



MACKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

Term: 2 No: 3

Issued: June 10 2011

"RELATIONSHIPS ARE BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT"

IMPORTANT DATES

June	
14, 16 & 17	Yr7 & 8 exams - stadium
14	Parent Info. night Yr10 into Yr11 in 6pm in stadium
14	Yr10 Computing Trial Exam
15	9:15 Yr10 into Yr11 Stud. Info morning
15	Girls Health -Year 8
15	1.45pm Yr7 Assembly - Hall
16-17	Yr10-11 Student Subject Choice interviews - Library
17	12pm Yr10 Tackling Violence - K2
20-22	Yr10/11 Art&Photography -Canberra
20	Police Liaison Officer (TBA) - Yr9
20	Yr9 & Yr11 Parent/Teacher night Stad.
21	Spelling/Writing ICAS Competition
21	Debating - MHS
23	Premier's Debating Challenge - NH
24	Society & Culture HSC day - Sydney
28	P & C Meeting 6.30pm - Library
30	Uni Open Day - Newcastle
30	NAIDOC activity - TBA
July 1	Last day Term 2
July 18	Staff Development Day
July 19	Term 3 commences for all students

SPORT DATES

15	Zone-N'ball 15yrs Knock Out PortM
16	Zone athletics backupdate 23/6-NH
17	Area-Cross X Country back-up-date
21	Coast to Country Cup-Bishop Druitt
22	Zone Softball - boys - Kempsey
22	Country Cup Finals - Port Macq.
23	Zone Athletics back-up-date only
24	Small Schools Athletics Carnival

Infants Drama Performance



Once a year the Macksville High School Drama students put on a show for our local primary schools.

This year students had studied clowning and puppetry and as part of their final assessment, performed for over 450 children, during 3 shows. Approximately, 80 students were involved in the production, working in different areas from stage lighting, acting and sound. The children loved the clowns with plenty of laughter and cheering. We all look forward to what exciting show they will present next year.



2011 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

(ICAS) provides an opportunity for all Years 7 - 12 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

The following dates are a reminder to students who have entered the remaining competitions

Spelling -	June 21	Yr 7 only
Writing -	June 21	Yrs 7 to 12
English -	August 2	Yrs 7 to 12
Mathematics -	August 16	Yrs 7 to 12

Please notify staff in the school office (6568 1066) of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

Increase of Entries at MHS Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to Ruby Coia who has won the North Coast section and is through to the State Semi-Finals of the Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Awards competition. She will compete at the Newtown School of the Performing Arts on Friday 17 June. Ruby will be up against students from eleven other schools from across the state in her semi-final and will have to present a prepared and an impromptu speech. Good luck Ruby.

This is a time when exams are in full swing. To help students to prepare we have provided exam timetables and they have been posted on the school website. It is important that study programs are drawn up and time set aside to prepare. The exam results and the reports that follows will be indicators of how students are travelling at school. It's a time when some have to refocus and others receive acknowledgement

for their hard work. Regardless, it's a time when self evaluation and goals need to be considered to ensure that continual improvement is a way of life and not left to chance. The Macksville High Way is to do the very best you can.

The athletics carnival finally went ahead last Tuesday on a day when the weather was great and the sporting fields dry. The number of students in attendance was great with many taking the opportunity to gather in numbers as spectators and watch the field events. Many teachers commented on the increase of entries as compared to previous years and the excellent participation by our senior students.

Year 10 students will soon be asked to select subjects for study in Year 11 next year. This process commences on

Tuesday 14th June when we will host an information night for students and their parents and guardians. On the night you will hear about why we do things in a particular way, mandatory Board of Studies rules and have the opportunity to talk to teachers about what subjects are on offer. I will be an 'apology' if the weather is good, as I am competing in a tennis team that has made it through to the finals which are on a week late due to rain. I am without a qualified replacement; and I can't let my tennis team down. I will be well represented by my staff and happy to discuss any issues at the next parent/teacher night, via phone or if you are able to drop in at school.

Paul Holding
PRINCIPAL

Head Lice

THE FACTS

Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools.

- about 23% of primary students have head lice at any one time
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

TREATMENT

- daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits)
- school communities may need to hold 'check and treat' or Nitbuster days where everyone learns about and starts treatment on the same day.

TIPS FOR PARENTS IN REDUCING THE SPREAD OF HEAD LICE

As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM YOUR SCHOOL

Advice from NSW Health indicates that there is no need for students to be sent home or excluded from school because of head lice.

Observing students scratching their heads is not a reliable or efficient means of assessing head lice prevalence in the school. Where one student has head lice this serves as a warning light that there is likely to be an infestation in either specific classes or across the whole school population, including staff.

The school will send a letter home to parents when infestations of head lice occur and request that parents examine their child's hair and undertake treatment where eggs or lice are identified.

New Technology Tools for your Child

Over the next few weeks students will see their student portal change with a new look, enhanced features and a new URL. Four new student portals have been developed to support the different needs of students: Kindergarten to Year 2, Years 3-6, Years 7-12 and TAFE.

On 14 June 2011 Year 9 students will receive their new student portal. Year 9 will be followed by Year 10, Years 7 and 8, then TAFE. Years 11 and 12, Kindergarten to Year 2 and finally Years 3 to 6 will follow early in term 3.

From 14 June 2011 all school students will access their student portal, from home and at school, from a new URL: <http://student.det.nsw.edu.au>, whether or not they have access to the new student portal.

Students will be able to search, access and organise information for school tasks via their student portal on computers used at home or at school, at any time. The new student portal will have timetable and calendar portlets for students to add their own details. Students will also be able make their portal look the way th want by changing the colour scheme and rearranging, opening or closing portlets.

Software upgrades

These are taking place now. Year 10 & 11 students need to bring their laptops to Deslie ASAP. Any queries please phone Deslie Howe on 6568 1066.

Year 12 HSC - Trial Exam

Preparation lectures 2011 are now available - between 4 July to 17 July 2011 at the University of Sydney. Please go to our school website for further details.

<http://www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/sws/view/1763065.node>

Cattle Team 'Monster Garage Sale' Fund

The Macksville HS Cattle Team will be holding a GARAGE SALE fund raiser at school to help with the costs of competing at the Brisbane EKKa in August. The date of the garage sale will be announced soon. Watch this space. If you have any saleable items you would like to donate please contact Terry Argent on 0431694009. This is a great way to clean out some useful 'junk' and help the Cattle Team with their fund raising.

Notices

NEWSLETTERS

Macksville High School is hoping soon to go electronic in regard to the Newsletters. Newsletters will be emailed to all families whom we have an email address for. This will reduce the huge cost in printing the Newsletters. If you haven't already done so please send in your email address if you would like to receive the Newsletter by email.

As many families are aware, the school's website has a wealth of information for parents and students, including past and present Newsletters. Log on to www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au For those families who do not have an email address, printed copies will still be available from the school office.

ACMF'S NATIONAL SONGWRITING COMPETITION

The Australian Children's Music Foundation National Songwriting Competition is now open to all school aged students (Kindergarten - Year 12). With a prize pool of over 30,000. It's free to enter and there is no limit of entries per person. More info visit www.acmf.com.au

Canteen Roster-June

Tuesday	14	M Laverty
Wednesday	15	Helpers Needed
Thursday	16	D Jackson, J Martin
Friday	17	G Welsh
Monday	20	S Compton
Tuesday	21	H Jaeger, C Osgood
Wednesday	22	Helpers Needed
Thursday	23	J Beggs
Friday	24	G Welsh
Monday	27	S Compton

“ATTENTION YEARS 9 & 11”

The next **Parent Teacher Interview night** will be held on
20 June 2011, 3.30pm – 6.00pm - MHS Stadium

“BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN”

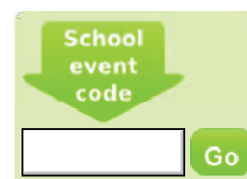
Book School Interviews Online

Parents...

Booking interviews is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3:

Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au or follow the link through our schools website - www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au.

ENTER THE SCHOOL EVENT CODE: **P6HZ2**

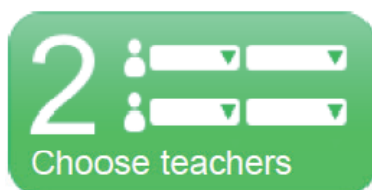


A green box containing a white input field for the school event code and a green 'Go' button to the right.

THEN



First enter your name, your student's name(s), and your email address.



On the next page, pick the teachers you want to meet.

First select the subject or year, then choose from the list of teachers.



Then you'll see a timetable showing when your chosen teachers are available. Simply click on the times that suit you.

When you have finished, your interview timetable will be emailed to you. And if something comes up, you can return to the site and change your interviews whenever you want.

If you require assistance or are unable to book online, please do not hesitate to contact the office to make your bookings – 02-65681066.