



# MACKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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## NEWSLETTER

Term: 1 No: 2

Issued: February 27 2012

**"CURRICULUM THAT IS MEANINGFUL AND RELEVANT"**

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### February / March

28-Mar 1	Yr11 Dive - South West Rocks
28	P & C meeting - 6.30pm in Library
March 1	7 Aside Rugby BCU
5-7	Geography Excur. - Nymboida Yr12
5-9	Yrs 7,8 & 9 Priority Schools Program Survey (PSPS)
6	15's/Open Rugby - Wauchope
7	Boy's Football - Port Macquarie
8	NCCHS-Swimming - Coffs Harbour
9	NCCHS Touch trials - Bowraville
12	Yr12 Physics: Motors & Generators
12	Parent/Teacher Night for Yrs 8,10 & 12 - in Stadium
13	Yr 11.20am-Child Studies 2 - Yr10 Visit Lib./Pre-school/Primary School
15	Country Cup - Rugby - Kempsey
15	NCCHS Basketball-Port Macquarie
16	Zone Girls Football-Port Macquarie
19-20	Yr12 Dive South West Rocks
21	NCCHS Rugby Trials - Grafton
22	School Photos - MHS Hall
23	School Photos - catchup - Hall
26	3.30pm - 6pm Parent/Teacher night for Yrs 7, 9 & 11 - in Stadium
27-April 5	Yr12 Exams
April 5	Last day Term 1

### Meet our new School Captains



From left to right,  
School Captains, Jake Dormer-Hughes, Melina Cooper  
Vice Captains, Kahlee Roberts & Tom Rowe.

### HELP WANTED

The School Canteen is looking for helpers to volunteer one day per month to help make lunches and serve drinks etc. as we are under-staffed. If anybody - parents/guardians/grandparents are able to help out please ring Roslyn on 6568 1453 or the school on 6568 1066. A free lunch for yourself and a \$7.00 voucher is provided for your student.

### TuesdayAfternoon Homework Centre is open!

Don't forget Homework Centre will continue this year; it operates every Tuesday afternoon in C1. 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. Please see Mrs Mendham (Maths) if you have any enquiries.

#### CANTEEN ROSTER-FEBRUARY

Monday	27	S Compton, A Baber
Tuesday	28	A Drennert, Helper Needed
Wednesday	29	Helper
Thursday	March 1	D Jackson
Friday	2	G Welsh, Helper Needed
Monday	5	A Pope, S Compton, A Baber
Tuesday	6	A Drennert
Wednesday	7	Helper Needed
Thursday	8	Helpers Needed
Friday	9	G Welsh, Helper Needed
Monday	12	S Compton, A Baber



## “ATTENTION YEARS 8, 10 & 12”

The next Parent Teacher Interview night will be held on

12 March 2012, 3.30pm – 6.00pm - MHS Stadium

**“BOOKINGS WILL OPEN 27/2”**

### Book School Interviews Online

#### Parents...

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

Please go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) or following the link through our schools website - [www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au).

ENTER TO SCHOOL EVENT CODE: **95434**

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 interview times 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.

# For Sale by Tender (Macksville High School)

## EXCESS SCHOOL EQUIPMENT/FURNITURE

### Industrial Arts Faculty/Admin.

#### *Items for Tender:*

- 1 Tritan Router & Jigsaw Stand\*
- 1 3 phase Vertical Band Saw\*
- 1 3 phase Shaping Machine\*
- 6 8' x 4' Chalkboards Metal
- 2 8' x 4' Chalkboards Wooden
- 4' x 4' Chalkboard Metal x 1
- 1 Wooden Extension Ladder
- 6 Cupboards without tops 120 x 60 x 84cm high
- 1 glass mirror 50 x 150cm
- 1 glass mirror 90 x 150cm
- 1 Wooden table 150 x 60 x 75cm high; 1 wooden table 180 x 90 x 75cm high
- 2 metalwork tables 100 x 60 x 90cm high; 3 woodwork tables 110 x 80 x 90cm high (weather worn)
- 20 Student Desks 60 x 45 x 70cm high (well used)
- 30 Student Desks 59 x 59 x 72cm high (well used)
- 12 Backless Chairs (plastic)
- 13 Lounge Chairs (need repairs)
- 5 Gas Heaters
- 30 Wall insulation 110 x 55cm 25/50cm thick
- 2 Bench Grinders 200mm\*
- 1 3 phase Magna Bend\*
- 1 Single Phase Portable Welder NOT WORKING SAFELY\*
- 1 Single Bowl Sink – stainless steel
- 1 Gestetner Risograph Printer (purchased 2003) –needs repairing, not used since 8/09\*
- 50 metres flexible irrigation pipe on roll-up moveable 2 wheel trolley – includes single monsoon sprinkler

***\*Note: All electrical equipment has been non-commissioned – therefore needs new electrical cords and to be checked by an electrician***

Enquiries to: Grant Gough - Head Teacher TAS on 6568 1066 or  
Chris Welsh – General Assistance on 0427 777 102

Tenders due by: **29 February**

Deliver or post to Macksville High School PO Box 611 Macksville 2447 in a **sealed envelope** containing the following details:

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details: \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment /  
Furniture Details: \_\_\_\_\_

Tendered Price: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# from Our Principal

Currently we are undertaking a review of the Merit Award Scheme that was introduced last year. Any new policy will show some teething problems and there were some issues identified last year that need to be addressed. There has been consultation throughout the school community and the suggested modifications will be discussed at the P&C meeting this Tuesday. The new policy will be distributed later this term.

On Tuesday a highly respected self esteem and bullying presenter, Brett Murray, was in the school and spent 4 periods with Year 7, a period with the SRC and then an after school meeting with both teachers and parents.

Our Year 7 students behaved impeccably and were a credit to themselves and the school. They were engaged and participated with enthusiasm in the discussion which was focused on them having high expectations of themselves and carrying themselves with dignity. Even when the lunch bell sounded they were still engaged and remained behind to complete the activities. Well Done!!!

Whilst some of his thoughts were a little confronting,

the main philosophy of building self esteem will be one that we carry into the future development of our welfare policies. The P&C will be discussing some of the issues around anti bullying at future meetings.

All parents of Years 7,8 and 9 students will be receiving a very important survey next week as the school is applying for Priority Schools Funding (PSF) for the next 4 years. It is important that parents complete and return the survey as this major funding and staffing allocation is important to all students at school. This survey is handled with complete confidentiality.



All parents are invited to attend the P&C meetings in the school Library at 6.30pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is this coming Tuesday 28th.

**Peter Vernon**

## Excursion Refund Policy & Procedures

Payment for an excursion is considered to be a commitment to attend and an acceptance of all arrangements as outlined in the permission letter.

Parents who would subsequently like to request a refund, for their child's non attendance on a school excursion, are required to apply in writing clearly outlining the reason/s the student did not attend.

This request will be forwarded to the Deputy Principal and Administration Manager for their consideration. All refunds will be at their discretion and will generally be processed after all excursion accounts have been finalised.

The decision whether to grant a refund request will take into consideration the following:

1. Whether a non-refundable amount has been indicated on an excursion. This amount will not be refunded to the student.  
An exception may be made if there are students on a waiting list. Any substitutions will need to occur prior to arrangements being finalised, or the closing date of the excursion. Substitutions will be made at the discretion of the Deputy Principal, Administration Manager and the teacher organising the excursion.
2. The costs of the excursion (e.g. transport, levies, etc) and whether the total costs will be covered by the number of students that did attend.
3. Whether advance payments have been made (e.g. accommodation/transport deposits, performances, etc).
4. Whether the reason provided is "justifiable" and after consideration of the above points.

### Justifiable Reasons for a Refund

- Illness/Injury –if medical certificate is provided
- Hospitalisation, medical appointments – if supporting documentation provided.
- Bereavement in the family

### Un-Justifiable Reasons for a Refund

- Change of mind
- Personal reasons
- Part-time employment
- Being sent home during the course of an excursion due to misbehaviour

Please Note: the above are examples only and all requests will be judged according to their merits. An Administration fee may be deducted from the monies paid to cover the costs involved in issuing the refund.

**Please notify office staff  
at the school office (65681066) of any changes  
to your contact details or to the contact details of  
other people nominated as emergency contacts.**



# School Notices:

## Kookaburra Study Guide Promotion in the Library

Next week Kookaburra will provide sample study guides for Preliminary & HSC courses. Order forms will be available. Books purchased as part of the promotion will be discounted 20% on rrp.

### Lost Property

It would be appreciated if parents/guardians could please label all their student's school uniforms and belongings eg calculator. If a lost article or item of clothing turns up at the office, we are able to return it to their rightful owner if it has a name on it.

Thank you for your help in this regard.

## Student Representative Council

Applications for Year 11 students wishing to join the SRC are available from Mrs Atkins and are due in to Mrs Atkins by Friday March 2 2012.

## Sport Fees

Sport fees for students are now due for payment. Payment can be made at the school office by cash, cheque or eftpos.

It would be appreciated if these could be finalised as soon as possible. Sport fees that are to be paid directly to the school are:

Sport Activity	Cost per Term
Beach Walking	\$40.00
Surfing	\$40.00
Tennis	\$32.00
Mixed Martial Arts	\$5.50 per week

## Where are they now?

Former Macksville High School Students Emma Mason and Elly Tape returned to school recently to assist with the Year 7, Indonesian Market Day. Emma and Elly were outstanding students in the subject and offered their time to return to school and speak Indonesian with students and teach them some useful bartering skills. Both Emma and Elly graduated in 2010 and are now about to settle into their second year of university. Emma is currently attending the University of New South Wales studying Medicine. Emma has a rural scholarship where on completion of her 6 year degree she will work in a country area for a further 6 years. Elly is at the Queensland University of Technology for 4 years studying 2 degrees: a Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Creative Industries, majoring in fashion and marketing.



From left: Emma Mason, Elly Tape

The main advice both girls wanted to pass on was to make sure students selected a university course that they are passionate about, not what others want them to do. Emma recommended living on campus if possible as this was a good transition from home to living away and a great way to make new friends and to settle in the university. The biggest changes they found from High School was being responsible for yourself and having self-discipline. It was hard going from being the big fish in a little pond to being the little fish in a really big pond.

Both girls agreed that coming from a public school and having a rural background has given them, great life and people skills and they have found that this helps them in their day to day studies at university. Even from junior high school learning good study habits and getting involved in all that school has to offer has helped them in their chosen path.

# Community Notices:

## Workshops for Parents and Supervisors of Learner Drivers

The RTA and Enterprise & Training Company (ETC) are holding free two hour workshops to offer practical advice to parents and supervisors on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers. These workshops provide information about: Understanding the new laws for L and P license holders; Completing the *Learner driver log book*; Understanding the benefits of supervised on-road driving experience and Supervising learner drivers.

The workshops will be held on Wednesday March 7 at 5.30pm at the ETC Nambucca office, 13 Bowra Street, Nambucca Heads. Bookings are essential - more info can be obtained from Natasha Swansborough on 6648 5435

## Northcoast TAFE - get2connect

Want to learn what social media can do for you?

Introductory Workshop

Date/Time: March 6 10am - 1pm

Connectivity + you

Social media is the new 'word of mouth'...David Cowling

Further information: Kerrie Bowtell - Outreach, Macksville TAFE 6569 2006

Further follow on connectivity workshops to come.....

## Nambucca Valley Tennis

Junior Comp. started on February 9 from 5pm-7pm at the Macksville Tennis Club. All levels are welcome.

Please contact Kylie for more information on 0431 834 016

## Keys 2 Drive

**Learner Drivers invited to book their free keys2drive lesson now!**

NSW learner drivers are invited to take advantage of the national *keys2drive* learner driver safety program and receive a free lesson with a *keys2drive* accredited driving instructor.

The free lesson uses a 'train the trainer' model with the accredited driving instructor assisting the supervisor (often a parent) to guide the learner driver to adopt safe driving practices. It does this through face to face practical information and instruction on how they can most effectively assist in the training of their learner drivers.

Throughout NSW, driving instructors have been *keys2drive* accredited and are available now for free lessons.

Nambucca Valley driving instructor, Phil Hannaford, encourages learner drivers and their parents or supervisors to log on to the *keys2drive* website [www.keys2drive.com.au](http://www.keys2drive.com.au) to book for a free lesson now.

Contact Phil on 6568 9966 or NRMA call centre 1300 696 762 or *keys2drive* 1800 696 929



# 2012 Priority Schools Program survey

## MACKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL - PARENTS/CARERS INFORMATION SHEET

### Dear Parents/Carers

We are very proud of the special programs at our school that enable our students to achieve their best results. To continue to provide these opportunities, Macksville High School will be applying to be part of the Priority Schools Program (PSP) funding program in 2012. A new list of Priority Schools is identified every four years by a voluntary survey to families. The next survey of families will occur in March 2012 for the next funding period, 2013 to 2016.

Only approximately 500 schools across the state will receive PSP funding. We believe it is critical that we do all we can to provide complete information about our community, so that our school has the best chance of being included to receive the substantial benefits that this increase in funding and staffing can provide.

Schools will be selected for the next four year period on the basis of a state wide parent survey that will be conducted during the week of **5 March to 9 March 2012**. This survey will identify which schools will receive PSP support from 2013 to 2016.

In our school, parents and carers with children in **Years 7, 8 & 9** will be asked to complete a confidential one page survey. The survey is quite easy to fill in and we need every family to complete it if we are to provide accurate information about our community.

Some points to remember are:

- the survey is absolutely confidential
- you should answer every question as accurately as possible such as, talk about your current employment and not how you have been employed in the past
- if you have questions about the survey don't be afraid to ask
- those who will benefit most from this program will be your children.

Why use a survey:

- Up-to-date information.
- Direct information from school families only
- Confidential and accurate
- Strong date – over 90% response rate
- Rigorous, high level, statistical analysis gives a highly accurate Result

More information will be provided on a regular basis, leading up to survey week.

### Further information

Lynette Howle  
Community Engagement Officer/  
PSP Survey Coordinator  
(02)65681066  
[lynette.howle@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lynette.howle@det.nsw.edu.au)

Or go to:

[www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)