GIRL’S KNOCKOUT TENNIS

The Macksville high Girl’s Tennis Team completed in the North Coast Knockout competition again in 2010.

Two stalwarts of the team, Katrina Wright and Rachel Dawe, played for the last time and Macksville High would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts over the years. They have both been playing since Year eight and now are in Year twelve.

The two other players, Tiffany Harvey and Crystal Wright, have also been in the team for years and should form a strong nucleus to next year’s combination.

From left to right: Tiffany Harvey, Katrina Wright, Crystal Wright, Rachel Dawe

IMPORTANT DATES

August
2........... Kidney Survey—4 students
3—4 ....... NC Debating W’shops—Yarrawarra
3 ........... 10.30am—Formal Assembly in Stadium
5 ........... Baseball—Coffs Harbour
5 ........... Acer Testing 7 Red & 9 Eng 2
5 ........... Premier’s Debating Team—Nam.Hds
9 ........... Trial Computing Skills test—Yr10
10 ......... Yr9, 10 & 11 Vis.Arts Excurs.Scotts Hd.
10—12..... CHS Lawn Bowls—Sydney West
13 ........... Trial Computing Skills test—catch up
16—27 ..... Yr12—Trial HSC—Stadium
17—19 ..... Agquip—Gunnedah
18—19 ..... Teen Dental Health—Yr9 at Mks HS
18—19 ..... Zoosnooze—Yr7—Taronga Zoo
19 ........... 8.30am—Yr12 Dance HSC prac. Exam
23—26 ..... Yr11 Dive—South West Rocks
24 ........... P & C Meeting—Library 6.30pm

ACTORS at WORK—BELLSHAKESPEARE CO.PERFORMANCE of HAMLET

From left to right: Rachel Dawe, Rhiannon McAuliffe, Elise Bankier, Laura Willems and Katrina Brown with Actors At Work after the performance of Hamlet at the Bowraville Theatre.

Macksville High School (MHS) students attended a wonderful performance of Hamlet by Actors At Work part of the Bell Shakespeare Company this week. With just a few banners and a handful of props, Actors At Work performed at the Bowraville Theatre delivering an exciting production of Hamlet.

This live performance brings Shakespeare to young people in all regional areas of NSW. Particularly targeted towards senior students making a critical study of text for their HSC, it unlocked some of the secrets and provided an excellent tool to guide them through the characters and wordplay.

Four actors took to the stage and enthralled the audience, moving in and out of scenes from Hamlet to modern day to explain and question the content of each scene. Students were given a fresh way to interpret Shakespeare. MHS Year 12 Advance English students thoroughly enjoyed the performance preferring the live play to watching a movie or just reading the text. The minimal scenery and costumes enable the students to focus on the script performed by wonderful actors. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves not taking their eyes off the stage.
PREMIER’S DEBATING CHALLENGE FOR YEARS 7 & 8

Jessica McCosker, Sian Hall, Reanna Grace and Raina Schmidt from (left to right) represented Macksville High School (MHS) in the second Premier’s Debating Challenge for Years 7 & 8.

The girls did their school proud winning the debate against Port Macquarie High School. Each person spoke for six minutes and the subject of this debate was “That Twilight is a bad influence on kids”. MHS team spoke for the affirmative side with a strong rebuttal being put forward to the negative team. MHS will be represented at the third and final debate for this round at Nambucca High School in August. If the team defeats Nambucca they will continue through to the next round of debating challenges with the ultimate goal being of competing in the Premier’s North Coast Zone Debating competition.

TERM 3 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

The North Coast Central Area of schools which includes Macksville to Maclean and out to Dorrigo converged on the Coffs Harbour Education Campus (CHEC) for a secondary Technology & Applied Studies (TAS) teachers’ collegiate day.

Approximately 90 teachers attended the day, travelling long distances to participate. Various workshops were held including the use of interactive whiteboards a fantastic tool for teachers to engage students. These enable teachers to download and create lessons, add images and play videos. You can operate your entire computer on a huge screen in the class room simply with the touch of a finger or a specially designed pen.

A very successful workshop was held to discuss Hospitality employability skills. Mr Jeff Cox, Operations Manager, Coffs Ex Services Club spoke about the needs of the industry in preparing students to enter the workforce. Mr Cox said “it was great to speak with teachers 6-12 months in advance and let them know what we are looking for prior to students applying for jobs at the end of the year”.

Teachers were asked to bring samples of work and equipment to practice new skills and share ideas. In the Needle Felting/Quilting/Fabric Art workshop, teachers brought wall hangings, quilts and spent time helping each other with ideas to encourage student involvement in the class room. The embellisher machine was running hot with fabrics such as tulle, denim and felt that could be used by students to get creative without the need to thread a needle.

The North Coast TAFE woodwork room was full of inspiring pieces made by students with plenty of questions and discussion on techniques and equipment use.

Head teachers also held planning meetings and spent time together to discuss what happens in their school and how they can help each other. Development days are important for teachers to share innovative and practical ideas and pass on what they have learnt to improve student learning and outcomes.

A special thank you goes out to Cheri Deegan who volunteered to lead teachers in Needle Felting with her hands on experience, Martin Tomasoni from North Coast TAFE for sharing his woodwork knowledge and Chris Webb from the Coffs Harbour Senior College for assisting on the day.

GRANT GOUGH—H.T. INDUSTRIAL ARTS/PDHPE (DANCE)

Grant attended Newcastle College of Advance Education and studied Industrial Arts; he also attended Sydney University where he completed his Bachelor of Education. After a career as a technician with Telstra, he retrained to become a Secondary School Teacher. Grant attended Macksville High School as a student and returned in 1995 as a Head Teacher. He really likes the country kids at MHS and the skills they bring. A highly successful squash player and coach,

Grant is off to Equador at the end of July with the Australian Junior Men’s Squash Team as Head Coach and we wish him and his team all the best of luck as they battle it out in the Junior Men’s World Championships 2010.
GREAT NEWS COMES AT A PRICE

The Industrial Arts department will be undergoing major renovations in Term 4. The entire bottom level of the TAS block will be renovated as well as under the building having new practical rooms built.

The existing practical rooms (wood room, a composite design room and a metal room) will be rearranged and made slightly larger to allow us to cater for more vocational education classes as of 2011. Under the building there will be another construction room, an auto workshop and extra storage space.

These changes have been made thanks to the hard work of Greg Hill (Ind Arts Teacher) over the last 12 months. Mr Hill was the driving force behind the writing of a federal grant for the renovations as well as ongoing negotiations in relation to the layout of the rooms and machinery. His work will give Macksville High “state-of-the-art” facilities - better than anything seen before in secondary education in NSW.

The downside of these renovations is that the practical rooms need to be closed all of Term 4. The students will undergo a theory based program for this term. This will not affect Years 11 and 12 as Year 12 would have finished their HSC projects and Year 11 do not start building their projects until 2011. The biggest group affected is Years 9 & 10 - working towards their School Certificate.

To help the students complete their projects in time we have asked them to give up their sports afternoon Term 3 to do their practical projects to finish them by the end of Term 3. Sport is compulsory for the School Certificate so in Term 4 we will run extra sport periods instead of some of the practical classes to make up the time.

We have spoken to all practical students in Years 9 & 10 and the majority of students have agreed to this plan. A few students wish to stay with their current sport so they will follow a theory program under my supervision when the rest of the class is making up their sporting time.

Grant Gough  Head Teacher – Ind.Arts/PDHPE/Dance

RICHARD SHAW SHIELD—MHS GIRLS’ RUGBY UNION

Macksville High School Girls’ Rugby Union team were up against Westport High School last week to compete for the Richard Shaw Shield (NSW CHS – knock out competition). Westport was forced to forfeit on the day due to player numbers.

Macksville High won the friendly game 62-0 with all established players including Captain, Karleisha Robert, Vice Captain Latunya Donovan and Nyomi Widders putting in great efforts.

Debutante players also showed great promise and helped bring about a very convincing win. A big thank you goes out to all the parents and members of the extended Swampie family for their support.

LAWN BOWLERS MAKE STATE FINALS

Andy King, Jake Jeffrey and George Bodycote represented Macksville High at the State Lawn Bowls Triples Competition recently at Glenbrook, in the Blue Mountains. The boys were undefeated on the first day of the carnival, and went into the semis for the second days play, unfortunately they were defeated in this semi, by Wyalla High (who went on to win Gold). Our boys then played again, and finished in 4th spot overall for the carnival.

Andy and Jake are in Year 12 and have attended this carnival just about every year they have been here at Macksville High school. They have always been spoken of highly by every one involved with them and the sport. We thank them for their extensive school service, and wish them success in the sport once they leave our school.

Lynda Shrubb
**Notices**

**Tuesday Afternoon Homework Centre/Tutoring Don't Forget** Every Tuesday afternoon tutoring is available for all students in C1. Two teachers will be in attendance to assist with all homework/assignments or any tutoring needs. No need to make a booking just bring your work and get a head start 3.15 – 5.00pm.

**Parent Advocate Questionnaire Feedback**

**Question:** Can you tell us what you believe makes our school a great school?

"I think Macksville High goes through its high and low times, life’s not a straight line, but I think it endeavours to do its best".

**StreetWise Skateboarding Coaching Clinics**

Thanks for funding applied for by Nambucca Shire Council from the Area Assistance Scheme there will be FREE Skateboarding coaching clinics being held at Nambucca Heads Skate Park on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 August. To register contact Vicki Fernance, Youth Development Officer at Nambucca Shire Council on 6568 0254 or call in at Council’s offices 44 Princess Street, Macksville.

**Schedule:**

- **Beginners:**
  - Blue 1: Saturday August 7—9am-11am
  - Blue 2: Saturday August 7—11.30am-1.30pm
- **Intermediate:**
  - Red: Saturday August 7—2.00pm-4.00pm
  - Sunday August 8—2.00pm-4.00pm

Have a look at www.skateboardingaustralia.org.au

"Drink Water to Take Care of your Teeth"

Dental Health Week is promoted between 2-6 August. If your child is experiencing dental problems please contact Coffs Clarence Dental Services on 1300 691625.

**INDONESIAN SISTER SCHOOL VISIT**

At Macksville High School (MHS) we wish to acknowledge the presence and support of the Nambucca Shire, Mayor Rhonda Hoban who officially welcomed students and staff from Tangerang School in West Java for a Sister School visit recently. MHS considers sister school visits to be very important as they bring friendship, knowledge, understanding and communication between teenagers in our societies.

During the week students spent time in the Nambucca Valley, they participated in archery, ten pin bowling and ice skating. They also enjoyed attending classes and a special social that was organised by Mr Ron Marquardt and members of the Student Representative Council. Families in the valley billeted students and organised a bonfire night, they shared meals together which was greatly enjoyed by all. Students were also able to practice speaking Bahasa Indonesia and exchange ideas. A big thank you goes out to all the families who helped host this wonderful event.

Thank you also to the Australian Vice Consul General for Indonesia Pak Kiki who flew from Sydney just for the day to adjudicate MHS students and our sister school in a debate in Indonesian language on the subject of “Awareness of pollution of the environment”.

A lot of work was also done by the Indonesian leader, Pak Munir so the 28 students from Tangerang SMA1 and Al Azhar schools accompanied by Ibu Rini, Ibu Linda and Pak Mubin could come to MHS and we thank them the wonderful visit. These visits are important for our students because they “see how the other half lives” and it expands their knowledge of the world around them.

**YR 8 ART COMPETITION**

Year 8 1 Visual Arts students from Macksville High entered the Bawrunga Medical Centre Art Competition. They were required to develop a new logo for the Medical Centre which represented good health. Two of our student’s artworks were chosen as the best. 1st place went to Loren Buckley 2nd place went to Claire Harmer. Well done to those two girls and to the rest of the 8 1 art participants.

Miss Hardingham