

## **MACKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

Email: macksville-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au Website: www.macksville-h.school.nsw.edu.au

# NEWSLETTER

PO Box 611 40 Boundary Street Macksville NSW 2447

Phone: (02) 6568 1066 Fax: (02) 6568 2802 ABN 34 467 761 791

### Term: 1 No: 2

### Issued: 01 March 2013

IN THIS ISSUE: OPEN GIRLS WIN THROUGH TO STATE SEMI FINAL

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

March		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
March, 04	3.30-6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Interview Night - Stadium - Years 7, 9 & 12
March, 06	5.30-7.30pm	Free Parents Workshop for Learner Drivers - Library (Help learner drivers become safer drivers), laws, supervising a learner driver, how to complete the log book etc.
March, 18-19	All Day	Year 7 Excursion - Yarrahappinni Youth Centre
March, 18	3.30-6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Interview Night - Stadium - Years 8, 10 & 11
March, 22	All Day	OH&S White Card Course for students
March, 25	All Day	Year 7 Girls & Boys and Year 9 Boys only - Vaccinations

## **Guy Fawkes Wilderness Camp**

Late last year in the final week of school there was an opportunity for a small group of young men to experience a wilderness camp in the Guy Fawkes National Park. This area is renowned for its remoteness, natural beauty, brumby breeding grounds and wilderness values.

It was a great opportunity for the 7 Macksville students, Mr Paix and Mr Coughlin along with 8 students from Coffs Harbour High School and two teachers, one of them a former Macksville science teacher, Mr Baker.

We started the trip with a meeting in lovely Dozzles (Dorrigo) where we had a quick feed and pored over the topographic map. We then drove to Dundurrabin and in to our destination. The walk down was a steep 800 metre descent which tried a few of the lads, but everyone was determined to make it to the flats. Once the first brumbies were sighted and the river was in view, everyone's spirits were picked up.

The next two days and nights were spent meandering along the river, fishing and relaxing in the beautiful surrounds. The 35 degree days, infrequent bull ants and frequent mosquitoes and march flies were only combated with necessary wallows in the cool waters of the Aberfoyle and Guy Fawkes river systems. A superb damper was cooked by Mr Coughlin accompanied by a camp fire yarn and Mr Paix's bush coffee espresso machine. A fine campsite for next year was discovered alongside a pristine water way and news of a secret cave brought on ideas to discover its location. The walk out was a character building ascent of 800 metres, winding up and through the dry sclerophyll eucalypt forest. Everyone managed to conquer the mountain in a fine and honourable manner and the drive back to Macksville, broken by a necessary stop in lovely Dozzles for lunch and a cold drink, was not short enough, as everyone had a shower and LONG sleep on their mind!

The boys all combined to share their skills and gain new knowledge about camping, walking in the bush, living in close quarters and communicating and interacting with others in a positive way. A great trip and we are all looking forward to the next camp and walk!! - Mr Coughlin



## **From our Principal**

Thank you to all the Year 7 parents and teachers who attended the Meet and Greet afternoon tea last Tuesday. It was great to see so many people there and to hear about all of the wonderful experiences being had by our students in their first weeks at High School. Don't forget this week's parent/teacher interviews with bookings being made on line. I have asked all teachers to be present until at least 4.30pm regardless of the number of bookings they may have. If you have not been able to make a booking it may be possible to catch up during this time. I will be there and look forward to catching up if you have time.



The P&C meeting this week ratified the decision to issue

Year 9 students with laptops. They will only go to students whose parents sign up for the student use policy and there will be several parent/student evening meetings during March and opportunities for parents to drop in during school hours if they are unable to attend the parent/student meetings. Unlike previous years these computers belong to Macksville High School and will be loaned to the students. If a student leaves our school prior to completing the HSC they will be required to return the laptop.

I had the great pleasure of representing the Nambucca Valley Community of Public Schools at last Thursday's Macksville TAFE 2012 presentation of graduation certificates and special awards. It was great to see so many of Macksville High Schools past students have continued with their education and receive acknowledgement for their achievements.

There have been a number of upset students at school in recent weeks which has resulted from unacceptable behaviour in the community coming into our school and impacting on some of our student's wellbeing at school. School must remain a safe and happy place for all who attend. This as always is a small minority but at times it can impact on students not directly involved. I expect students and staff to be safe and happy at school and expect parents to help us with this by not encouraging unacceptable behaviour, reporting concerns to myself or the police, working with us to manage and prevent unacceptable behaviour and bring concerns to school in a respectful and cooperative manner. I have legal and school policy that I use to ensure this and will continue to apply as necessary for the wellbeing of our school community.

Paul Holding

## LOCKERS

## Attention: Students & Parents

Lockers are now available to hire for Terms 1, 2 & 3 at a cost of \$22 hire fee and a \$20 once-only refundable deposit to be paid at time of hiring.

> There are currently 5 lockers available. Please see Mrs Howle for more information.



## **Swimming Carnival Action**

The weather was fantastic for a swimming carnival and the new house banners designed and made by Ms Cheryl Dunn added more colour to the house areas. A particularly highlight was the number of senior boys who participated and some of the house captains and vice captains did a great job in organising the younger students into relay teams.

In a school such as Macksville High with a strong history in sporting events it is rare for records to fall, however some long standing records in 50m events were broken. The introduction of 100m events at school level two years ago also gave an opportunity for some of our current students to set faster times in breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly.

For a second year in a row Taylor house won with 2,195 points, with Briner moving from 3rd place to second on 1,638 points.

Age Champions were as follows:

AGE	GIRLS	BOYS
	Jazmin Small	Kyran Tsujimoto
13 yrs	Chloe Northfield	Michael Baldock
14 yrs	Erin Atkins	Sid Shaw
15 yrs	Jasmine Stanton	Tannah Bradshaw
16 yrs	Alina Tape	Dawson Denison
17 yrs	Lydia Witte	Keith Donovan
20 yrs	Jane Stanton	Beau Tape

### The following new records were set:

Alina Tape - 16Yr 100m backstroke, 16Yr breaststroke, 16Yr 100m and 50m butterfly, 16Yr 100m freestyle, 16Yr 200m freestyle;

Jazmin Small - 12Yr 100m butterfly;

Kyran Tsujimoto - 12Yr 100m backstroke, 12Yr 100m breaststroke, 12Yr 100m and 50m butterfly, 12Yr 100m and 50m freestyle, 12Yr 200m freestyle;

Tannah Bradshaw - 15Yrn 100m backstroke, Yr15 100m breaststroke, 15Yr 100m butterfly, 15Yr 100m freestyle, 15Yr 200m freestyle;

Sid Shaw - 14Yr 100m breaststroke;

Daneil Donovan - 17Yr 100m breaststroke.

Grant Gough Head Teacher - Ind. Arts/PDHPE Sports Organiser



## **Open Girls Win Through to State Semi Final**

The Open Girls' Rugby team also had a very successful year in 2012, again battling their way to a State Semi Final appearance. Emulating the success of their male counterparts the Swampettes Open Girls won their respective 7s competition to earn the right for a trip to Newcastle to contest the Regional Finals. They played very well on the day against very strong opposition and finished the tournament with two wins and two losses.

The Richard Shaw Shield is a Statewide CHS 15 a side competition that follows the traditional round robin format. Frustratingly, the girls struggled to get opponents to play. Awarded a bye in the first round on reputation, prospective opponents kept forfeiting. The girls persisted with training and preparing in the hope that another school would play them. After months of inaction the girls finally had a game. Facing similar problems in the Northern part of the draw Casino High travelled to Allan Gillett Oval to play for the North Coast Final. In a very hard fought match the Swampettes were victorious and were crowned North Coast Champions. (for some of these girls their 4th such triumph)

After another period of inactivity, uncertainty and bureaucratic dithering the girls were told that they were to play Hunter River High for the Divisional Championship (effectively the State Quarter Final.) In balmy conditions on the bottom Oval the girls played stunning running Rugby to swamp their hapless opposition 80 to nil and progress through to the State Semis. As the State Final was mandated for all NSW CHS and PSSA in Sydney on the same day we were told that we would have to travel to Wagga for the semi. We pointed out to the State Convenor that this was impossible to do in less than a week and graciously the Wagga coach agreed to meet in Sydney to play the Semi on the Tuesday afternoon with the victor progressing to the State final on the following day.

Superwebb leapt into action and organised a bus and accommodation and the intrepid band set of for Sydney with Ms Collits and Mr Smith riding shotgun. The girls travelled to Forshaw Rugby Park in The Shire and acquitted themselves well despite being down to 12 players by the end of the game. Showing great fighting spirit and tenacity the girls put in a huge effort but were beaten by two tries. Unfortunately for Wagga the torrid nature of the encounter counted against them in the final which they lost to Bega High School.

Overall it was a successful season for the girls and one of which they should all be proud. Thanks to the Year 12 girls for their years of loyal service to Swampettes Rugby and best of luck for the future.



2012 Swampettes Richard Shaw Shield Open Girls Rugby Union Semi Finalist

L – R Back Row – Kelly Taylor, Desley Witte, Nyomi Widders, Alana Kinerson, Kaitlyn Whyte, Jassmine Leigh Smith (mascot), Melina Cooper, Tahlia Collits, Karleisha Roberts, Kashana Donovan, Jade Sutton.

Kneeling – Maddison Smart, Yierah Dunn, Petrea Guiana, Sandi Grant McDonell, Jane Stanton, Shayna Welch, Mareesa Brunsdon, Mick Baines (coach), Gypsy Hollis

Courtney Parkins, Robin West. (absent- Maison Gainge, Nikki Davies) Josh Webb (coach)

# AUSTRALIAN RUGBY UNION GIRLS DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Development Officer Bruce Frame is holding through Australian Rugby Union (ARU) girls rugby development sessions.



Girls turning 15 all the way up to 18 are welcome to attend the sessions. Women's rugby 7's will be an introduced sport into the Rio Olympic Games and the ARU is very interested in scouting some talent to represent our country. We would be thrilled to get as many girls as we can from Macksville.



Sunday March 3 from 10 – 12pm at Port Sunday March 24 from 10 – 12pm at Coffs Any queries please contact Laura Cooper, MHS - PD/H/PE Teacher - 0405 708 460



## **"ATTENTION YEARS 7, 9 & 12"** The next **Parent Teacher Interview night** will be held on Monday, 04 March 2013, 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 <u>www.schoolinterviews.com.au</u> or following the link through our schools website - www.macksville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au.

## ENTER TO SCHOOL EVENT CODE: VRSAE



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.

You can speak to Mr Paul Holding the Principal of Macksville High School on the night by making a booking with him online.

If you require assistance or are unable to book online, please do not hesitate to contact the office to make your bookings – 02-65681066 - (Please have the subjects and teachers names ready).



## MATHS MATTERS

### Staffing

The three new permanent maths staff members have settled in well to Macksville High. Vashti Cooper, Jon Coughlin and Mark Hunyh are welcome additions to the faculty and join Graeme and Jo Paix, Amanda Revell and myself for 2013. We were sorry to lose Mrs Briggs but wish her well in her new position.

### Textbooks

We appreciate the students who returned maths textbooks before the end of 2012. We are asking all students to look around at home to see if there are any outstanding textbooks from previous years hidden away. So far we have had a good response but I believe there are still many more forgotten texts which we could use. Please encourage your child to seek these out and return to the maths staff room. Thank you.

### Calculators

A reminder that all students studying maths in all years are required to have a scientific calculator and need to bring them to every lesson. These can be purchased from the school office for \$20. Macksville High encourages the use of the Sharp model for consistency of instruction.

### Year Eight Quicksmart Programme

Quicksmart with our instructor Naomi Keeys is ready to start. We look forward to helping Year Eight students become more confident in their maths and wish them well.

### Homework centre

There has been a change of day for the homework centre. It will now run from C1 on **THURSDAY afternoons from 3.20 – 5.00 p.m**, starting from 28 February.

Please contact me at school on 6568 1066 if you wish your child to participate.

We wish all students a successful and productive year in Mathematics.

Moyra Mendham, Head Teacher Maths

## Year 7-10 Debating team members wanted!!

Macksville High School has a strong history of excellence in debating. This year we hope to continue with this. If your child would like to be a part of the Year 7-10 Debating Team, please see Ms Dykes in the English staff room. Team meetings and practice will be held during lunchtimes.



## Have you received the Schoolkids Bonus?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive \$410 a year for each primary student and \$820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don't have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children's education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.





## Bellingen Bulldogs AFL club wants you!

Bellingen Bulldogs are looking for boys and girls from 5-14 years to play AFL and NAB AFL Auskick in 2013.

Season starting soon!

Contact Adam Komhauser 0417 423 578





In 2013 Year 8 students have been selected to participate in an innovative program that has been designed to target the literacy needs of students.

The program is designed to identify the specific needs of individual students. It aims to engage them in activities which provide strategies to help them develop their skills and prepare them to embark on Stage 5 and Stage 6 learning. These skills will range from basic spelling to advanced, extended writing, depending on the needs of the student.

These needs have been identified through careful data analysis of each students' NAPLAN results, school examinations in 2012 and the observations of classroom teachers.

Each student will have an individual learning plan. These plans will outline learning strategies and the students will work in small groups with others who share similar needs. As the year progresses this learning time will be adjusted to best suit the needs of the student. This may include individual learning time, smaller groups or independent learning.

Each group will be allocated a mentor from the English department and will meet with this mentor once a fortnight. If you are interested in discussing your child's individual learning plan, the mentors will have this information at the Term 1 Parent/Teacher evening and we welcome your attendance.

We believe that a solid literacy foundation is of major importance for all learning. This program will focus on literacy across all subject areas and we hope that this careful targeting will lead to stronger writing results in all courses.

Please feel free to contact me Kelli Dykes, Head Teacher English 0265681066 if you have any questions about this program.

## "A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's heath"

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

## LIBRARY NEWS

## COSMOS SCIENCE MAGAZINE:

All students now have access to the online edition of this magazine.

Website: e.cosmosmagazine.com Username: macksville Password: cosmos1

## SCHOOL PHOTOS: Thursday, 21st March 2013

Payments for orders are to be made to the photographers on the day. Envelopes for this purpose will be distributed shortly.

## HEAD LICE NOTIFICATION

We have been notified that we have a case of head lice in the School. Head lice can be an ongoing concern for some families and the school community. To minimise the problem for yourself and others, we suggest the following:

Check your child's head for lice. Check strands of hair for eggs (concentrate on the crown area). Any eggs found should be presumed to be fertile. Treat hair as per directions of head lice treatment

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. When infestations of head lice occur we request that parents examine their child's hair and undertake treatment where eggs or lice are identified. We also encourage students to avoid head to head contact in group activities as far as possible. In rare cases where students are experiencing a chronic head lice infestation the school, parents and the local community may need to work together to treat the infestation.

We thank you for your cooperation in the matter.



### Ladies of all ages please join with us to celebrate International Women's Day

A delicious Morning Tea will be served

09.30am to 11.30am ~ Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013



The Bluegum Function Centre, Lakeside Gardens at Autumn Lodge 1-3 Short Street Macksville.

It is an opportunity to network and listen to some successful local women speak.

There will be speakers, entertainment, raffles and lucky door prizes.

There will be information available for local groups & activities available for women in the Nambucca Valley.

Cost \$10.00 per person

For catering purposes please RSVP at Autumn Lodge reception on 65985000 by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February or email: <u>Marea Slater@mvd.ore.au</u> Children welcome!

## FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER

Thank you for your support by informing parents about the opportunities for teenagers to live and learn in another culture with World Education Program (WEP) Australia.

For an electronic version of the newsletter article, please do not, hesitate to contact Judith Ortmann — judithortmann@wep.org.au

## WWW.WEP.ORG.AU LEARN AND DISCOVER THE WORLD

## UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS

### MELBOURNE

MEEDOONNE	
Kingston Arts Centre	
979 Nepean Highway, Moora	abbin
19 January	
19 February	
Northcote Town Hall	
189 High Street, Northcate	
12 February	7:30-9:00pm
26 March	
Camberwell Library	
340 Camberwell Road, Cam	berwell
13 March	
GEELONG	
Geelong West Town Hall	
153 Pakington Street, Geelog	n West

153 Pakington Street, Geelong West 19 March 7:00-8:30p

### OPEN DAY WEP Office

	, 249	lampton	Hampton	
2 Ma	rch			

### SYDNEY

Bowlers Club of NSW	
Level 2, 95-99 York Street,	Sydney
19 January	
13 February	
13 March	

### BRISBANE

Garden City Library	
Westfield Shopping Centre Onr Kessels Road and Log	
Upper Mt Gravatt	
19 January	3:30-5:00pn
21 February	7:30-9:00ph
14 March	7:30-9:00pm

### SUNSHINE COAST

	ny meighbournood C	
	wenue, Cotton Tree	
28 Fe	bruary	

### TOOWOOMBA

36 Baker Street, Toowoomba **19 March** 7:30-9:1



## **STUDENT EXCHANGE** A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY!

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is now accepting applications from students who wish to participate in 2013/14 exchange programs for a summer, semester or year. Students can choose to study and live life with a carefully selected host family in more than 25 countries.

I did it! 10 months in a foreign country, without knowing the language, culture and not even a single person at first. I have experienced unforgettable moments of highs and lows, but I can't imagine not having done this now. Thinking about all the amazing people I've met, the lessons I have learnt and things I have seen, I feel truly lucky to have been here living a different life. I have no regrets, as I have grown to be more mature, open to life and aware of the world around me. Despite it being hands down the hardest, it has also been the best thing I have ever done for myself. I now feel ready to start life in Australia with a clearer idea of who I am, knowing my strengths, weaknesses and my future goals. Exchange has really helped me define myself and become a stronger and more confident person.

ALISON (MORETON BAY COLLEGE YEAR PROGRAM TO ITALY

World Education Program Australia Limited (ABN 82 098 289 297) Suite 2, 249 Hampton Street, Hampton, Melbourne PO Box 260, Black Rock 3193, Melbourne, Victoria Tel 61 (0) 3 9998 4733 Fax 61 (0) 3 9598 4233 Email into@wop.org.au Anon-profit student avcharge organisation registered with the Education Depertments

Exchange students return to Australia with maturity, confidence, and n many cases, proficiency in arother language. If learning another language is not for your child, excellent programs to the USA, Canada, Ireland and the UK are also available.

## BECOME A WEP HOST FAMILY!

Experience the joys of hosting an exchange student and gaining an international family member.

## **FIND OUT MORE!**

Attend one of WEP's online or group information sessions Visit www.wep.org.au to find out more. Scholarships to Argentina and China and Early Bird Specials are now available for programs commencing in 2014!

### PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT DATES OF INFORMATION SESSIONS AND OPEN DAYS





ABP Aschola is prove to be boarding territorial the Court of Asstration Facility Fectors in the state of a court forward



# REE two hour workshop

for parents and supervisors at our school

## Get practical information about:

- Laws for L and P licence holders.
- Supervising a learner driver.
- How to complete the Learner Driver Log Book.
- The benefits of supervised on-road driving experience.
- Low risk driving.

80

## The next workshop will be held:

Time and date:

Venue:

Book now on:

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2013

<u>Macksville High School</u>

Library

www.etcltd.com.au/rms <u>Ph: (02) 6648 5435</u> <u>Freecall 1300 359 968</u>

<u>5:30pm – 7:30pm</u>

## Helping learner drivers become safer drivers

## **Notices**:







MACKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB K1 (SIDEDOOR) MONDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY 8.30AM TO 9.00AM

CAME ALONG AND HAVE SOME TOAST, OR CEREAL, JUICES AS WELL AS WEEKLY SPECIALS.

BREAKFAST IS THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE DAY, SO COME ALONG AND GET A FREE MEAL ON US.

<b>CANTEEN ROSTER - FEBRUARY</b>			
Monday	04	S Compton & R Smith	
Tuesday	05	R Wood	
Wednesday	06	HELPER NEEDED	
Thursday	07	D Jackson	
Friday	08	G Welsh	
Monday	11	S Compton & R Smith	
Tuesday	12	HELPER NEEDED	
Wednesday	13	L Welsh & T Laverty	
Thursday	14	HELPER NEEDED	
Friday	15	G Welsh	



### **E**MERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

PLEASE PHONE THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 0265681066 TO CHECK, IF YOU THINK WE DO NOT HAVE THE CORRECT EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR STUDENT/S.

**P**ASSOUT APPLICATIONS

Students who are going to be out of school during the day need a note from their parent/carer. This note needs to include the students first & last name, year group, roll group, parents/carers contact details, reason for pass, departure time and return time. It must be signed and dated.

For Sale - Macksville High School 16gig Thumb Drives ONLY \$15.00. See Deslie Howe.

### **CANTEEN HELPERS NEEDED**

Can you spare a few hours between 9.00am – 2.00pm once a fortnight, monthly or even occasionally when needed (lunch will be provided).

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS ARE GIVEN A \$7 VOUCHER PER CHILD/GRANDCHILD WHENEVER THEY VOLUNTEER TO BE VALID FOR THAT DAY.

If you can help out please do not hesitate to contact Roz in the canteen on  $65681066. \label{eq:result}$ 

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



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Phone: (02) 6568 1066 Fax: (02) 6568 2802

ABN 34 467 761 791

### 2013 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

### Dear Parent

Welcome to the 2013 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). For over 30 years, ICAS has taken place annually in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, the Pacific region and South Africa. Your child is invited to participate in ICAS in 2013.

ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3 to 12 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.

All students receive a **certificate** and an **individual student report** indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child's strengths and weaknesses. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

Certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating students.

A UNSW medal is awarded when the highest score in each year level in each state in each subject is judged to be sufficiently meritorious. These medals are presented at either a UNSW Medal Ceremony or at a school assembly. Students must sit on the official sitting dates to be eligible for a UNSW medal.

The entry fee per student is as follows:

- Computer Skills 21 May 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-10)
- Science 5 June 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-12)
- Writing 17 June 2013 to 21 June 2013 (\$17.00) (Years 7-12)
- Spelling 18 June 2013 (\$11.00) (Year 7 only)
- English 31 July 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-12)
- Mathematics 13 August 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-12)

For more information please contact Macksville High School and speak with Kelli Dykes, Head Teacher English or Lynette Howle, Community Engagement Officer on 0265681066 or <u>lynette.howle@det.nsw.edu.au</u>.

Permission slips will be provided early Term 1, 2013

Yours sincerely

Res.

Kelli Dykes Head Teacher English Macksville High School





# 2013 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) PERMISSION SLIP

## Please return THIS section to your child's school by 24 April 2013.

I give permission for my child	of
Child's name	Class
to participate in the following 2013 International Competitions and As	sessments for Schools (ICAS):

The entry fee per student is as follows:

- Computer Skills 21 May 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-10)
- Science 5 June 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-12)
- Writing 17 June 2013 to 21 June 2013 (\$17.00) (Years 7-12)
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- English 31 July 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-12)
- Mathematics 13 August 2013 (\$8.00) (Years 7-12)

Please find enclosed \_\_\_\_\_\_ entry fee.

Amount

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian