

# NEWSLETTER

## TERM 3 ISSUE 1 - AUGUST 2014

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### YEAR 12- EXCURSION TO NEWCASTLE AND SYDNEY



*From left: Kelly Taylor, Deanna Buckley and Ruby Porter at the University of Newcastle Biology Labs*

**Conservation.** Students also visited Australia's oldest scientific research institution, the Australian Museum.

At the University of Newcastle, 3 hour laboratory workshops were held in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students from Hunter region schools also participated. They carried out experimental procedures and used scientific instrumentation that is not available in schools.

The experiments were fun, challenging and excellent preparation for their HSC.

HSC Science students recently travelled to Sydney with Mrs Conway and Mrs Hughes where a series of activities in Biology, Chemistry and Physics were carried out. At the University of NSW Biology students examined specimens of cancerous lungs, gangrenous feet, other diseased body parts and unborn babies as part of a workshop for the topic *The Search for Better Health*.

Meanwhile Physics students were at the Powerhouse Museum conducting experiments in electricity, motion and electromagnetism.

Chemistry students toured the submarine HMAS Onslow and the Naval Warship HMAS Vampire at Darling Harbour before attending a lengthy workshop and tour of the Australian National Maritime Museum. These were valuable experiences for the Chemistry topic *Shipwrecks, Corrosion and*



*From left: Danielle Seymour, Max Vernon, Kalem Frazer, Max Jamieson, Nigel Robinson, Andrew Knox, at the Australian Maritime Museum*

## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Community,

It has only been three weeks and so much has happened this term.

Firstly, thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who attended our Presentation Assembly. These ceremonies are extremely important to reward those students who are achieving academically, are consistent, and trying their best. Congratulations and well done to all award recipients.

We also had our NAIDOC week assembly with a theme of *Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond*, honouring all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of our country. We had an excellent presentation of Aboriginal defence personnel who have served from the Valley and a speech from Mr Rob Bryant outlining his experiences. A huge thank you to Mark Werner for his organisation of the day.

Last week was Education Week, it is timely to take stock and celebrate being a proud public comprehensive high school. The annual Education Week V10 Awards ceremony was held at Bowraville High School where the outstanding efforts of Sandi Grant-McDonnell, (student) Ros Field (community) and Kelli Dykes (teacher), were recognised for their ongoing contributions to not only Macksville High School, but also to Public Education.

*Wonderland*, our school musical has been held over the start of this term. Congratulations to all of the talented students, from performers to back stage crew for a most entertaining show. Again, a huge thank you to the staff and parents who have given up so much of their time to allow the show to go on – and particularly to Mr Mick Baines, Ms Kelli Dykes and Mr Alan Battery for the hours they have spent in bringing the production to life.

For many of our year 12 students the external assessment for the HSC is being completed over the next few weeks with major works in Industrial Technology Wood, D&T, Textiles, Extension English, Drama and Visual Arts, and performances in Music, and Drama. All the best to these students – I am sure that your hard work and commitment will be rewarded.

Year 12 should also be studying in preparation for their Trial Exams. There are many opportunities to seek assistance with all subjects offering assistance after school. Please make sure that you take up these opportunities, as well as the assistance available each day in the Library here at school

One of the greatest predictors of success is full attendance at school. It is important that students commit to their studies and make the most of the time they have at school to enable them to be proud of their achievements in all years. SMS messages go out to parents and carers after roll call. If we do not have your details, or they have changed, could you please contact the school.

**Erica Lyne**



From left: Ros Field, Canteen Manager; Kelli Dykes, Head Teacher English; Erica Lyne, Principal and Sandie Grant-McDonnell, Yr 11 receiving their awards.



## CALENDAR DATES

### August

14 Yr7-10 – Cyber bullying workshops

19-21 AgQuip - Great Western Tour

26 P & C Meeting – 6.30pm in TAS room

28 HSC IT – Wood marking in Stadium

29 Year 7 Gala Day- Kempsey

### September

2 Year 7-12 - Parent Teacher Meetings 3.30pm in Stadium

4-6 CHS Athletics-Homebush

4 School Social- 6pm

12 Yrs 9 & 10 Art electives – excursion  
Scotts Head

18 Year 12 farewell Assembly 9.30am

19 Term 3 Last Day

### October

6 Public Holiday

7 Start of Term 4 – **students return to school**

## CANTEEN ROSTER-AUGUST

<b>Monday</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>S Compton</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Helpers needed</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>H Jaeger</b>

<b>Monday</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>S Compton</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>D Jackson</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>

<b>Monday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>S Compton</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Helpers Needed</b>

The Canteen is always appreciative of parent/carer/grandparent help. Please phone Ros on 6568 1453 if you can help.

## CATTLE TEAM WINS AGAIN



The Cattle Team have been to 4 shows so far this year and have won ribbons at each show. We have had great success with our cattle judging and parading as well as picking up broad ribbons with our cattle.

Our major show this year will be against schools from Sydney to Brisbane. We have won this event in the past and our team looks set to be very competitive this year.

All team members are enjoying the experience and learning valuable skills. If any students wish to join the Cattle Team, please see Mr Argent.

## MACKSVILLE HIGH CAPTAINS – VISIT TO PARLIAMENT

Just before four am on a frosty Thursday morning, Tess Lewis and Max Vernon, our dedicated school captains, rolled out of bed for a day trip to Government House. Bleary eyed, they arrived at Coffs Harbour Airport at 5:30am to find their plane was an hour delayed...an hour of lost sleep! The pain was eased a tad by wrapping half frozen lips around cups of tea. Many captains from other schools arrived, looking equally bleary eyed, but snazzy in fancy school blazers. Nestling into the plane seat, Max and Tess swiftly fell into a deep slumber, missing the plane snack much to their outrage. Like the mature and responsible people that they are, they got over it and leapt into a cab, destination Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney.

At Parliament House they were ushered into a grand foyer with plush leather couches. Important looking people strode to and fro. Tess and Max networked, chatting to captains from schools far and wide. They were taken to the Legislative Assembly. A room with leather bound benches where politicians work together to form the foundations of laws in consultation with committees. The committees are made of small groups of politicians that consult with outside groups to gather information and facts relating to the law being discussed. Tess and Max looked the part. Perhaps one day they will be sitting on these benches for real.

A stroll along Macquarie Street took us to Government house, an impressive building with stunning architecture. This is where the Governor of New South Wales, Marie Bashir lives. They were treated with a tour of this stunning building and its incredible art works, before meeting with the Governor for a talk. The Governor is the Queen's representative. She approves laws, or requests changes as needed. One of the main messages that her Excellency, the governor wanted to impart is the importance of compassion and knowledge in leadership roles.

As the day progressed, the weariness became too much for some. Tess sought comfort from Nambucca High School Captain, Abby on the Lawns of Government House. She swiftly regained composure on arrival at the airport food court. Tess and Max managed to stay awake for the home run airplane snack before touching down at 8 pm. The conclusion to a long, but exciting day.

*Yr 12 Advisor and Science Teacher, Angelle Hughes*



## SCHOOL MUSICAL



Macksville High School's recent musical performance - *Wonderland* was an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's beloved *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. The musical was adapted by Mick Baines and directed by Kelli Dykes. *Wonderland* is a fast paced and imaginative journey down the rabbit hole. Set in the time of the Vietnam War and moratorium marches Alice is unwittingly drawn into the zany world of the Red Queen. There is a mixture of contemporary music and some old favourites.

Visually it was a stunning show and the cast were full of energy. Everyone who came along had a great night out. The music crew says a

big thank you for your support.





## UNDER 16's RUGBY- BUCHAN SHIELD

On Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Macksville High School Under 16s rugby union team travelled to Casino for a chance at the quarter finals of the Buchan Shield. The boys unfortunately had to endure a 3.5 hour bus trip where there was much talk about the game ahead. Many were unnecessarily worried that it would be the coldest game of their lives after passing ice still frozen on the sides of the road from a hail storm the night before. On arrival, the day was sunny and unseasonably warm, perfect conditions for rugby.

The first 10 minutes of the game saw Macksville take an early 10-0 lead thanks to two barnstorming runs from first-time prop, Connor Gainge. This was thanks to plenty of possession and skill right across the park.



Unfortunately, the next 10 minutes saw the Casino lads really fire up with some hard-hitting defence really taking the go-forward out of the Macksville boys. A try late in the half to Casino saw the score go to 10-5 at the break.

After half time, the Casino boys picked up where they left off, with more big hits in defence, and hard running from their forwards. Our boys

muscled up for the first 10 again but lack of structure ended up being the downfall of the day, giving away penalties in the ruck to help Casino up the field. Casino scored 2 converted tries for the half to take out the win 19-10.

The experience the boys gained from the game was invaluable and should see them improve in our next game in the Coast to Country Cup later in the term.

Special mention should be made to Danny Taylor, Jake Steward and Luke O'Loughlin for their efforts on the day. Taniela Bula should also be commended on a try saving, hit of the day out on the wing.

Thank you to Ian Taylor for driving the bus, as the trip would have been impossible without you.

## UNE MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Ms Cooper and Ms Revell from the maths staff at Macksville High are to be congratulated on organising two teams from 8M1 maths class to travel to Armidale to



participate in the annual University of New England Gifted and Talented Mathematics Competition.

At 5 am students met Ms Revell and Mrs Keeys at Caltex and joined with Bowraville Central and Nambucca Heads High School in a bus trip to Armidale (Thanks Mr Joyce; great driver!) After a look around the university grounds the group assembled for the day's event.

Teams of four students participated in problem solving activities which emphasise cooperative learning and teamwork. In one activity, the teams can choose to solve simple 1 mark problems or more complex problems, which, if solved correctly, can earn the team 3 points. What a dilemma! What strategy shall we use? Lots of easy questions? (And low point score). Or take the risk and try harder challenges. If a challenge was too hard, they can return the problem and exchange it for an easier problem. They cannot get help from their teacher as each teacher is assigned to a school different from their own. The teams rotated about the hall so played against many different schools.



Some schools were amazingly awesome but others we held our own against.

Macksville representatives were Tobaskin Bonett, Sam Kinnear, Daisy Peachman, Chloe Northfield, Mickayla Ennis, Alex George, Gabriel Farr and Samuel Price.

The students acquitted themselves well, looked great in school blazers and ties and were a credit to MHS. Thanks to all involved.

***Ms Revell, Maths Teacher***

## CAREERS NEWS

1. Year 12: while their HSC is nearing completion, organisation for the “rest” of their days is hotting up!! Non-ATAR students need to be checking out some options (such as the apprenticeship /Traineeship vacancies on Novaskill website (novaskill.com.au under vacancies) or local/regional TaFE offerings!) while ATAR students need to be reading all possibilities about university study, applications, accommodation and possible scholarships. Students have a deadline for dates involved in both of above and should be encouraged to check their DEC email addresses to be familiar with these! ie. University of Wollongong Early Entry online applications close on 29.08.14... Students must complete **all their early Entry/School recommended entry applications by Friday 05.09.14** (either online or to the careers office)- a non-negotiable date!!
2. ASPIRE Institute: are sited in Manly (Sydney) and offer an alternative entry pathway to a range of universities (UTS, UOW, UON, ECU, UWS, etc.); their 1 year training offer Diploma Level credentialing, which guarantees a pathway into 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a bachelor degree at a linked university. Find more details at [www.aspire.edu.au](http://www.aspire.edu.au), email [info@aspire.edu.au](mailto:info@aspire.edu.au) or call 02 9977 0333.
3. my.gov.au: this is a new government website which is used by all government departments as a contact point. eg. For ATO tax online, Centrelink communications, etc., one MUST register with my.gov.au and organise a password before they can proceed...
4. Year 9 Going to Uni day: coming up early next term on 14.10.14, Year 9 students have an opportunity to be part of the Southern Cross University “Going to uni” activity at Coffs harbour Campus. This interaction is all about giving students a hands on experience of university so they can make realistic choices as they move through senior schooling...

**Careers Teacher, Tim Lukins,**

### E HEALTH

Australians can now choose to register themselves and their children for an eHealth record. An eHealth record is a simple, secure way for you to manage and track your family's health.

With an eHealth record you and your child's health providers will be able to access their health information when it is needed.

Records are protected by strong security and privacy safeguards to prevent any unauthorised access.

Registration can be done in a number of ways, for more information visit the eHealth website at [www.ehealth.gov.au](http://www.ehealth.gov.au)

### YARRAHAPINNI TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Stuart's Point Tennis Club will be hosting a Canadian Tennis Tournament on Saturday 30th August commencing at 9:30 am.

Players intending to participate need to contact Kay on 65690210 at least one week prior to the event.

Come along and support the Yarrahapinni Festival and enjoy some great tennis

### SCHOOL JUMPERS

The school's lost property box has a number of school jumpers. If any student needs a jumper, or has lost one, please call at the front office.