



MACKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

Term: 3 No: 1

Issued: 27 July 2012

"Relationships are based on mutual respect"

IMPORTANT DATES

JULY	
27	11.15am - NV Trade Training Centre Opening - MHS - TAS Seminar Room T3
31	NC Debating - Coffs Harbour
31	HSC Anc./Mod.history day at CHEC
31	HSC Study Day at CHEC
AUGUST	
3 - 8	Yr11/12 Marine Dive - SW Rocks
3	Genes for Jeans Day
6	3.30-6.00pm Parent Teacher Night - Yrs 9, 10, 11 & 12
9	6.00pm Year 8 Parent Information Night - Y9 Subject Selections
13 - 24	Yr12 Trial Exams - Stadium
20	3.30-6.00pm Parent Teacher Night - Yrs 7 & 8
27	Musical Dress Rehearsal
28	P & C Meeting - Hosp. T12
29	Y12 Engineering - Coffs Aero Club
31	7.00pm - Musical - Hall
Sept	
5-6	Zoosnooze - Taronga Zoo - Sydney
7	7.00pm - Musical - Hall

CANTEEN ROSTER - JUNE

Monday	30 Jul	S Compton - C Nugent
Tuesday	31 Jul	Helpers Needed
Wednesday	1 Aug	Helpers Needed
Thursday	2 Aug	D Jackson
Friday	3 Aug	G Welsh
Monday	6 Aug	S Compton - A Baber
Tuesday	7 Aug	R Wood
Wednesday	8 Aug	Helpers Needed
Thursday	9 Aug	Helpers Needed
Friday	10 Aug	G Welsh

Torpedoes - Race in Hong Kong

Three MHS students Georgia Hoffman, Dana Kraschnefski and Baden Ormandy recently competed at the Hong Kong World Club Championships. They are part of a NSW Club team called the Torpedoes.

The kids had intensive training for the first 4 days and raced for the next 4, they were in Hong Kong for 10 days where they got to experience the surrounds and a little bit of the culture. They have lots of stories still to come out I am sure, the conditions on the water were pretty hectic, very choppy as it was held on a major channel.

The competition was fierce and the Torpedoes did us all proud, bringing home a second place in the 2000m or 2k race as well as bronze in the 200m & 500m women's and 500m mixed with 25 countries and over 6000 competitors competing for positions.

Tracy Ormandy
Chairperson
Nambucca River Sea Dragons

MHS now does Dragon Boating as part of its sports program, look out for them on the Nambucca near the Macksville bridge on a Wednesday afternoon and give them a wave!!



In this Issue
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Open Rugby League

Attention: Parents and Carers
If you have a new email address
or have changed your old one please let us know
via macksville-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

NEW ATTENDANCE SYSTEM (Sentral)

The school is in the process of moving to a new attendance system which will help track attendance and truancy more effectively. While this system is being introduced, there may be a cross over or mismatched information in the first couple of weeks of this term. To allow time to sort out any issues, we will not be sending out the Absentee letters covering these first two weeks. If you have any concerns regarding your student's absences, please do not hesitate to contact the office. Could you please assist by making sure your student carries their student ID cards with them every day as they are needed to swipe in arriving late or leaving early.

Farewell

Staff members gathered on 22nd June to farewell Anthony Martin, Head Teacher of Mathematics who has accepted a position at Chatham High School near Taree. Mr Martin has been a strong leader of the Maths staff encouraging them to develop their skills in using technology to engage students in the classroom as well as supporting staff in teaching Senior Extension 1 and 2 Mathematics courses.

Mr Martin has moved to live closer to his family which will leave a big hole in the faculty. Mrs Moyra Mendham will act as relieving Head Teacher until the end of 2012.



4 Star Principal's Party

Through the new Merit Scheme students enjoyed a party in the Principal's office to celebrate reaching 4 Star level. To achieve this level students need to present their Year Adviser with 15 merit certificates. They also qualify for a place on the end of year reward excursion to "The Worlds." Plenty of mini pies, popcorn, chips and generally fun (naughty) party food was eaten. Congratulations to all students on reaching this level - keep going!!



The question on everyone's lips:

The question on everyone's lips when most people return to school, (whether they be students or staff) is "Did you have a good holiday"? Most of us answer "Yes" or "No", and go on to explain what was good (or otherwise) about their holiday.

Imagine the surprise on some people's faces when they hear the reply from four senior Year 12 boys reply "Yes", it was really good, I went into school and practised Maths papers with my mates!"

To all the nonbelievers out there, yes it did happen! Mrs Briggs had set her Mathematics class three exam papers to compete as practice for their Trial Higher School Certificate exam in week 5. Each of the papers took 3 hours to complete.

On the second Tuesday of the holidays the '100 Club', as they are called, arrived at 9.00am, set the alarm for 3 hours, sat down and called "3 -2 -1 go!" It was a pleasure to observe them working solidly on a difficult Maths exam. Once they had completed the paper, they discussed solutions and methods used to solve problems over a few pizzas and cake.

This is unheard of in the history of Maths at Macksville High. Regrettably I could not be there on Friday, when you guessed it; they arrived back at school and completed another paper! The team thanks Glynis Welsh for opening the door, turning on the heater and allowing them to again brainstorm with each other using the white board and other resources.

The commitment and dedication to their education shown by Tom Rowe, Jarrod Pike, Hayden Buchanan, Dean Ellis and Mrs Briggs is outstanding. I feel so proud to be associated with this fine group of mathematicians. Well done!

By Moyra Mendham, Relieving Head Teacher Mathematics

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

From our Principal

On Tuesday the school held the Semester 1 Academic Awards Assembly. This event was to celebrate the Attitude, Effort and Achievement of a large number of the junior school (7 to 10). Some 240 out of a total of 500 students gained one or more academic awards - this is an outstanding result for these students and their families. We were thrilled to see such a large number of parents and family members in attendance – it was a really great assembly.



Parents should now be aware that there are lockers available for hire at the school. These lockers have been installed by the P&C and SRC to assist students with large amounts of equipment or those with valuables in their bag. We have NO facility in the school for the guaranteed safe keeping of valuables. There is a space at the front office for storage but it is not possible for us to monitor the security for the entire day.

Facebook is perennially an issue for both the school and the community. We encourage students to be mindful of what they post on Facebook and other social media because there is a permanent record of what they have said. Parents should be monitoring your children's use of these sites, and, unfortunately in some cases, not becoming embroiled themselves in the nastiness that can occur.

Gonski Review

Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to you about the funding of our school and the education of your child.

The recently released Gonski Review of school funding found Australia is seriously under-investing in education, particularly in public schools.

It recommends a complete overhaul of the way funding is delivered and a significant increase for public schools across the country.

All children at Macksville High School would benefit greatly from the implementation of the Gonski Review's recommendations.

The exact amount of additional funding we would receive is still to be finalised. However, even if the school received the average increase of \$1,500 per student per year it would provide approximately an additional amount of \$900,000 for the education of our students at our school.

Benefits of Extra Funding

With additional funding we could:

- * *Cut class sizes by employing additional classroom teachers*
- * *Provide more assistance in the classroom for students with special needs and disabilities*
- * *Employ specialist teachers, particularly for literacy and numeracy*
- * *Provide additional training and support for teachers*

I'm sure you will agree that this additional funding is urgently required, but unfortunately neither major party has made a commitment to providing it.

We really need to make the politicians understand that they should be putting the interests of our children first. This is too good an opportunity to miss. There needs to be a commitment made to the funding and new laws passed through parliament this year.

There are some simple things you can do to help:

- Send an email or better still call our local Federal MP Luke Hartsuyker on luke.hartsuyker.mp@aph.gov.au or 02 6652 6233 and let him know your child is worth investing more in.
- Register your support for better funding at the website www.igiveagonski.com.au.
- Spread the word among other parents about why we need to get the polities to act

Thank you

Peter Vernon, Principal (Reliveing)

Wear Red to raise money for the Nambucca Valley Dialysis Fund

Organised by Jessica Howe, with the collaboration of the Student Representative Council (SRC), students and staff wore red for a recent mufti day to raise money for the Nambucca Valley Dialysis Fund.

Bringing a gold coin and buying up big at the lunchtime sausage sizzle Macksville High School raised \$530 on the day with a further donation from the SRC of \$470 to make a grand total of \$1000 to go towards this very important cause. Nambucca Valley Residents and coordinators of the Nambucca Valley Dialysis Fund, Rona Freeman and Judy Moran both visited the school on the day to show their support as they continue to push hard for a machine to be set up in the valley.



Without a local dialysis unit, patients are forced to travel to Coffs Harbour or Kempsey, or arrange home dialysis – a “restrictive and demanding” solution that placed stress on the patient’s family. Dialysis can become a very hard way to live, usually spending four to six hours unable to move, attached to a machine, three days a week for the rest of the patient’s life.

Anyone who would like to make a donation can visit the Bananacoast Credit Union, where an account called the Nambucca Valley Dialysis Fund has been set up, in order to allow transparent receipt of funds from people who wish to support this cause.

Open Rugby League - Country Cup

Macksville continued their unbeaten run this year when they demolished Newman College in the Country Cup North Coast Final, played at Smithtown on the 18th of July.

Once again it was an all-round team effort from an outstanding group of young men. The Newman College team from Port Macquarie had a distinct size advantage but could not match Macksville for skill or toughness. The two captains Aaron Argent and Tim Worthing led from the front and the rest of the team followed with staunch defence and clinical attack. The final score was 30 – 6. They now head to Coffs International Stadium for the State Semis. Thanks to all parents who assisted with transport.

By Michael Smith, PD/H/PE



BR: Damian Carriage, Kyle Crompton, Ben Suckling, Jordan Sheather, Aaron Argent(c), Jimi Allen, Mitch Liebe, Beau Saville

MR: Tim Worthing(vc), Brayden Johnson, Jackson Wells, Lachlan Hooke, Kade Spear, Chris Buckley, Keith Donovan

FR: Joe Borg, Joel Brunsdon

Absent: Daneil Donovan, Max Hennessey, Brad Doolan, Bill Hennessey, Jordan McEwan, Ryan Gallop, Cody Langley-Ryan

Open Rugby League – University Shield

Macksville played Grafton in the North Coast Final of the University Shield. It was always going to be a tall order playing at the opposition's home ground in front of a hostile crowd. To add to the harsh conditions we were without some key players and only just managed to field a team with two reserves.

Injuries hit hard and we were trailing for most of the match. However the guts and determination shown by all of our players was something to be proud of. With ten minutes to go, down by twelve points, Jordan McEwan took an intercept pass and ran the length of the field with several opposition players chasing, to score under the posts and turn the match. Macksville scored again soon after from a Mitch Liebe kick, but the conversion was disallowed even though both linesmen had their flags up. This meant we were trailing by 2 points with a minute to go. The boys lifted once more and rolled on down field, setting the scene for a dramatic final seconds try from the captain, Aaron Argent. The try was converted and the final score was 26 – 22. Against the odds it was a memorable win for all those involved. Thanks again to all parents who assisted with transport.



Joel Brunsdon (left) with the team in flight (above)



Aaron Argent leading his team (above) & Tim Worthing (right)

SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR THE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF EX-SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN



The Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust is a not-for-profit organisation. AVCAT administer scholarships to help children and grandchildren of the Australian ex-service community with the costs of full-time tertiary education. The most deserving candidates are selected on merit and who, without our help, would be unable to start or complete studies without financial difficulty.

For more information or to apply, contact
AVCAT
T 02 9213 7999 or 1800 620 361 (voicemail)
E avcat@dva.gov.au www.avcat.org.au

"THE LONG TAN
SCHOLARSHIP WAS
INVALUABLE HELP,
IT ALLOWED ME TO
CONCENTRATE
FULLY ON
BECOMING THE
BEST DOCTOR I
COULD BE"

APPLICATIONS OPEN AUGUST 18



Engagement and Attainment Snapshot:

As a support for our school the regional consultancy team has offered to undertake data analysis and focus group interviews, including an online survey of parents, and then work collaboratively with school teams to develop/modify strategies/targets in our existing school plan to inform future school planning around retention, engagement, attainment and attendance. This will enhance the current positive school practices and targets/strategies existing in our current school plans.

We would like to encourage all parents to participate in this online survey which can be found at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8162>. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in this. Please let me know if you need further information regarding this, thanks Lynette Howle.

Safe Keeping of school bags & equipment

The cupboard in the student foyer where students leave their belongings is locked in the morning and unlocked in the afternoon. Please advise your student not to leave valuables in their bag, these can be left in the office for safe keeping. We cannot guarantee bags/items will not be taken by the wrong person in the afternoon or in fact stolen. It might help if your student's bag is clearly identifiable, sometimes there can be quite a few Supre pink bags stored in the cupboard at one time. We cannot take responsibility for personal items bought to school.

As an alternative we still have student lockers available to hire for \$10 until end of term 3 with a \$20 deposit and then beginning Term 4, \$30 for a full year - more information contact Lynette Howle on 0265681066.

Acclaimed Australian Writer James Roy visits Macksville High

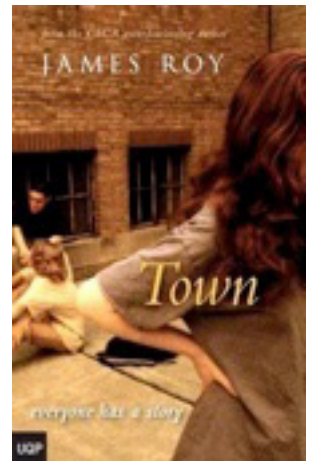
James Roy visited our school last term. He ran 3 amazing workshops that focussed on creative writing and the building of the character. He presented 3 different workshops that targeted the individual needs of the 3 groups of students. He ran a successful workshop for the senior students that will enable them to improve on their creative writing responses for their HSC. This was centred on the idea of creating an extended piece of writing. The students learnt a lot and found James interesting and engaging. James captivated all of the junior students and was able to inspire creativity through Humour.



It was wonderful that we were able to have James Roy come. He is a well-respected and renowned and has many literary awards. His books are read widely at Macksville High School and his collection of Short stories 'The Town' are taught in class. He was a wonderful asset to the MHS staff who had many opportunities to talk to him about strategies for teaching creative writing in the classroom, and we were joined by community members for an evening dinner where James gave tips to many budding writers in the area.

Many thanks go to the library and our Librarian, Ms Julie Smith for her ongoing support of these important literary opportunities.

By Kelli Dykes
Head Teacher English



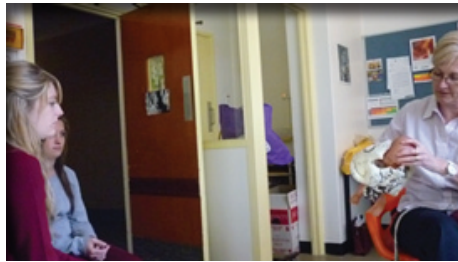
Macksville High School would also like to acknowledge the generous sponsorship in the way of providing accommodation on the schools behalf for Mr Roy, it was greatly appreciated.



CLASSES WITH MRS O'SULLIVAN

Child Studies 1

Recently we had another visit to Macksville Hospital's Maternity Unit for those who did not participate in the first visit. Veronica, the Head Midwife, explained the birthing process with her visual props and gave the girls a tour of the delivery room. The students have just completed their half yearly exam and their "pregnancy interview" assessment task. We will be compiling lists of clothes, and other equipment that a newborn baby will need. We will learn about Australian Safety Standards. Students will also investigate what immunisations a baby should have.



Carpet Bowls

A small contingent of bowlers put their best foot forward to compete against one another on Wednesday. Jake Fallowfield won 10 games overall, closely followed by Tjara Robinson, Alex Parkins, and Rhiannan Duffy all on 7. Sal Bartley won 6 and Ellise Cooper and Zali Newman-Scott won 5 in total. They are all becoming more skilled each week, learning to bowl closer to the jack each time. Thanks must go to Macksville RSL for allowing the students the opportunity to use their facilities.

8Tech3 Food Class



Students had their first taste of cooking this term, producing some delicious pancakes. They had a choice of berry coulis, maple syrup, or lemon and sugar to top them off with some scrumptious ice-cream.





“ATTENTION YEARS 9, 10, 11 & 12”
The next **Parent Teacher Interview night** will be
held on
6 August 2012, 3.30pm – 6.00pm - MHS Stadium

“BOOKINGS ARE OPEN”

Book School Interviews Online

Parents...

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

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

ENTER TO SCHOOL EVENT CODE: **5A9S8**

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.

School Notices:

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE INTERVIEWS

The education of your child starts with regular school attendance. In NSW all children of compulsory school age are required to be enrolled in a state or registered school and to attend school on each day that instruction is provided.

The Department of Education and Training operates a School Liaison Program. Home School Liaison Officers are teachers with a range of educational and professional experiences with expertise in the area of supporting attendance and student welfare. A number of Home School Liaison Officers will interview identified students (Years 7-12) with attendance concerns at Macksville High School on Thursday the 9th of August 2012. Please contact the school if you would not like your child to be interviewed.

Parents of identified students will be notified in writing after the interviews have been conducted.

FOR SALE - Macksville High School 16gig thumb drives ONLY \$15.00. See Deslie Howe.

YEAR 8 PARENT MEETING - INFORMATION MEETING REGARDING YEAR 9 - 2013 ELECTIVE SUBJECT CHOICES

Date: Thursday, 9 August - Venue: School Library
Time: 6.00pm - 6.40pm

Parents and students welcome

Further details please contact: Mr Joyce or Mrs Orman

SCHOOL REPORTS

SCHOOL REPORTS FOR YEARS 7 TO 10 WILL BE SENT HOME BEGINNING MONDAY, WEEK 3. IN PREPARATION FOR PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS TO BE HELD DURING AUGUST.
SEE FRONT COVER FOR DATES.

NOTE TO PARENTS

It would be appreciated when writing notes for your students, eg passouts or absentee, that you write your student's full name, year they are in and the date. Thank you for your co-operation in this regard.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON 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 3.15pm - 5.00pm. Please see Mrs Mendham (Maths) if you have any enquiries.

SCHOOL FEES

Just a reminder that school fees can be paid at the front office between 8.30am and 3.30pm and can be paid by either cheque or eftpos. Voluntary Contributions are voluntary and payment is a matter for decision by parents/guardians.

We do point out that these voluntary contributions enhance the schools' educational and sporting programs and are greatly appreciated. Any problems with payments please phone the front office on 65681066.

If parents/guardians are having difficulty paying school fees, Student Assistance is available. Please collect a form from the school office.

Community Notices:

40 HOUR FAMINE

Macksville High School will join together to support the 40 Hour Famine from 17-19 August. One of Australia's biggest youth events that each year inspires a new generation of young people to help break the cycle of poverty. Contact Ms Garland at recess or lunch in the English staff room to register.

NC REGION STATE DANCE CAMP

Applications are available from Mrs Shrubb for the 2012 North Coast Region State Dance Camp. Students need to apply by the 25th July, 2012. The camp will be held in August from the 20-22nd at Port Macquarie.

Stuarts Point and District Little Athletics

It's that time again. Registrations will be held at the Buz Brazel oval, Vernon St, Scotts Head on Friday August 3rd from 4pm. Competition will begin on Friday August 10th. If you have any inquiries please phone Annelise Quinn (Registrar) 0448 699377 or Charlie Templeton (President) 0410 071177.

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

CANTEEN PRICE LIST 2012

Prices are subject to change and orders can be made in the morning or recess.

Small Hot Cheese & Ham Roll	\$1.00
Hot Cheese Roll	\$2.00
Pizza	\$2.50
Chiko Roll	\$2.50
Chicken Breast Royal	\$2.50
Sausage Roll	\$2.60
Hot Dog	\$3.00
Plain Pie (lunch only)	\$3.20
Cheese and Spinach Pastie or Roll	\$3.20
Half Cheese Lavish Roll	\$2.50
Half Chicken Lavish Roll	\$3.00
Ham/Cheese Salad Roll	\$3.00
Sauce	.20c
Chicken and Gravy Roll (winter only)	\$4.00
Hash browns (winter only)	2 for \$1.00

ORDERS ONLY

Chicken Burger	\$3.50
Sweet Chilli Chicken Burger	\$3.50
Chicken Breast Royal on Roll	\$3.50
Hamburger	\$4.00
Spinach & Ricotta Burger	\$4.00
Chicken Lavish Roll (plain)	\$5.00
Chicken Lavish Roll (Spinach or Sun Dried Tomato)	\$6.00
Chicken Salad Bowl	\$6.00
Lasagna	\$3.50

SANDWICH

Egg and Lettuce	\$3.00
Ham and Tomato	\$3.00
Cheese and Tomato	\$3.00
Chicken, Lettuce, Mayo	\$3.50
Toasted Sandwiches Made to Order	

DRINKS

Cans	\$2.50	600ml Plain	\$2.00
Water	\$1.50	300ml Flavoured	\$2.00
Poppers	\$1.50	500ml Flavoured	\$3.80
100% OJ Juice	sml \$1.50, Lrg \$3.00	Yoghurt	\$1.50
Juice	sml \$1.80, Lrg \$3.80		