



From The Headmaster's Desk

As this week draws to a close we mark a number of significant points in the annual calendar. This is the end of the first week of the Higher School Certificate Examinations with a couple more weeks still to go. I am sure that you join with me in our continued best wishes for the HSC cohort as they continue in their examinations. Please pray for the students in what is always an anxious period, that they might make good account of themselves during the examinations and that they might have peace about what next year might bring.

Spring Term each year also sees a change that is almost unique to Macarthur, that is a change in the Academic Year for students in the secondary years of schooling. While I know of one or two other schools across the state that do as Macarthur does, it is certainly unique in our region. All secondary students have progressed a Year group and so we have the interesting situation of having no Year 7 cohort at the moment and a Year 13 cohort - our HSC cohort. Students have received their new timetables and have commenced their new classes with new teachers and of course a new Diary.

Over the many years that Macarthur has adopted this approach the value of 'rolling over' into a new Academic Year at this stage in the calendar has proved very successful. The possibilities of renewed focus and new beginnings is invaluable at a time that other schools begin to wind down towards their examinations and then of course Christmas. The Macarthur model means that we have a

clear focus on the year ahead - a great advantage.

Coming up shortly on Friday 31 October 2014 is a very important event in the life of the School, that is the Annual Benefit Concert. This is a concert where a number of small and large ensembles perform music in order to raise money for those less fortunate than ourselves. Again this year Macarthur is delighted to be supporting the African Aids Foundation, a locally homegrown charity that does wonderful work in South Africa amongst the AIDS communities.

When we look around our wonderful campus, not withstanding the fact that there is still much to achieve and develop, I cannot avoid sensing God's wonderful provision to us as a school community. We are greatly blessed. Can I appeal to you please to support this concert as we seek as a school to support those who are far less fortunate than ourselves - I commend AAF to you.



From the Deputy Headmaster

Teaching our Students to be Realists

Occasionally as a child I accidentally knocked my glass of milk over at the table. For a mother who grew up in the Great Depression this was a near catastrophe. At least this is what was communicated to me via her reaction. I would have modelled the same behaviour to my children until a friend pulled me up and said, 'Why get cranky with your child? Don't we all have accidents like this?' The simple truth of this small reproof changed my parenting style significantly. I became determined not to catastrophise events that simply weren't catastrophes.

It is so easy for we human beings to lose our grip of reality and you don't need a mental illness to achieve such a state. We are all somewhere 'on the reality spectrum.' As children we are often idealists. As adults many of us have an ingrained cynicism about the world. But in truth both idealism and cynicism are distortions of reality and are therefore unhelpful to our long-term mental well-being and outlook on life.

Both the cynic and the idealist make assumptions about life that are erroneous. In general terms the cynic sees the world through a pessimistic and negative lens. The cynic believes nothing can go right and pridefully assume to be able to mind read the dark motives of those with whom they find fault. The cynic is a judgmental grumbler. At their worst and most hurtful the cynic sees evil in the good intentions and actions of others.

The idealist's view of the world is also one that rests on false assumptions. It's great to have ideals and work towards them. However, realism demands that life will not always be the way you want it to be or even the way it should be. In life we will all experience disappointments, accidents, misunderstandings and suffering. To believe otherwise is to set oneself up for certain disappointment with life. However, our society today seems geared with the mentality that bad things shouldn't happen, but if they do, someone must be at fault and someone should be able to make it right. The ever-increasing compliance culture enforced upon us in our workplaces by regulatory agencies and insurance companies reinforces these erroneous notions.

Unfortunately reality demands that at times we accept that capable students are thwarted by family circumstances in their HSC year; injuries occur where none are at fault, especially on the sporting field; injustices happen in the playground due to a lack of reliable witnesses; snow trips are missed due to illness with no recourse to a refund (I speak from experience on that one!). If we refuse to accept life's realities and remain in our child-like idealism, life will be full of catastrophes. We will be unduly upset even when the glass of milk is knocked over.

Presently at Macarthur I teach an HSC Course called 'Studies of Religion'. An interesting fact I have learned in that course is how studies have shown that the average cultists are usually idealistic people from highly respectable families. However, many had grown up in sheltered environments, in which they were encouraged and rewarded for being over-achievers at school, but had their emotional growth retarded by being sheltered from the disappointments of life until they reached university or the workplace. Therefore, their transition to independent adulthood became difficult. This social immaturity led them into the arms of the cult because it provided a naïve idealism that appeared 'safer' and more satisfying and more controlled than the real world.

My hope for our young people at Macarthur is that they become neither cynics nor idealists, but young men and women who are realists with ideals.

Andrew Kokic

From the Dean of Studies

NAPLAN Results

All parents of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 should now have the results from the NAPLAN tests conducted in May. Macarthur's NAPLAN results were, once again, strong with the majority of students showing growth. This year, schools have been provided with the students writing samples and this provides teachers with extra information to assist students improve in areas of weakness. While Macarthur places more emphasis on the rich learning that takes place in the classroom than NAPLAN results, the data is a useful tool to assist teachers monitor student learning in the skills areas tested. It must be remembered, however, that a significant amount of learning has taken place since the students sat the examinations and the students' skills and understanding may have developed further.

7-11 Examinations and Reports

Many students place undue pressure on themselves during examinations and this often means that their performance is not commensurate with their ability. Parents should bear in mind that assignments, essays and in-class assessments are equally, and often more important, than examinations. Students who experience high anxiety levels should make a time to see their Head of House to who can provide them with some strategies and tips to better approach examinations.

It has been heartening reading the Year 7-11 reports and seeing how so many of our students have been excelling this academic year. Additionally encouraging is seeing how many students are involved in co-curricular activities and contributing to the wider life of the School. Students and parents are advised to monitor grade point averages and effort rating. Reports will be issued over the next week after marks have been checked by Heads of School.

RoSA

Teachers will allocate final grades for Years 10 and 11 grades this term. These grades are based on the BOSTES common grade scale for Year 10 and the Preliminary grade scale for Year 11. It is important for parents to note that these

grades may not be the same as those that appear on students' reports. This is because the RoSA grades place more emphasis on the latter tasks undertaken by the students as well as their performance in class. Students may demonstrate outcomes in informal, ongoing tasks rather than formal, summative tasks. Students will be able to download an electronic copy of their RoSA academic transcript at the end of Spring Term. BOSTES does not issue formal certificates or transcripts.

10-12 Students Assessment Manuals

Students will be issued with Assessment Manuals this term. These set out the guidelines and requirements for assessment tasks. An important section in this handbook is an outline of what students need to do if they are absent from school on a day an assessment task is due. Parents should be aware that all students in Years 10-12 require a medical certificate if they are absent due to illness.

New Curriculum

This new academic year, Years 8 and 10 students will be studying the new English, Science, History and Mathematics syllabuses. K-6 students also continue to embrace the new English curriculum with its strong emphasis on literature and critical thinking. Each unit of work is underpinned by a 'big idea' which helps students develop enduring understandings. In 2015, all K-6 students will be learning the new Mathematics and Science and Technology curriculum. In 2016, the new History will be introduced to students in K-6. Some teachers are trialling units of work with their classes this term and the students have been loving it! Popular ones are the cupcake unit that Year 2 have been studying to learn Maths and the unit 'Talking about Rights' that Year 6 have been studying. I have been impressed by the amazing quality of the student work that I have been privileged to view.

Melissa Gould-Drakeley

From the Dean of Students

The Award of Colours

It has been a number of years since the introduction of Colours for the recognition of student commitment and striving for excellence in all aspects of the School. It has been a pleasure to see the pride in which students wear their Blazers with the Colours signifying the merit bestowed upon them within their particular area of strength. Likewise, staff find the nomination of students in this way a significant and worthy recognition of the deserving nature which students demonstrate under their supervision.

It has always been the case that Colours are not simply awarded to students for participation in an activity or role. As we are aware, there are varying levels of participation and often varying levels of success. For instance, a student may have a degree of enthusiasm and commitment but not achieve the most impressive result as compared to the student who may only grudgingly participate in an activity yet achieve a very high level of success. The Colours system awards commitment, attitude, and persistence and will more often than not be awarded to students that have these qualities often resulting in high levels of success whether in sports or academic pursuit.

Changes to keep in mind that were introduced in 2013 are worthy of mention:

Firstly, students representing NASSA at an AICES carnival in Years 7-12 will be awarded a Sport Faculty Award at the conclusion of their NASSA event. This can be used to contribute towards a Certificate of Excellence. If a student represents NASSA in a variety of fields, nomination will be made for the award of a NASSA Sports Colour. No changes have made for students representing AICES at CIS level.

Sports colours are typically not awarded to students in Year 5-6 unless representing CIS or have represented NASSA at CIS at all three Carnivals.

Secondly, the award of Colours for Scholastic Achievement is based on the GPA of students at the conclusion of each Academic year. Students achieving exceptionally high GPA's will be nominated for Full Colours with Half Colours awarded to students who have achieved significantly high GPA's across all subjects. Students who demonstrate an ongoing pursuit of academic achievement without attaining the very highest GPA's may well be considered for Full Colours in recognition of their commitment and consistently high levels of personal achievement over a number of years.

It is the expectation that the existing Merit system outlined in the School Diary continues and is not replaced by the Colours system. Both of these are aimed at encouraging students to pursue their interests and their strengths with recognition along the way to encourage their continued dedication and high levels of attainment. Further discussion of these matters should be directed to myself if clarification is needed in any way.

Timothy Cartwright

Chaplain's Chat

Learning by Experience

Most of us learn from experience. I clearly remember wondering off and getting lost as a three year old; fortunately I was found, in the local shops, by someone who knew me (where I had followed my older siblings – at a distance). At the time I remember also 'justifying' my actions by saying everyone else was lost but 'I'm not lost!'.

So part of learning by experience is to have the opportunity to reflect on our experience in a way that translates the present experience into something that lasts. I certainly remembered to stay at home and not wander off after that!

I have recently been involved in two Macarthur activities that have given students the opportunity to engage in life experience (positively) and to reflect on this. One was the Year 6 North Queensland Outreach, the other was the Victorian High Country Adventure (for Yr 7-8).

In September 24 Year 6 students and four staff spent a week in far north Queensland (Cairns, Cooktown and beyond). We engaged with aboriginal people of all ages. Sometimes in playing games with aboriginal children, or listening to stories from aboriginal adults (and asking questions), or sharing painting with aboriginal instruction and help, or worshipping in an aboriginal church. In all these ways the students had first hand experience and observation of indigenous culture. They engaged with people and the bonds made, questions asked and times of sharing all gave rise

reflect on what this meant for them. How it changes our students will, no doubt, be something that occurs as they continue to reflect on their encounters over time; perhaps over years to come.



Last week sixteen Year 7 and 8 students joined Mrs Looyen and myself on the inaugural Victorian High Country Adventure. Again, midst the activities of horse riding, climbing mountains, playing in snow, cooking damper on an open fire, hiking through bush, seeing a snake!, standing in the bush of Stringybark Creek reserve (infamous as the place where Ned Kelly his gang ambushed and shot three police) we all had an

opportunity to learn through experience. To be challenged and face some fears, to appreciate the Australian outdoors, to just have fun!

All of which stays with us as we grow, hopefully, into the people the Lord wants us to be.

Reverend David Hayman



Community Chat

Welcome back to Spring Term. I hope you take time out from the busy day-to-day activities to enjoy this term at Macarthur. This term is an exciting term for students as they prepare for end of year celebrations.

Winter term concluded with our participation in the community Relay For Life event. This runs over a twenty-four hour period. I am pleased to say our team was supported well and therefore we were able to walk continually for the events duration. Thank you to all who participated. It was great to see the Macarthur marquee and banner flying high! Funds raised at this year's Relay totalled \$160,000. Team Macarthur Anglican contributed over \$3,000 toward this great outcome.

Camden Play Day was held during the last week of last term. This was held at the Curry Reserve. Thank you to all staff that attended and supported our display. Toddlers loved participating in all the craft activities the staff provided. These events provide great opportunity for us to showcase our School.

The School Calendar production is well under way now. There are still a couple of advertising positions available if this is of interest to you. Please contact me as soon as possible.

I am also in the process of seeking donations to assist with covering the cost of prizes for our Annual Speech and Awards Night. This event is one way we are able to acknowledge those students who have excelled in their chosen subject. If you would like to donate towards the prizes please contact Jo Cane from in Accounts or myself.

The letter regarding the Speech and Awards Night bus will be forwarded to you all soon. If you wish to use the bus please attend to this form as soon as possible after receipt as seats will be limited. This is a great way to take the stress of driving and parking out of the evening.

The Annual African AIDS Benefit Concert will be held Friday 31 October and will be held at the Camden Civic Centre. Please come along and enjoy an evening of enchanting music. Proceeds will be directed to the local charity African Aids Foundation.

Remember to support our Community Partners when the time arises! Macarthur Mercedes Benz will donate \$1,000 back to the School per new car sold. Please mention the School when first approaching the company. Please also support Kaczanowski & Co when looking to purchase all small goods, Handprint Photography when arranging that special photo shoot, Chisholm and Turner Travel Associates for all your travel needs and MAD Excavations when attending to gardening and excavation needs.

Parents and Friends.

W@M are in the final stages of arrangements for the Pink Ribbon Tapas Night. This event will be held at 7.00pm 20 October at Bistro Calavia. Guest speaker for the evening will be Maralyn Young from Breast Aware Australia. Bookings are online via our School website.

Our Volunteers Morning Tea will be held Thursday 27 November from 10.30am. This will be held in the Cranmer Room. This event is open to all who have assisted this year at the School. The assistance offered is greatly appreciated and this is one small way we can show our gratitude to you all. I will be contacting you within the next few weeks to invite you. However, if you have volunteered at the School this year in any capacity, please feel free to join us even if you have not been contacted as it is easy for people to be missed. RSVP will be due 20 November.

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



Annual Benefit Concert

in support of the African AIDS Foundation



Join us for a night of enchanting music that will raise money for this great cause.
Donations at the door, all proceeds go to AAF. Everyone is welcome - no bookings required!
For more information, visit our website or call Sharon on 02 4647 5333

www.macarthur.nsw.edu.au



Guest Speaker:
Maralyn Young
Breast Aware

W@M Pink Ribbon Tapas Night
Monday 20 October
Bistro Calavia
Start 7.00pm
\$50pp
Booking: www.macarthur.nsw.edu.au
seating is limited so book early.

Term Dates 2015

Summer Term

Camp Week Years 10 and 12

Camp Week Years 7, 8, 9 and 11

Student Lessons T-6

Student Lessons Years 7-12

Monday 26 January to Friday 30 January

Tuesday 27 January to Friday 30 January

Tuesday 27 January to Thursday 2 April

Monday 2 February to Thursday 2 April

Autumn Term

Student Lessons

Monday 20 April to Friday 26 June

Winter Term

Student Lessons

Monday 20 July to Friday 18 September

Spring Term

Year 12 (2015)

Seminar and Year 12 Consultation Week

Tuesday 6 October to Friday 9 October

Tuesday 6 October to Monday 7 December

Tuesday 6 October to Tuesday 8 December

Monday 7 December

Tuesday 8 December

Student Lessons T-4

Student Lessons Year 5-6

T-6 Speech Day Awards

Speech and Awards Night

Peter Pan and Wendy

The student cast of 'Peter Pan and Wendy' are continuing their hard work in rehearsing for the upcoming theatre production in Week 7 of this term. Students from Years 7–11 are involved with acting, set creation, and technical support, and are becoming extremely excited at the prospect of showing their hard work to the Macarthur and broader community. The show is suitable for all ages, and is an entertaining, colourful, imaginative romp into the wonderful



world of J.M.Barrie's Neverland. All are welcome at the performances, to be held in the Macarthur Chapel on Friday 21 November at 7.00pm, and Saturday 22 September, at 2.00pm and 7.00pm. Tickets are now available on the School website, so get in quickly to ensure you avoid disappointment.

Allie Margin
Drama Teacher/Director

USA Drama and Music Tour

Over the last vacation period sixteen students together with Mr Kokic and Mrs Marrable experienced an amazing tour of the USA from the East Coast to the Deep South. The cities visited included New York, Nashville, Memphis, New Orleans and Orlando, exploring such diverse musical styles as classical, folk, gospel, jazz, blues, country, rock, soul and salsa. The students saw the Broadway musicals Matilda and Aladdin, both of which were spectacular. A particular treat was two workshops by Broadway actors and a director, one of whom trained at the famous Julliard School. The tour ended with a great day at Disney's Hollywood Studios.

The whole experience was such a success that it is bound to become a regular feature of Macarthur's co-curricular programme.





State and Australian Snowsports

The State Inter-schools Snowsports event was held from Thursday 28 to Sunday 31 August 2014 at Thredbo. Macarthur was once again well represented with nine students across four disciplines. We had students compete in Snowboard Giant Slalom, Snowboard Cross, Skier Cross and Giant Slalom.

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

Congratulation to all our State Competitors:

Emma Cosier, Montana Byers, Nicholas Masjuk, Bessie-Lucile Platt (Year 12), Taylor Drayton, Callum Masjuk, Leon Vogeler-Schmidt (Year 8), Joshua Hand (Year 7) and Sascha Masjuk (Year 3).

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

- ♣ Callum Masjuk – First in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Second in Snowboard Cross
- ♣ Nicholas Masjuk – Second in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Second in Snowboard Cross.
- ♣ Sascha Masjuk – Third in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Fourth in Snowboard Cross.
- ♣ Emma Cosier – Tenth in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Fifth in Snowboard Cross
- ♣ Division I Girls Snowboard Team - Emma Cosier and Bessie-Lucile Platt – Sixth in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Second in Snowboard Cross.
- ♣ Division I Girls Ski Team – Montana Byers, Bessie-Lucile Platt and Taylor Drayton – Sixth in Skier Cross

Cross Country Snowsports 2014

Nine Macarthur students participated in these Championships. On Monday 25 August they participated in some intense training at Perisher Trails and used the skills taught to the best of the ability in a rain soaked Perisher on the following day. This is the first time that Macarthur students have participated in these championships and the students did themselves proud completing the required 2.1km Freestyle Event and the 3.6km Relay. Congratulations to the following students: Montana Byers, Emma Cosier, Bessie-Lucile Platt (Year 12), Lincoln Bartlett, Taylor Drayton, Jack Franklin, Jessica Hall, Jessee Sales-Hobart (Year 8) and Jessica Turner (Year 7).

The Cross Country Tournament combined with the State Competition gives Macarthur a ranking in the State for Snowsports. This year we finished sixteenth in the State in the girls and twenty-first in the State in the boys. Considering the high quality competition this is a pleasing result and we are very proud of our student efforts.



2014 Australian Snowsports.

The Australian Interschools Snowsports Championships were held at Perisher from the 11–14 September 2014. Particular congratulations must go to Nicholas Masjuk who is Macarthur's first ever National Champion for Snowsports – winning the Division 1 Snowboard Giant Slalom. Macarthur finished thirteenth in Australia as a school which is an outstanding result at the National Competition.

Snow conditions this year at the National competition were fantastic and all our students participated to the best of their ability and we are very proud of their efforts. I would particularly like to thank Mr Mark Byers, Mrs Caroline Byers, Mr Rick Masjuk and Mrs Michelle Masjuk for their support throughout the competition.

Results

- Nicholas Masjuk (Year 12) – First in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Third in Snowboard Cross
- Montana Byers (Year 12) finished Eleventh in Skier Cross.
- Emma Cosier (Year 12) finished Thirteenth in Snowboard Cross.
- Callum Masjuk (Year 8) finished Eighth in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Fifth in Snowboard Cross
- Sacha Masjuk (Year 3) finished Fifteenth in Snowboard Giant Slalom and Thirteenth in Snowboard Cross.
- The team of Emma Cosier and Bessie-Lucile Platt finished Eighth in Snowboard Cross and Ninth in Snowboard Giant Slalom.
- The team of Montana Byers, Bessie-Lucile Platt and Taylor Drayton (Year 8) who competed up two divisions for this team finished Ninth in Skier Cross.

Congratulations to all these students and there is no doubt we are looking forward to continued success in 2015.

2015 Snowsports

The dates for the Macarthur Snowsports programme are as follows:

Macarthur Snowsports Camp – Sunday 28 - Tuesday 30 June 2015 at Thredbo

Regional Interschools – Wednesday 1 - Saturday 4 July 2015 at Perisher

Scots and Redlands Cups – Sunday 5 - Tuesday 7 July 2015 at Perisher and Thredbo

State Interschools (Invitation Only) - Thursday 27 - Sunday 30 August 2015 at Perisher

Australian Interschools (Invitation Only) at Mount Buller (Dates TBC).

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

Scott Bedingfield





'Springing' into Spring Term!

Welcome back to the Spring Term. It was so wonderful to see all the students return on 7 October. Most were excited to see their friends again and to talk of the many adventures they had in the holidays. Some were still a little blurry eyed and adjusting to the new starting time!

It is hard to believe that we are already in Spring Term and that the students only have one more term left in their current grade.

I trust you all had a wonderful, relaxing holiday and found some time to reflect on Winter Term.

I call Spring Term the 'unravelling' term. I spoke to the students about this last week and set them a challenge to see if they can change it from an 'unravelling' term to a 'pulling it together' term. This should be the term where the students are pulling all their learning

together, both inside and outside of the classroom. They have once again set their goals for the term and are working hard to achieve these.

New Students

I would like to welcome the following students to our Junior School this term. It is pleasing that they already seem to have made some friends and are settling in very well. Welcome to :

Chloe Osborne (Transition)

Summer Osborne (Year 1)

Maliyah Ross (Year 1)

Alexander Condoleon (Year 1)

Anastasia Condoleon (Year 3)

Adrian Condoleon (Year 4)



Chloe Osborne (TM)



Summer Osborne (IR)



Maliyah Ross (IC)



Alexander Condoleon (IR)

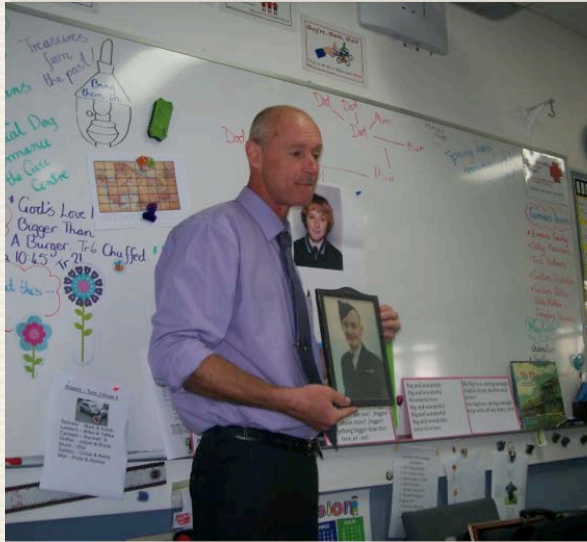


Anastasia Condoleon (3W)



Adrian Condoleon (4R)

GO AND GROW WITH YEAR 4!



Year 4 looks expectantly to a great Spring term with our Science Unit – *'Plants In Action.'*

It will be difficult to beat the wonderful investigating that students and teachers engaged in last Term with our History Unit. Our Colonial Day that took place on the last Thursday was a terrific culmination of this unit of work.

As part of our unit, garden buddies may be visiting your yard. It is an opportunity for students to share what their gardens are like. The garden buddy will tour the garden and be photographed in the garden with the student. Watch out for the decorative garden bag when it arrives home. Photographs may be simply emailed to your child's class teacher.

With the warmer weather the visits to the school garden will resume. Year 4 love to spend Crunch & Sip time there. The students are to be commended on embracing this venture. There is always a terrific range of fruit and veggies brought in. A reminder that water should accompany the crunch.

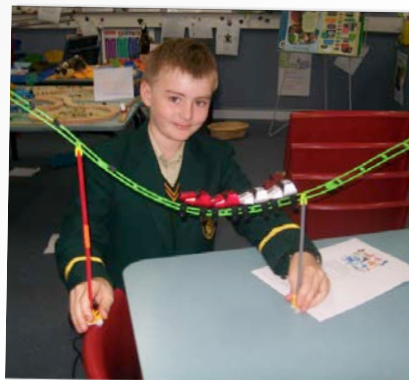
Along with Science investigations and recording, Year 4 will tackle problem solving in line with the new Mathematics syllabus as well as enjoy a range of fitness and literacy activities.

Our last term together should be engaging and rewarding for the students.

Mrs Neaves and Mrs Relyea



MR SENDT PRESENTS



BRYCE RUTTLEY



GARDEN BUDDIES

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Camden High School Equestrian Carnival

Congratulations to the students who participated in the recent Camden School Equestrian Carnival last term. Macarthur were awarded the trophy for the highest point score in the large Primary School Category for the third year running. What a fabulous achievement!

Congratulations to **Sascha Masjuk** (Year 3) on her impressive results in the Snowsports Programme recently.



KNOX CUP	INTERSCHOOL REGIONALS		SCOTS CUP	REDLANDS CUP		THREDO SERIES	NSW INTERSCHOOLS		AUSTRALIAN INTERSCHOOLS	
GS	IS SBX Ind	IS SBGS Ind	Scots Cup	Redlands Team	Redlands Cup Ind	Rider Cross Cup	NSW SBGS	NSW SBX	AUS SBGS	AUS SBX
1st	2nd	2nd	2nd	1st	1st	6th	3rd	4th	15th	13th

Congratulations to the following students who achieved either a Merit, Credit or Distinction in the recent UNSW Mathematics Competition.

MERIT

Elliot Herd	Year 3
Adam Krvavac	Year 4
Luke Moore	Year 4
Katelyn Scorgie	Year 4
Luke Stewart	Year 4
Angus Townsend	Year 4

DISTINCTION

Dawson Tatarinow	Year 3
Enoch Pei	Year 4

CREDIT

Isaac Grimes	Year 3
Shay Jensen	Year 3
Sakura Murakami	Year 3
Ryley Paki	Year 3
Alexandra Southern	Year 3
Isaiah Gray	Year 4
Rowan Hey	Year 4
Miles Prpic	Year 4
Claire Sich	Year 4

FATHER'S DAY & YEAR 3 EXCURSION - END OF WINTER TERM

The Father's Day Breakfast is always a wonderful way to let our dads know how much we appreciate them. The boys and girls in T-6 enjoyed eating, laughing and playing the many 'Minute to Win It' challenges that were set up throughout the morning.



ALEXANDER AND AINSLEY SOUTHERN WITH THEIR DAD



TESS PERICH AND HER DAD



THE PRPIC'S



What a terrific time of fun and learning we had at the Museum of Sydney and the Hyde Park Barracks. Mr Wood and Mrs Stassen

Spring Term

Welcome Back

Welcome back to Spring Term! I hope you and your family had an enjoyable holiday time together. The Term promises to be filled with opportunities for students to experience. As shown by the photos from the Victorian High Country for those lucky Year 7 and 8 students.



For students in Years 5 and 6 it is a time to reflect and finish the year well as they re-evaluate the goals they have set for the year and work to attain them, reflecting on things they have done well and things that could have been improved. It is also a time of preparation for 2014 as students prepare to move up a grade. Students in Year 5 are preparing to set an excellent example to the younger students, academically, socially and spiritually as they are soon to enter Year 6. It is also a time for Year 6 students to evaluate and work on their progress as they use this term to prepare effectively for their transition to secondary schooling.

For students in Year 7, 8 and 9, a new academic year presents us with the opportunity to set new goals and further develop study habits and

routines to achieve their best as they begin their new academic year. I wish the new Year 10 Students all the best as they begin the next stage of their journey in the Senior School. A cruise to celebrate this move will occur on Monday 27 October.

Spring Term promises to be busy and rewarding with the IPSSO Summer Sport Finals for Year 5 and 6 to be conducted in addition to the Strings and Band Evening on Monday 10 November which will showcase the benefits of

the music practice that students have undertaken all year.



The Bathurst Excursion for Year 5 and 6 is on 13 and 14 November. Please get permission notes returned if not already completed.

Year 6 students are also looking forward to celebrating their traditional bush dance at the end of the term on Thursday 4 December.

Communication Reminder

A reminder that communication to teachers is most effective through the Diary. I would

encourage parents to continue to check the diary each week and when things are occurring at home please write a note in the diary.

YEAR 6 NORTH QUEENSLAND OUTREACH



The students and staff had a wonderful opportunity to engage and learn in an environment quite different from Camden. We were able to spend time with Aboriginal communities, learn more about Australian history, Science and ecosystems.

FELICITATIONS!

Congratulations to Grace Amos, Madeline Mingay, Carol Morgan and Poppy Townsend for being selected as finalists for the NSW Linguafest competition for their French film "Un Message". The students have been learning French as part of the 'French for Fun' lunchtime club. The students produced a two minute film including the signature item of a mirror and following the theme "A Change". Their film will be screened at the Dendy Quays Cinema in November.



Congratulations to Barker House for their current lead in House Points.

HOMEWORK HELP FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7 - 9.

English

When: Thursdays 3pm - 4pm
Where: Library

Maths

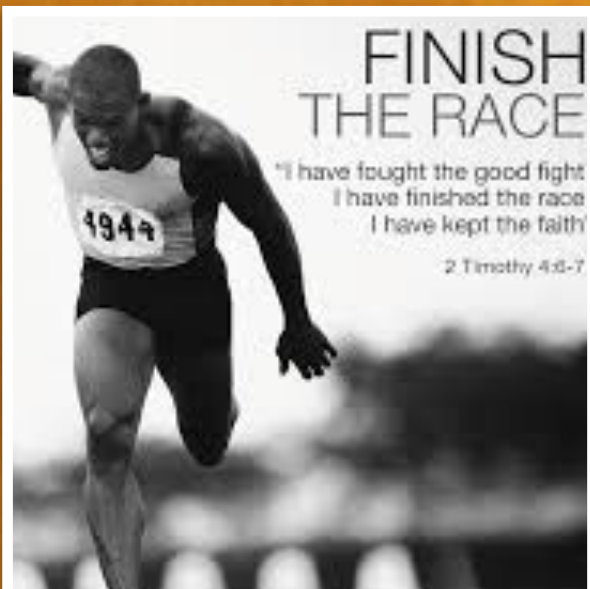
When: Tuesdays 2.50 -4.00pm Week B
When: Thursday 2.50 -4.00pm Week A
Where: Patrick 5
What: Working on Homework or study
asking Questions
Using computers for mathematics
related questions

Science

When: Tuesday 7.20am - 8.10am
Where: SC2



Students receiving their Faculty Awards and School Service Awards



STUDY SKILLS

WHY DO WE HAVE TO HAVE HOMEWORK?

Homework in secondary school serves many purposes. It could be to consolidate or check or extend the learning from the day or prepare for the learning to come in subsequent days. It could be to do with longer term work such as assignments or preparing for tests and examinations. Ultimately it comes back to what school is all about – learning. Learning not just content, but learning and developing skills. At times students feel that the work they are doing at school is not relevant to their lives, however, sometimes we need to look beyond the content to the purpose of the learning exercise. At times the content will be a vehicle to teach particular skills. Much of what students learn in Mathematics develops the problem solving circuits in their brain. When they are analysing Shakespeare they are learning not just about Shakespeare but to think critically and expand their point of view and broaden their experience of the world through examination of different lives, emotions and experiences. The message is that everything learnt at school has purpose and value, even if students can't quite see it at the time.

There is much debate in the media as to the value of homework. In Primary school it has been shown that only a small amount of students actually benefit from doing homework in terms of academic achievement. The exception to this is reading at home – every student benefits from this. However, the other benefits can't be discounted: developing independent working skills, establishing study routines necessary for learning in later years, helping students master things they are struggling with and allowing parental involvement. In secondary school homework has been proven to be an essential component of academic success in the senior years. The reality of Year 11 and 12 is that a large component of independent learning needs to be undertaken at home. One of the biggest problems for students transitioning to the senior years is that they have not learnt to work effectively and efficiently in the home environment. This is why developing good habits and learning to do at least a solid hour a day of home study is essential in Years 7-10. It is also about developing the qualities of discipline and perseverance, both essential for senior studies. Students will not like every subject equally, students need to learn how to make themselves do the work even for their least favourite subjects.

So what can students do to manage their homework effectively? Have students try these top tips:

As soon as you get home unpack your bag before you have a break and something to eat. Lay out all the work first. It is easier to get started if you have everything ready to go.

Before you start work, write a list of what needs to be done and decide what order you will do it. Focus on what is most important, not just what subject you like best! Also write down how long you think each task will take to do.

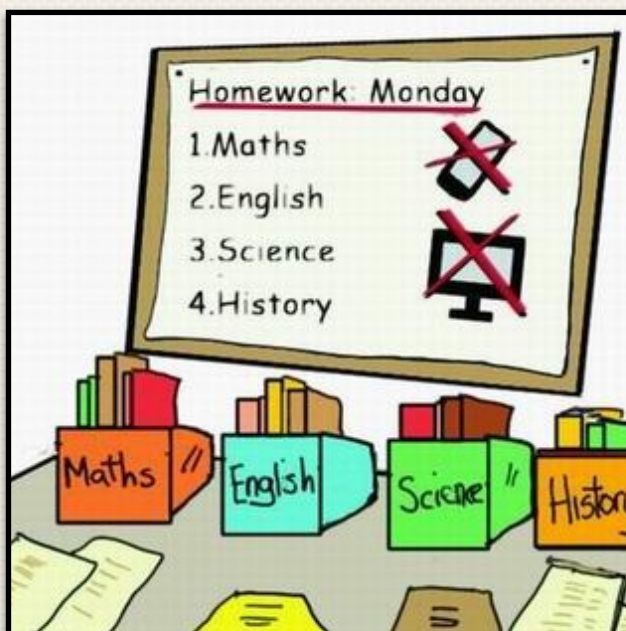
Keep in your mind that it is all about learning. Try and look beyond the actual content to what type of skill this homework might be developing in you – analysing, critical thinking, writing skills, or problem solving skills for example.

Do your work in 20-30 minute blocks with no distractions during that time. So switch off the TV, turn off your phone for that 20-30 minutes. When you just focus on the work that needs to be done you'll be amazed at how much work you complete. Of course if you are on a roll, you can keep going past the 30 minutes.

If there is a task you really don't want to do then alternate this with a task you enjoy doing. For example 15 minutes on the homework you like, 5 minutes on the homework you don't like. When you chip away at it you will be surprised how quickly you get through the work.

You can learn more in the Research Skills unit on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and our new unit coming at the end of this year on Assignment Skills. Our school's subscription details to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au are -

Username: formasonly
Password: 27results



Spring Term - Welcome to a New Year

The beginning of Spring Term marks a number of exciting changes and events for students in the Senior School. For Macarthur students moving from one year to the next brings with it both a fresh start and an increase in responsibilities and expectations. It also brings with it many new and exciting opportunities. For Year 10 this includes the wearing of a new uniform and the commencement of formal external assessment - The Record of School Achievement (RoSA). I have highlighted below some of the events happening for each year group below.

Year 12 - 2014

Year 12 - 2014 have now completed the first week of their HSC and are looking forward to their final two formal events at the school. The Graduation Dinner on the 14 November and Speech Night on 9 December. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the more than twenty students who have already been accepted into the University of Wollongong through their Early Admission Program (This is double last years number).

Year 12 - 2015

Our new Year 12's are busily working through what their Yearly Examination results mean for them and are seeking advice as to their patterns of study in the HSC year. Many students are taking up the challenge of extension subjects and I wish them all the best for their studies. This term sixty-eight of our new Year 12 students will be participating in the Macarthur Ball on the 24 November and I am sure that this will be a wonderful event for these students.

Year 11

For Year 11 this term marks the beginning of their Preliminary HSC courses and with it a range of opportunities including:

- Connect at Kiah Ridge - 30 October
- UWS Open Day - 6 November
- First Aid Course - 13/14 November
- Sydney and NSW University Visit - 26 November
- Wet n Wild - 28 November

Year 10

For Year 10 the new academic year marks the beginning of the RoSA and students are encouraged to try their best in all aspects of the courses as they work towards achieving this credential. An information session regarding the RoSA will be held in the new year. The big event for Year 10 is the Cruise to be held on 27 October.

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 careers and tertiary institutions.



LEADERSHIP CAMP 2014

Last week, nineteen fresh faced Year 12 students headed off to Chaldercot at Port Hacking for four days of training at Macarthur's Leadership Camp. Unlike the usual nature of school camps, this camp consisted of very few organised activities, but rather involved a combination of presentations, brainstorming sessions and time to develop into a leadership team.



Many members of staff presented to us, including Reverend Hayman, Mr Hordern, Mrs Wong and Doctor Nockles. As the new leaders of the School, we were given the opportunity to learn from the Headmaster in a relaxed environment as well as respectfully question the nature of different elements of Macarthur life in order to better understand the ideals of our school. This understanding will be well used by the team in order to better serve our school over the coming year.

It was also illustrated to us the equal importance of different personalities within a team, and through group activities, we began to understand our individual strengths and skills which we could use to contribute to the group. Embarking upon the camp, I had not expected the development of such camaraderie between the members of the team over a mere four days.

The 2015 Leadership Team has a unique abundance of humour, which made the camp both a productive and enjoyable environment. Brainstorming sessions were open and honest, with all ideas – no matter how ludicrous – given equal consideration, and ironically, it was the most ridiculous ideas which became the most promising campaigns. The relationships established from being tied together during the Amazing Race, chasing the volleyball down a hill to stop it from being lost to the water and the numerous cups of tea consumed daily made for an enjoyable week, creative ideas and a promising year to come.



Ellen House
Year 12 Student

CHAMP CAMP 2014

In what ways is Macarthur Unique? Champ Camp for one!

Few schools run study camps for their Year 12 students prior to the HSC, but Macarthur has done so for close to twenty years. Many teachers voluntarily give up a significant amount of their precious holiday time to attend, supervise, run sessions, mark work and answer questions at a time when the students are most focussed.

Students this year greatly appreciated the comfortable facilities and excellent food at KCC Conference Centres in Katoomba, and they made very good use of their time, demonstrating self-discipline, focus and appreciation of their teachers' contributions that were exceptional. Many were surprised at the amount of work they got through and have continued this pattern of study set at camp to their HSC.

The routine set certainly helps our students to hone their skills and a number in the past have said 'Champ Camp is the best thing I ever did'.

The whole event is a tribute to the commitment our staff have to their students.

Mrs Low

Champ Camp Co-ordinator



THE RoSA

Literacy and Numeracy Tests

The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES) has developed optional Literacy and Numeracy tests for students who intend to leave school before the HSC. The tests have been designed to provide these students with reports detailing their level of skill in literacy and numeracy.

Discussions with employer groups reveal that the ability to provide tangible evidence of these skills is highly regarded when they are making a decision to employ.

The tests focus on the literacy and numeracy skills required by school-leavers for employment and further education and consist of a range of short-answer questions that relate to aspects of everyday life such as reading a recipe, preparing a quote and providing directions to a location.

They are prepared and marked by the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES). Students will sit for the tests online and under supervision at school.

Test results will be made available shortly after the tests conclude. Interim Literacy and Numeracy test reports can be downloaded via the BOSTES portal Students Online for presentation at job interviews or to add to a résumé. BOSTES will issue all participants with formal Literacy and Numeracy Test Reports when they leave school.

If you have a son or daughter who is thinking about leaving school before the HSC, I ask that you raise with them the option to take these tests as the experience will be of particular benefit for future employment or further education.

An example of these test reports can be found on the BOSTES website:
<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/rosa/credentials.html>

It is important that students notify Mr Bedingfield if they intend to leave school before the completion of the HSC so that they can be enrolled to take the tests.

SPORTING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Bessie-Lucile Platt for her Second Place in the 400m at the recent NSW All Schools Championships. Bessie-Lucile also placed third in the 200m. These are remarkable results particularly considering Bessie-Lucile injured her foot the weekend before the championships. Because of these excellent results Bessie has been invited to participate in the National Championships in the 200m and 400m.

