Hosting Cross Country carnivals, school photographs and a Junior School Music Concert have all been features of the last two weeks at Macarthur and have resulted in many visitors to the School.

Macarthur hosted both the NASSA and AICES Cross Country Carnivals with well over one thousand students, coaches and parents from other schools visiting us. Our course is well regarded by other schools. Some ten Macarthur students have been selected as a result of these two carnivals to represent AICES at the Combined Independent Schools (CIS) Carnival held at Eastern Creek. We wish them great success.

The two photo days went well under the firm hand of our Deputy and will produce happy and lasting memories of Macarthur in 2008 for our students and their families to look back on in years to come.

The Junior School Music Concert was a treat for all who attended. The excellent individual performances, many on strings, were very enjoyable and certainly bode well for our Orchestra in the years ahead. I was particularly pleased to hear a number of students playing the acoustic guitar. That instrument has such mellow tones and under Mr Birch’s tuition the performances were a delight. I look forward to a guitar ensemble in the not too distant future. Indeed I must pay credit to our peripatetic music teachers for their fine teaching and their enthusiastic and well-prepared students.

The recent change to Winter Uniform has our students looking very smart indeed. It is good to see them wearing their uniform with pride and I congratulate each one on their appearance.

RILEY WARREN
Headmaster
SUBJECT SELECTION INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEARS 8 AND 10

Students in Years 8 and 10 and their parents are invited to attend an information evening concerning subject selections for the next academic year, to be held on Thursday 12 June 2008 in the School Chapel. This is a most important occasion to obtain information for next year’s studies.

Information for Year 8 parents and students will commence at 7.30pm, and for Year 10 parents and students at 8.30pm. This will also provide the opportunity to outline the arrangements for the change from Year 10 to Year 11 this year.

Students should note that they should be dressed in their school uniform on this occasion.

Faculty Heads, Heads of School and Heads of Year, will be available to assist with information. A Studies Handbook will be distributed, one to each family.

A selection form will also be distributed. This form will need to be returned by Friday 20 June 2008.

YEAR 12 PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parents of students in Year 12 are warmly invited to participate in Parent/Teacher interviews, which will be held on Wednesday 18 June 2008.

ANDREW KOVIC
Director of Studies

The 5 Club
Oars, Oranges, Obstacles, Opportunities, Olympics
Years T-6 for the ‘Five-O’ Experience

Cost: $7 per day (includes morning tea, craft, games, Bible story, activities, Mini-Olympics and lots of fun)
Places are limited - Registration slip & money (cash preferable) to the School Accounts office ASAP.
(Enquiries regarding the programme please contact Chaplaincy/Mrs Davis on 4629 6225)

Please continue to support these missionary families with your donations and your prayers.

Jono, Amy, Lili, Isaac, Brie and Abe Vink
who work with the Church Missionary Society in Tanzania
javink@cms.org.au

Mike, Chantelle and Rachel Keith
who work for the Bush Church Aid Society in Lightning Ridge
mckeith@westnet.com.au
Christians can be described from many angles, but we ‘may cover everything’ by the following:

“True Christians are those who know Christ as Lord and Saviour in their life. True Christians are people who acknowledge and live under the word of God. They submit without reserve to the word of God written in ‘the Book of Truth’ (Daniel 10:21) believing the teaching, trusting the promises, following the commands. Their eyes are to the God of the Bible as their Father, and the Christ of the Bible as their Saviour. They will tell you, if you ask them, that the word of God has both convinced them of sin and assured them of forgiveness. Their consciences are captive to the word of God, and they aspire, like the Psalmist to have their whole life brought into line with it.

“Oh that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees!”
“I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.”
“Teach me your decrees.” (Psalm 119:5, 10, 26.)

The promises are before them as they pray, and the commands are before them as they go about their daily tasks. Christians, while they are independent people have been given a gift from God; the person of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens them and illuminates the truth of God to their hearts and minds. The Christian will use the word of God as a touchstone by which to test the various views that are put to them, and they will not touch anything, which they are not sure the Bible sanctions.”

Why does this description fit so few of us who profess to be Christians these days? Could it be that some of us are nominal Christians?

You may find it profitable to ask yourself, to read the Bible afresh, to test your conscience, and let it tell you. Or maybe you could contact Steve or Ros at Chaplaincy on 4629 6225 or email: church@mas.nsw.edu.au

STEVEN DAVIS
Chaplain
The Middle School and Senior School Cross Country was held on Thursday 1 May 2008. It is a competitors only event and students sign up before the day. This year the top six runners from each group went through to the NASSA Cross Country.

Congratulations to our 2008 Cross Country Age Champions. They will be awarded a trophy at our annual Sports Dinner in September.

**12 Years Boys**  Tynan Williams  
**12 Years Girls**  Kaylie Ekinci  
**13 Years Boys**  Teo Markou  
**13 Years Girls**  Shannen Lillis  
**14 Years Boys**  Gareth Mumby  
**14 Years Girls**  Laura Seeney  
**15 Years Boys**  Michael van den Heuvel  
**15 Years Girls**  Hillary Buckler  
**16 Years Boys**  Ben Stirling  
**16 Years Girls**  Kasey Mumby  
**17 Years Boys**  Justin Dixon  
**17 Years Girls**  Tessa Stovell  
**18 Years Boys**  Joshua Fleming

Macarthur hosts both the NASSA and AICES Cross Country races. Macarthur came sixth overall in the NASSA Carnival with our girls placed sixth and our boys placed third. Our runners in the Junior division (12-14 years) came fourth, our Intermediate runners (15-16 years) placed fifth and our Seniors placed third.

Justin Dixon, Tessa Stovell and Teo Markou came first in their races while Gareth and Kasey Mumby each placed second in their races and Michael van den Heuvel came third. Seven other runners also made it through to AICES. At the AICES Cross Country on 21 May 2008, NASSA came second. Justin Dixon placed first in the U17 boys race, Kasey Mumby place 2nd in the U16 Girls and Gareth Mumby placed 2nd in the U14 Boys race. Another five students made it through. Eight students will compete at the CIS Cross Country Carnival at Eastern Creek on 30 May.

It has been wonderful to see the large number of parents who bring their children to representative events and cheer both their students, the School and NASSA. A big thank you for their support.

**ERICA LOYEN**  
Sport Coordinator

**JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC RECITAL**

On Tuesday 20 May the Junior School Music Recital was held to the delight of parents and staff alike. Students prepared, auditioned and then performed a solo piece on their chosen instrument, with items as diverse as guitar duos and trios, piano, flute, voice, viola, cello and violin. Students learnt the many responsibilities of concert etiquette and performed with maturity and musical skill. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear our musicians of tomorrow.

**FIONA COLEMAN**  
Music Teacher
FROM THE SCHOOL FARM

We are going into Winter with our farm paddocks in good condition with good pastures for our show Angora goats. The goats were recently shorn and their fleece will be auctioned off later this year as part of a national Mohair pool. A number of our female goats will be mated with bucks from our school and from Wilton Park Angora stud.

Unfortunately at this time of year our laying hens reduce their egg laying dramatically as they moult and replace their feathers. We have sold off a number of old stock but have received a donation of three dozen new day old chicks to replace them. These chicks will be laying big brown eggs in October.

Eighteen high schools across Sydney are competing in the 2008 Unischools Steer Challenge organised by the University of Western Sydney’s School of Natural Sciences. Macarthur Anglican School has a team of seven students involved in this programme.

Each participating school receives a Poll Hereford steer. On Tuesday 13 May Mr Gower and Mrs Glover took our show team students to collect ours. This Poll Hereford steer will be fed, groomed and trained by our show team students. He will be weighed on a weekly basis and in 100 days, the steers will then be presented at a local competition with 17 other competing schools at Hawkesbury Showground and then the Central Coast Prime Beef Show in August. After the competitions the steers are sold on the beef market.

GEOFF KIBBLEWHITE
Farm Manager

INDIVIDUAL SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Swimming: Kaylie Ekinci (Year 7) qualified to represent AICES at CIS in the U12 Girls 50m Butterfly. At the CIS carnival she placed 3rd in her heat and 7th overall.

Touch Football: Laura Seeney (Year 9), Nathan Tucker (Year 9), Adam Novek (Year 9) and Brittany Kenny (Year 7) were chosen as members of the U15 NASSA Touch Football Teams. Mrs. Allen was coach of the Open Girls Team. Brittany was also chosen as a member of the U15 AICES team.

Football: Daniel Favretti (Year 12) and Orcadia McCann (Year 9) were chosen for the NASSA Open Football teams. Orcadia will play with the AICES team this Thursday at the CIS Football Tournament. Mr. Horne will coach the AICES Boys team.

Netball: Maddison Brown (Year 9), Katherine Harris (Year 7), Rachael Mamo (Year 8) played in the U15 NASSA team. Mrs. Watkins was the coach of the NASSA team. Gabrielle Leahy (Year 10) was chosen as a member of the NASSA Open team. Maddison was chosen in the both the AICES and CIS U15 Netball team. The CIS team will compete in the NSW All Schools Netball Tournament.

Hockey: Joshua Fleming (Year 12), Tessa Fleming (Year 10), Meredith Landon (Year 10), Michell’e Donnelly (Year 11) and Georgia Armstrong (Year 8) travelled to Newcastle to play in the AICES Hockey Tournament. Miss Fenton went as coach of the NASSA Open Girls team and Mr Gower was a Selector for the CIS Girls team. Joshua was chosen for both the AICES Open Boys team and then the CIS team. He will join Meredith Landon, who will represent CIS in the U16 Girls team, at the next level of competition. The boy’s team will play at Hockeyfest – an international tournament in June, the girl’s team will play in a NSW All Schools Tournament in July.

Sally-Ann Legge (Year 7) was selected in the Under 13 Girls Macarthur regional Representative Hockey Team.

ERICA LOOYEN
Sport Coordinator

Visit our new Website

www.macarthur.nsw.edu.au
NATIONAL MATHS DAY

IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SENIOR SCHOOL

Maths Faculty celebrated National Maths Day with full-year activities in each of the Years 7 to 10. Year 10 participated in a Maths game requiring groups of students to follow a map of the School grounds and find markers located at various locations. A mathematics question had to be answered at each to gain points. The winners of this competition were Damian Smith, Callum Nichols, Jay Johns, Luka Keravcin and Joshua Daws.

Years 7 and 8 competed in a Maths Trivia lesson in the gymnasium. Categories included Maths in Sport, matching diagrams and general mathematical knowledge questions. Students worked in teams and competition was fierce. Year 8’s winning team members were Francis Scheffer, Kimberley Pauls, Ashlee Perich, Elliott Russell, Jessica Matthews, Anna-Maria Wosik, Chor Kiu Joki Li. Year 7 winners were Alicia Alchin, Wesley Aguilar-Perez, Poppy Tegel, Elliot Altobelli, James Thadanabath, Chloe Maric, Amy Bartlett.

Year 9 students competed in a paper aeroplane design challenge. Divisions of the competition included prizes for the best distance flight, the longest flight for a glider and awards for accuracy of landing. The winner of the distance final was Tim Norris (25.90m) with runner up Michael van den Heuvel. The winner of the timed competition was Benjamin Kennedy (4.68 seconds).

Senior classes were challenged with a short problem of the day to ensure they enjoyed an especially fun-filled maths lesson for National Maths Day.

FREDA LAURENSEN
Faculty Head

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Students in the Junior School enjoyed celebrating National Mathematics Day with a Mathematics Fun Day on Monday 26 May. The children moved around various classrooms in the School to participate in a variety of activities which looked at number, measurement, the construction of 3D objects and tessellating and symmetrical patterns to name a few.

It proved to be a most worthwhile and enjoyable exercise for both the students and staff.

The NAPLAN (National Testing) programme ran smoothly for students in Year 3 and 5 who were well prepared as a result of the thorough planning and preparation by staff and through the students’ own dedication and efforts. I would particularly like to thank Mrs Ha in this regard who conducted a significant amount of professional development for staff and organisation for the testing programme in ensuring that the Junior School was as well prepared for NAPLAN as possible.

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the NASSA Cross Country Carnival, particularly Matilda Offord and Bessie-Lucile Platt who won their age division races and Braylin Altobelli who was placed third in his race. We give our best wishes to all of our students who were successful at this carnival and will now attend the CIS Cross Country Carnival on 30 May. I would also like to thank Mr Beggs who once again organised a successful carnival on the day.

WILLIAM WALLACE
Head of Junior School
**Leichhardt Field Study**

Year 11 Geography undertook fieldwork to Leichhardt on Monday 19th May. While there they studied the changing economic nature of the residential and commercial land and engaged in a number of primary research methods including tallying, taking photos and observations. Students had previously downloaded maps and statistics of the area to help gain an appreciation of its culture. In class later, we collated all of the information in an effort to prepare a stimulus booklet to reflect the urban village centred on Norton Street. We completed the day’s activities by reflecting on our observations while eating a typical Italian meal at La Giara restaurant.

Peter Toovey
Teacher

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**Gateway Quest 2008**

On Saturday 17 May, sixty-nine students enjoyed a day of fast-paced intensive learning in a course of their choosing, as part of Gateway Quest 2008.

Topics of interest included Archeology, Reptiles, Kitchen Science, Short Film Production, Computer Animation, RoboLab and Darkroom Creations; all of which were facilitated by teaching staff with a passion for these particular areas.

Students left exhausted, yet enthused by the teaching they had received and the thrill of acquiring new skills beyond that which a more traditional learning environment may otherwise offer.

Gateway Quest 2008 was a tremendous success owing primarily to the dedication of staff who were willing to share their passion with students who were keen to further their own learning in a fun, fast-paced day chasing their own academic quest.

Timothy Cartwright
Head of Middle School

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**Macarthur’s Got Talent Too! Fundraiser**

After last year’s sell-out crowd, another evening of fun and entertainment will be held in aid of St Michael School, Tanzania.

**Friday evening 13 June, in the Macarthur Chapel, starting at 7.30pm.**

Tickets on sale at the door $5.00
Supper refreshments will be available for purchase in the Chapel foyer on the night.
**BIG BUSINESS FOR SENIOR STUDENTS**

On Thursday 15 May, the Year 11 Business Studies classes travelled to Sydney Tower.

The students studied the importance of competition in the tourist market and in particular the very competitive industry in the Sydney region and CBD. The students also got to experience being tourists in their own city, participating in the “Oz Trek” experience.

The students analysed the Sydney Tower business by discussing a SWOT analysis, highlighting the internal strengths, weaknesses, external opportunities and threats of the business.

The excursion finished with a leisurely lunch in Hyde Park, allowing the students to soak up the city atmosphere.

On Thursday 22 May, the Year 12 Business Studies classes were treated to an informative presentation by Mrs McGlinn, former Qantas employee and current Macarthur Anglican School casual staff member. The presentation informed students on Qantas marketing techniques which reinforced the concepts covered in the current topic, “Marketing”. Learning information about Qantas will enhance the case study that the students are required to present in their HSC extended responses. The information gave the students more of an insight into the complex world of marketing at Qantas and how vital it is at the company.

Daniel Favretti, on behalf of the students, extended their thanks to Mrs McGlinn for the presentation.

**NADINE JAMES**

Teacher

**GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS**

On Saturday 17 May Nicholas Mark and Ashley Smith (both Year 12, 2006) received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards at Government House. They were presented by the Governor Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO. Both students completed the Outback Adventure whilst at Macarthur in 2005.

Mr Bedingfield, our Outdoor Education Coordinator, was also presented a gift by the Governor for service to the Duke of Edinburgh programme.

Congratulations to them all!

Would you like to receive your Newsletter by email?

Contact us: advancement@mas.nsw.edu.au
Drama Successes
Based on the strength of their performances in an audition and interview, Year 12 2007 students, Thomas Oliver and Bianca McGrath earned places in Sydney Theatre School’s Diploma of Theatre Performance earlier this year. This is Australia’s only production-based training course for those wishing to pursue a career in professional acting.

Brendan Hay (Year 12) was recently selected to be an ambassador for Griffin Theatre Company, housed at the historic Stables Theatre at Kings Cross. Students from schools throughout Sydney apply to be ‘Griffin Ambassadors’ and are selected for their leadership qualities, school spirit and commitment to theatre. As Ambassadors, they attend all Griffin productions, participate in special workshops, interact with resident actors and designers, and become closely acquainted with the life and workings of a theatre company. In return, the Ambassadors act as advocates for Griffin, the only theatre company in Sydney entirely dedicated to the professional development and production of new Australian writing for the stage.

Fiona Pavela
Drama Teacher

Debating Results
Year 8 won the first round of the MISA Year 8 Debating Competition recently against John Therry Catholic High School. The team consisted of first speaker Aleksandra Jez, Jessica Sharp, Jake Gonzo and Team Advisor, Roseanna Raymond. They were very convincing in victory and were well prepared, presenting their argument with flair and conviction. The adjudicator from John Therry was very complimentary and awarded best speaker in the debate to Jessica Sharp. The Year 8 team also includes Georgia Armstrong, Beth Morgan and Rachael Kornfeld, students who will continue to undertake training and who will hopefully have a chance to debate in upcoming weeks against schools in the HICES competition, including Emanuel College, Moriah College and Wollondilly Anglican College.

Macarthur won its first debate in the HICES Chapman Cup Intermediate Division (Year 7 and 8). Our team were very convincing on the topic, defeating a team from Emanuel School at Randwick and persuading the adjudicator that we are a generation that still cares about the truth and uses it as the basis for advertising.

Cathryn Taylor
Debating Coach

A Typical Day in Levay, Hungary
6.30am - A teacher comes to my room and turns on the lights to wake us up. Once dressed and ready to go to school we head down to breakfast: two bread rolls, two slices of of some kind of meat, butter and tea. After breakfast rooms are given a score out of five for cleanliness and if you receive a five everyday every person in the room is given chocolates!

7.30am - School. The school in Levay is different in that the time I start and finish changes everyday depending on how many lessons I have. There is no long lunch or morning tea break but between lessons there are 10 minute breaks. I use the time to complete my Australian school work and my language school homework. Twice a week we take the bus for 15-20 minutes to our language school, in a small apartment building across town. We stay for an hour and a half lesson and then go back to school. After school we usually have lunch and go into Miskolc with friends.

4.15 - 6.30pm - Every student has study groups. At one of these the teacher talks about what is happening in the hostel and other things. After this there must be complete silence and studying.

6.30pm - Dinner then go to the gym or play soccer.

9.00pm - Boys and girls must go to their halves of the hostel.

10.00pm - Lights out and electricity is cut off!

Ben Nicastri and Emily Wheeler
Exchange Students to Lévay József Református Gimnázium, Miskolc, Hungary
Peer pressure

Peer groups are groups of friends who are all about the same age. Having a group of friends is one of the most important parts of being a teenager. It is how teenagers learn to get on in the world of their own age group and to gradually become independent. It is important for parents to understand the value of peer groups for young people. Peer groups can be a very positive influence on your teenager’s life. They can also be a challenge for parents.

Peer groups - the positives
Some of the positive things that peer groups offer your teenager include:

- A sense of belonging and feeling valued.
- Somewhere to fit in, when they feel neither children nor adults.
- Increased self-confidence because they are accepted by the group.
- A sense of security and of being understood by others who are going through the same experiences.
- A safe place to test values and ideas.
- Help in the move towards independence.
- Practice in getting along with the opposite sex.
- Ways to meet new people.
- Friendships.
- Practice in learning to give and take.
- Influence in making decisions about their life.

Peer groups and parents
Some of the problems that peer groups may present to parents include:

- Long hours on the telephone.
- A home that’s overrun with teenagers.
- Members of the peer group may do things that are outside your ‘house rules’, such as smoke, swear, drink alcohol or raid your refrigerator.
- Serious behaviours, such as shoplifting or drug-taking.

Suggestions for parents
Some practical suggestions for dealing with your teenager’s peer group include:

- Work out the best solution for your family with regards to telephone use, such as setting time limits or using ‘call waiting’.
- Set house rules, but try to be light and humorous about it. Negotiate where possible.
- Try to provide privacy and space for your teenager and their friends by changing the use of your rooms, if necessary.
• Keep low cost food available for example, fruit in season, breakfast cereals and bread.
• Be clear about what videos are allowed to be watched at your home.
• Make firm rules on alcohol consumption or lock your liquor cabinet, if necessary.

**When parents don't approve**

You may not be comfortable about your son or daughter’s choice of peer group. This may be because of their behaviour, or because of some more serious risk (such as the peer group being into using alcohol or other drugs, skipping school, shoplifting or vandalising property). Here are some suggestions:

• Remember that criticising your teenager’s choice of friends is like attacking them personally.
• Keep the lines of communication open and find out why these friends are important to your teenager.
• Check whether your concerns about their friends are real and important.
• If you believe your concerns are serious, talk to your teenager about the behaviour, not the friends.
• Encourage your teenagers to trust their own sense of what is right, and discuss ways of saying ‘no’.
• You have the right to let your teenager know what your concerns are and to ask how they will cope if pressured to make risky choices.
• Talk with your teenager about the immediate and long term consequences of whatever behaviour is worrying you.
• Encourage opportunities for them to mix with other young people.
• Support your teenager's self-esteem.
• Show your teenager that you trust them.
• Remember that we all learn valuable lessons from mistakes.

**A friend in need**

Sometimes, a young person who seems unsuitable will choose your child for a friend because your home gives a feeling of being safe and secure. This is, of course, a compliment to you and your teenager, and may be an opportunity to help someone. You may be able to offer friendship and support. If you are really uncomfortable about the friend’s behaviour, you need to talk to your teenager about it. Remember, you are unlikely to be able to break up the friendship if it is strong.

**Where to get help**

• Other parents
• Parentline Tel. 132 289

**Things to remember**

• Peer groups can be a very positive influence on your teenager’s life, but they can also be a challenge for parents.
• Criticising your teenager’s choice of friends is like attacking them personally.
• If you believe your concerns are serious, talk to your teenager about the behaviour, not the friends.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP

Sarah Hilt, a former student of Macarthur, is a very brave and determined young woman. When she was 19 years old she contracted the highly debilitating meningococcal disease which resulted in several limb amputations and operations for skin grafts, and has weakened her kidneys so that she now needs a kidney transplant. In December last year, Sarah had to undergo further amputations of her legs and is now learning to walk on two artificial legs.

The Sarah Hilt Foundation was established to raise funds to assist Sarah with her rehabilitation. Following her recent operation the Foundation is seeking to purchase a computerised ‘C Knee’ and a newly released prosthetic hand which would enable her to move individual fingers. These prosthetics are not government funded and the combined cost of these items is $125,000. To have them will be a huge boost to Sarah’s mobility and independence.

On Sunday 22 June, a fun walk will take place to raise funds to buy these artificial limbs for Sarah. The walk is being organised by the Foundation, with major support from Curves (Narellan and Campbelltown) and other community groups. Walkers will enjoy a fun five kilometre walk, starting at Camden Showground (near Mitchell Street entrance) including Bicentennial Park and returning for a BYO picnic lunch at the Showground. Walkers who obtain sponsors will be entered in the draw for a plasma TV. There will also be fun prizes and a barrel draw.

Cost to enter is $20 for adults, $40 for families and a student concession is available. Join us for a fun day and help a beautiful young person have a better life. Registration forms are available from the Macarthur Administration Office or by calling The Sarah Hilt Foundation on 0404 852772 or email: sarahhiltfoundation@hotmail.com

The Sarah Hilt Foundation is a charitable trust to raise funds for Sarah and other victims of meningococcal disease. Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible. To make a donation, call or visit their website www.sarahhiltfoundation.org.au

FOR YOUR DIARY

June
4  Year 12 Luncheon
12  Middle School and Senior School Athletics
13  Subject Selection Evening for Year 9, 2009 and Year 11, 2009
14  Junior School Athletics
16  PFA Trivia Night
16  Middle School and Senior School Public Speaking Finals
20  Foundation Day
27  Infants School Athletics Carnival

July
8-12  Interschool Skiing/Boarding Competition
12-15  Scots/Redlands Cup Ski Competition
14-16  Oliver! full day Rehearsals
21-25  Year 6 Queensland Outreach
28-31  Oliver Musical Performances

August
1-2  Oliver Musical Performances
4  Scholarship Presentation Evening
5  Trial HSC exams begin
5  PFA Term Forum