

## NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 ISSUE 6 – JULY 2016

### A CELEBRATION OF GREAT CAREER



Approximately 100 friends, family and colleagues celebrated the illustrious 39 year career of Macksville High School's Deputy Principal, Robyn Walsh at a retirement dinner held in her honour recently.

Robyn had indicated to organisers that 'She did not want a farewell' but was later convinced into "having a small event." Many secrets were kept and white lies told as people tried to find out details of the event. Robyn was genuinely surprised on her arrival when she walked into the function room at Macksville RSL Club and saw 14 tables decorated with a seashell theme in Robyn's favourite colours.

Guests from Sydney and Condobolin attended. Many of Robyn's past colleagues (blasts from the past) who taught at Macksville during the 1980's and 1990's were keen to catch up with Robyn and wish her well.

A video presentation of photographs of Robyn, including a TV segment of Robyn winning "Sale of the Century" was enjoyed by all.

Moyra Mendham, a teaching colleague of Robyn's in the 1990's opened the evening by asking Principal Erica Lyne to present Robyn with her retirement medal from the Department of Education.

Scott Stacey, the keynote speaker, then gave a colourful and passionate speech outlining Robyn's life and career in teaching. Robyn attended 5 schools and taught at Condell Park, Coonabarabran, Macksville, Bowraville and Condobolin.

Robyn is a keen Canterbury Bulldogs supporter so it was a natural choice to present the school retirement gift of a Bulldog's jersey to Robyn.

Robyn is a self-confessed trivia tragic so it made sense to hold a round or 2 of trivia questions during meals. This is the only trivia event she has attended where she was not allowed to participate!! Obviously the theme was Robyn's life or Mathematics and the questions provided much keen competition and humour! The efforts of Elouise Ennis and Annalise Robertson in conducting the trivia contest and many other tasks are much appreciated.

Robyn's sister, Janette King, represented the family and spoke on life at home with Robyn. An ex-student of Robyn's, who is currently teaching at Macksville, Melissa Robertson, gave a moving speech on life from a student point of view and a number of ex-students dedicated a song to Robyn.

Past Principal, Peter O'Neill, congratulated Robyn on her career on behalf of the school community. Robyn is a passionate advocate of public education and a Life Member of the NSW Teachers' Federation. The Federation Aboriginal Education advocate, Charline Emerson Boyd, travelled from Sydney to speak about Robyn's involvement in Education and how much Robyn is respected and appreciated by the Executive of Federation.

Alan Battery spoke about the importance of public education. Robyn was shocked and surprised to hear the dedication from Mr Peter Osland, Inspector Mathematics, NSW Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards who wrote "We very much valued and appreciated your wealth of experience, approach and input in your years on the Board Curriculum

Committee for the development of new NSW Senior Mathematics syllabuses. It was always very clear that the needs of the full range of students were at the forefront of your thinking.”

Robyn was presented with a tribute book signed by guests and containing dedications from friends who were unable to attend the event. Ian Blaine and Marilyn Sheather revived an old Macksville High School tradition by bestowing Robyn with the Sword of Damocles in honour of her long commitment to education. Ex-students Naomi Keeys and Sheridan Briggs, presented Robyn with flowers before Robyn’s son Kirk joined her in the cutting of the cake. Robyn thanked all those who attended. Dancing to Robyn’s favourite music concluded the evening.

MHS staff members wish to thank the Macksville RSL staff for the superb support given to the team in arranging the event. Thank you to Larissa Atkins, her Hospitality students and ex-students who work at the RSL who set up the venue and to the many staff involved in making the evening a resounding success. Moyra Mendham on behalf of the Committee.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents and Community,

Welcome back for Term 3, another busy, but rewarding term ahead of us.

Our Deputy Principal Robyn Walsh has retired after 39 years in Public Education, with a significant amount of that time spent in schools here in the Nambucca valley. I know the school community wishes her all the best in her well-deserved retirement. Mr Grant Gough will be the relieving Deputy Principal until the position is filled in line with the Department of Education procedures.

Last Monday teachers from Macksville to McLean participated in subject specific professional learning. Discussions centred on sharing teaching practices and expertise, as well as future learning strategies for our students. This is an exceptional opportunity for teachers to collaborate and develop resources.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Presentation Assembly at the end of last term. 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. The Half Yearly reports are important feedback on the progress of every student. It was apparent to me after reading them, that the majority of our students have demonstrated commitment to their studies and continue to work towards their personal best. I would encourage all students to keep moving forward in their achievement of course outcomes and improving their skills.

Term three is a very important term for our senior students. Year 12 are preparing for their Trial HSC exams, completing major projects and working as hard as they can to prepare for the final exams next term. Year 11 is in the final stage of their Preliminary courses, with assessment and exams to conclude at the end of the term. There are many opportunities for our seniors to seek assistance in all subject areas, and I encourage them to do so.

Although we are only half way through 2016, we are already beginning our preparations for the 2017 school year. To this end, Year 10 students will continue with their subject selection process, with individual interviews being conducted over the next few of weeks.

To all of our students, keep working hard, and reap the rewards.

Erica Lyne  
Principal

## READING PROJECTS

### Indigenous Reading Project



Congratulations to Ulysses Roberts from Year 9 whom has been selected from 1400 applicants to be involved in the Indigenous Reading Project. The Indigenous Reading Project brings people and technology together to improve the reading ability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kids. The project involves reading books on a tablet from an E-Library. If Ulysses improves his reading (and I'm sure he will) he gets to keep the tablet with access to the E-Library!

### Reading Program

This term 40 students from Year 7, 8 and 9 have visited Macksville Primary School for the Reading Program. During the week our students practiced reading children's books in the ILY program. Every Wednesday morning the students were accompanied by Ms Dykes, Miss Lyle and Miss Midson to Macksville Primary School. Our students were paired with Macksville Primary School students from Kindergarten to Year 1. Our students read children's books to the Macksville Primary School students. The MPS students then had the opportunity to read to our students and respond to texts through illustrations and comprehension activities. To celebrate the success of the program last term, our students were shouted hot chips and played footy down at the river.



## TOUCH FOOTBALL STARS

Recently, Matiese Trisley and Peta Salter competed at NSW CHSSA Opens Touch football competition at Tweed Heads (June 7-9) for State representative. Our girls did a fantastic job during the tournament both representing Macksville High School (MHS) and competing in this high level of sport.

Matiese has been fortunate enough to be selected to compete at Nationals representing NSW. Not only did she get selected for this, but she was also awarded Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the NSW competition.



She will represent MHS and will compete with some of the best competitors from across the country. Nationals will be held in Caloundra, Queensland, September 14-17.

Good luck at Nationals and thank you for representing MHS so well.

**Mr Parker**  
**SPORT ORGANISER**



## 2016 BUCKLEY SHIELD RUGBY LEAGUE

On Tuesday 14th of June the Macksville U/14s Rugby League team competed in the third round of the Buckley Shield state wide knockout competition. The game was played at Macksville Park and their opponents were from Camden Haven High.

From the outset, the odds were stacked against the home team; with a lack of numbers and some players battling injury. However, the commitment of the Macksville boys could not be questioned.

The scores see-sawed throughout the game until the final seconds when Macksville scored and converted to level things up at 24 all, forcing extra time. Once again the two teams traded blows. Macksville again trailed by six until the last ten seconds of the match when we crossed out wide to see us needing the conversion to win the game on a first try count back. This time, with every person at the ground totally silent, and an immense amount of pressure on our kicker, the ball just sailed wide, giving Camden Haven the match.

Anyone that witnessed the game was very proud of the Macksville team and the players should all hold their heads up high for the effort they put in.



(Back Row) David Styles, Sam Bekis, Jacob Moore, Caleb Wassens, Toby Kinnear, Logan Jones, Jamison Jansen, Brody Harris, Elijah Cooper, Alex Howard, (Middle Row) Lachlan Brookes, Trent Clews, Jacob Skeen, Finn Stephens, Zak Single, Jake Jones, (Front) Steven Borg

## ZONE ATHLETICS 2016

### **Running, hurdling, throwing and jumping their way to success Macksville High are Lower North Coast Combined High Schools Athletics Champions again!**

In very much a team effort, Macksville High won the Lower North Coast Zone carnival held on Thursday 9th June 2016 at Biffen Oval, Nambucca Heads. Macksville had a total 1,477 points finishing ahead of second placed Wauchope High on 1,237 points. In true team spirit our relay teams contributed 244 points to the total helping us secure the win on the day. 45 Macksville High students were successful in gaining selection on the zone team to compete at the north Coast Carnival at Lismore on the 4th of August.



There were of course some fabulous individual performances on the day. Abby Baxter was named 12 year girl age champion on 78 points which was the highest individual point score on the day. Noah Thompson was the 12 year boy age champion. Lawrence Vernon, in his final year of competition was age champion in 17-19 boys. Jayden Brindley was runner up in the 16 year boys' age division.

In other highlights of the day, Alec Gage, also in his final year of competition, broke the record in 17-19 years discus with a massive throw of 40.04m, a nice reward for all his years of competition. Jocelyn Pedrola cleared her way to a new record in the 100m hurdles in a great time of 16.91 seconds. Special mention must be made of Jarno Dolezal from Kempsey High who all

eyes were on, when in the 14 year boys 100m final he set a new record of 11.71 seconds smashing the 1965 record of 12.00 seconds flat.

There were many other wonderful individual performances from Macksville High students on the day, but too many to mention all individually! Looking fabulous in the new school singlets, nine Macksville High relay teams were selected to compete at the Lismore Carnival, they include boys' teams in the 13, 14, 15 and 16 years age groups and girls' teams in the 12,13,14,15, and 17-19 years age groups.

Congratulations to all students who competed on the day, your performances were outstanding and most importantly you were fabulous ambassadors for our school, well behaved and cheering on your team mates. It was lovely to have so many parents there and special thanks to Lyndal Sutton who helped out with the team all day. It was lovely receiving comments on what a fantastic group of students we have. Well done!



Thanks must also go to Mr Colin Hocking and his team at Nambucca Heads High School who put on a fabulous carnival. We were lucky to have perfect day weather wise and we definitely needed the shade shelter we took with us. Special thanks also to Ms Black who did a wonderful job as Chief Timekeeper, Mrs O'Sullivan on the timekeeping, Mrs Oehme on the Triple Jump and Ms Atkins on the Long Jump. I know the students enjoyed seeing the friendly faces around the grounds.



# TAS NEWS

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY



The Food Technology students in years 9 and 10 have been looking at other cultures and are learning about many foods that have been introduced to Australia. They recently made some Vietnamese spring rolls which they served with a dipping sauce. They have begun discussing food trends, which relates to the way food is presented, the ingredients incorporated into a dish, the packaging used to preserve and transport food safely, the technology introduced to make cooking easier, and how meals have changed over time.



## Year 9 and 10 PASTRY COOKING

Students were asked to create their own desserts using pastry. We had some very creative results as you will see by the photo below.



## CHILD STUDIES

Some of the students in the Child Studies 2 class recently visited the Macksville Pre School. As part of their Children's Literacy unit, they read stories they had written themselves to the children. Kylie Rose, Mikaela Donovan and Kate Single were very popular with the children.

We hope to visit again with a few more students so they can gain a greater understanding of the developmental differences between children, and an appreciation for the planning and programming required to meet the needs of each child.

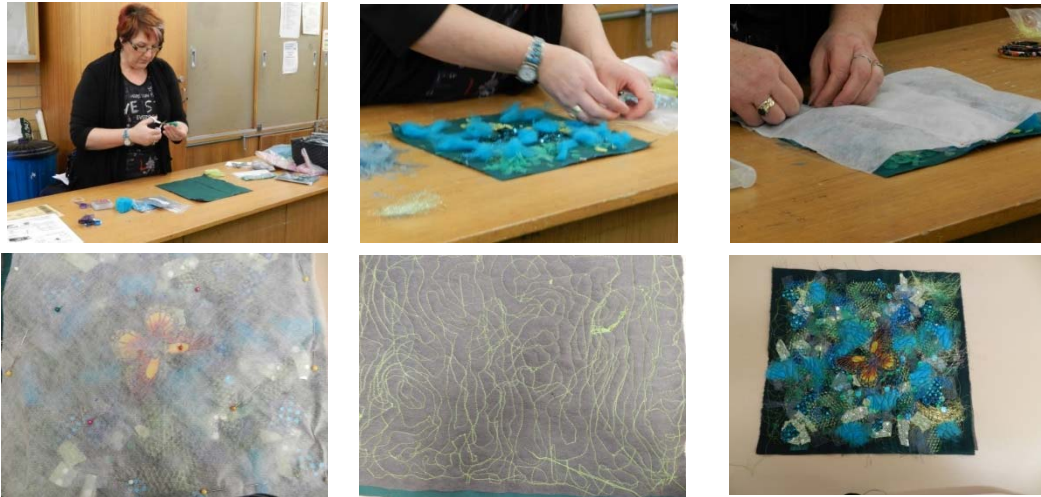
**Liz O'Sullivan**  
**TEACHER**



## WHAT DID OUR TAS TEACHERS GET UP TO ON THEIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY ?

Mrs Liz O'Sullivan and Mrs Larissa Atkins had a wonderful day at Toormina High School on the first day of this term. They both participated in a Textiles Workshop delivered by Carolyn Sharkey, a well-known local textile artist.

Carolyn demonstrated how to create a beautiful free embroidery textile art piece, utilising a variety of materials such as dyed fleece, sequins, angel threads, and a whole lot more ! They then had the opportunity to create something of our own.



They also attended a session on deboning and filleting chicken & fish and creating barrel carrots and potatoes with a chef from Grafton. The snapper was really delicious to eat after it had been seasoned and cooked in a shallow frypan.



## CAREERS CORNER

### YEAR 12 'WHAT'S NEXT' SESSIONS

During Term 3, a number of meetings and workshops will be held for Year 12 students to assist them in university applications and alternative post school options. Numerous guest speakers are booked in for students to obtain further information including universities, employment agencies, TAFE and Centrelink. A calendar of these events will be sent out soon as well as a date for a parent information evening.

### POST SECONDARY OPTIONS EXPO

I would like to invite anyone who is in the Coffs Harbour area on Wednesday 27 July to pop in to the biggest Post-Secondary Options Expo in the region. It will be held in the CHEC multipurpose centre from 9.00am – 12.00pm. I encourage all seniors to attend with parents if possible. There will be 80 exhibitors from around the country including many universities from NSW and Queensland, industry representatives from a myriad of private colleges such as - music production and performing arts, hospitality and tourism, the entertainment industry, art and design, beauty and hair, health and overseas volunteer programs, to name but a few! TAFE is heavily represented as are the 'services' e.g. police, paramedic services and defence forces. There will also be representatives from UAC to assist with university application information.



Like our Facebook page for latest information and key dates 'Macksville High School Careers'

## PARENT INFORMATION

### Contact with Teachers

Parents/carers can make an appointment for an interview or arrange to speak with a teacher at a suitably convenient time. Contact the school office who will take the details and leave a message for the staff member to contact you. Please allow 24 hours for this to occur unless it is extremely urgent.



## COMING UP

### JULY 2016

- |         |                                      |
|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 26 & 27 | North Coast Debating Camp – Bonville |
| 27      | Year 12 Careers Expo - Coffs Harbour |
| 28      | Small Schools Year 6 Visit           |

### AUGUST 2016

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 2                  | U14/16 Rugby League - Harry Wells Shield – Port Macquarie                                 |
| 3                  | U14/16 Rugby Union Country Cup - TBA  |
| 4                  | U14/16 Rugby League Macleay Valley Shield – Port Macquarie                                |
| 8 to 12            | NAIDOC Week   |
| 9                  | Year 12 parent information session- 'Applying for University'.<br>6pm in the MHS Library. |
| 17 & 18<br>24 & 25 | Year 10 into Year 11 Student Interviews – MHS Library                                     |
| 15 to 26           | Trial HSC   |

### SEPTEMBER 2016

- |         |                                |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 8       | Year 11/12 Chemistry Excursion |
| 12 - 23 | Year 11 Exams                  |
| 13      | Youth Frontiers                |
| 19      | Years 7 & 9 Immunisations      |
| 20      | U14/16 Country Cup - Forster   |



## About the Young Carer Bursary Programme

The young carer bursary programme aims to assist young carers in greatest need, to continue to study and to relieve the financial pressure on them to undertake part-time work whilst also studying and providing care.

## Who is eligible for a bursary in 2017?

A young carer aged 12- 25 years (born in 1992 or later for the 2017 Bursary year); who is studying an approved course either full-time or part-time at:

- secondary school; or
- home schooling approved by the relevant state educational authority; or
- vocational and educational training such as apprenticeships or TAFE; or
- an undergraduate course at university; or
- not currently enrolled but will prove enrolment if granted the bursary; and
- will not be in receipt of another bursary or scholarship in 2017; and
- is an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident.

## What does it provide?

The young carer bursary programme will grant 333 bursaries @ \$3,000 in 2017, paid in quarterly instalments in February, April, August and October 2017. Bursaries are granted for 12 months with a brand new application process each year.

## When will applications open?

Applications for 2017 bursaries will open on Tuesday 2 August and close on Wednesday 14 September 2016. An on-line application form will be available from 2 August 2016 which is linked to the Young Carer website. If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, contact Carers Australia and we will post a hard copy form to you. An independent selection panel will make the final decisions about the granting of bursaries. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted in November/December 2016.

## Further information:

Website: [www.youngcarers.net.au](http://www.youngcarers.net.au)

Email: [yqbursaries@carersaustralia.com.au](mailto:yqbursaries@carersaustralia.com.au)

Phone: 1800 756 238

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



# CREATE THE 2017 YOUTH WEEK IN NSW DESIGN & WIN \$1000

Youth Week is an opportunity for young people to express their ideas and views, act on issues that affect their lives and create and enjoy activities and events. Youth Week is now the largest annual youth participation event in Australia.

The NSW Youth Week Design Competition provides the opportunity to showcase your talents as a designer and win a \$1000 cash prize.



### YOUTH WEEK 2017 NSW DESIGN COMPETITION

**ENTRIES CLOSE 2 SEPTEMBER 2016**

Laura Dee's 2016 Youth Week in NSW design was used on posters, banners, temporary tattoos, the NSW Youth Week website and social media sites, plus she pocketed \$1000!

MORE INFORMATION AND ENTRY FORMS:  
[YOUTHWEEK.NSW.GOV.AU](http://YOUTHWEEK.NSW.GOV.AU)





YOUTH WEEK NSW



NSW  
GOVERNMENT

## MAJESTIC CINEMAS

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Ph: (02) 6568 6677  
[www.majesticcinemas.com.au](http://www.majesticcinemas.com.au)

# Thursday STUDENT NIGHT

## \$9.90\*

### MOVIE TICKETS

Must show Student ID to receive discount ticket offer

STUDENT  
BONUS  
**20% Off**  
Movie Club  
Membership

\*Offer only valid on selected days. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid for school groups. 18+ only. \$1.90 school. \$4.90 for 2D prices.