitment that is expected of all Macarthur Anglican School students, to serve the community. Community Service placements allow students to see both the need for community service within the local area and also the value of community service for both the people being served and participants.

Students in Year 11 will need to have accumulated thirty hours of Community Service before they start their HSC studies. Students who successfully completed the Year 11 Community Service Camp or Peer Support leaders who attend the Year 7 Camp in that capacity will have twenty hours of Community Service credited to them in recognition of their responsibilities and service. Students who attend Thailand Outreach or have completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award are credited with a further ten hours.

Each student who still has hours to complete should now be giving thought as to where he or she might like to undertake Community Service. The procedure for Community Service is outlined in the Student Pack which students will receive shortly.

Should you have any matters that you would like to raise about Community Service or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Senior School or Mrs Fellows on 02-4629-6239.

SCIENCE IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL

Students in Year 11 and 12 have the choice of four different Science courses in Years 11 and 12. The courses are Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Studies and Physics. As Science is not compulsory in Year 11 and 12, students in Year 10 are taught Science on a rotation basis with each term looking at a different branch of Science. Should students or parents have any questions regarding the study of Science in the Senior School they are encouraged to speak to Mr Paul Looyen (Head of Science).

Images from out and about in Science



OTHER NOTICES

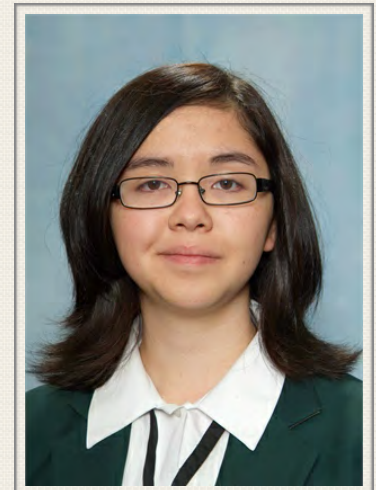
YOUTH DELEGATE TO JAPAN

This year in January I spent the last two weeks of the school holidays throwing snowballs in Japan, speaking in another language and staying with a family I had never known before.

2014 marks the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Campbelltown-Koshigaya Sister Cities relations - the most active international sister city partnership in Australia. I had the honour of partaking in the Twenty-Ninth Youth Delegation to Japan along with twenty other students, representing my school, council and country.

This was my first trip to Japan and only the second time I've ever seen snow. Arriving in Narita airport was a mix of excitement, a lack of sleep and adrenalin for me. On the first day I saw Mt Fuji, visited tourist spots and met my host family.

Over the course of two weeks I experienced an infinite amount of things - from eating sea urchin to experiencing the Japanese tea ceremony, visiting the local schools and visiting Disneyland. During our time together my host family and I bonded very quickly, happily finding mutual interests in Impressionist art and music. We continue to keep in contact and all wish to meet again. I enjoyed the time I spent overseas so much that I hope to travel back again for a full year student exchange in 2015, and again for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.



Jacqueline Robertson
Year 12 Student

STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK

Parents and students are reminded that the school subscribes to the Study Skills Handbook which has a range of fantastic resources that can assist in preparation for exams.

Our school's subscription details are: -

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

Username: formasonly

Password: 27results

