Principal’s Message

Farewell and best wishes to our Year 12 students

Year 12 have only one more week of school life at Macarthur Girls High School. Their final week will be full of activities that celebrate the students’ time at Macarthur Girls High School such as their picnic day, and the Year 12 graduation assembly followed by morning tea in the rose garden. We are sure, as always, that our senior students will conduct themselves with integrity and respect during all of these activities. We warmly invite two family members to attend the Year 12 Graduation in the school Hall, followed by a morning tea, on Friday 18 September 2015.

We also wish them all the best for their examinations and hope they achieve the results they are capable of. These examinations commence on Monday 12 October 2015 and will continue through until Wednesday 4 November 2015.

Thank you to Ms Lawton for all the organisation and leadership of this group over the past 6 years. How fortunate the girls have been to have such a caring and responsive year advisor to guide them through their schooling!

To Year 12, the consistent effort and application that you have displayed to your learning will be reflected in your results. We are sure the values that you have developed and continually displayed at Macarthur Girls over the past six years will form a significant foundation for your success during the next phase of your lives. On behalf of the staff members at Macarthur Girls and all students in Years 7 to 11, we wish our Year 12 cohort well in future.
2015 NAPLAN Results

Earlier this term NAPLAN results were released for Years 7 and 9. Students at MGHS achieved fantastic results across all areas of testing including, reading, writing, spelling, grammar punctuation and numeracy. Literacy and numeracy has been a significant focus of the school for a number of years, with teachers working on developing the progressive skills of students. In 2015, our Year 9 cohort were able to achieve above the state average (public and private schools) in all areas of testing. When compared with other Department of Education schools, Year 9 students showed on average; 37% greater growth in reading, 81% greater growth in writing and 27% greater growth in numeracy. Year 7 students were also able to achieve excellent results upon their arrival to MGHS, with reading identified as the area of greatest potential development. Our focus on literacy and numeracy will continue with our online literacy and numeracy homework, teachers delivering high quality lessons which integrate literacy and numeracy skills, professional learning for teachers, and our class literacy profiles to identify activities which will address the learning needs of each student. In 2016 we will also be implementing our class numeracy profiles to support teachers in meeting the numeracy needs of students in their classes.

Multicultural Day

When the SRC presented their proposal for Multicultural Week to the Executive, they stated that their objective was to “showcase and celebrate the multicultural nature of the school, encouraging a more harmonious attitude”. Another aim was “to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate and further develop all PRIDE values.” The girls were successful in achieving these goals and should be very proud of the event, organized under Mr Ocampo’s guidance.

Initiatives throughout Macarthur’s Multicultural Week included:

- Cultural Cupcakes
- Cultural Stalls
- Multicultural Performances

Our students demonstrate our PRIDE values in many ways. The values of participation, diversity and excellence were recently highlighted during our multicultural week activities. Thank you to every student and staff member who made our multicultural week such an outstanding success.

Mr Ocampo and Mr Nowicki participating in the dancing
Students in their Traditional dress enjoying Multicultural Week
Cultural Stalls organised by the students
Year 11 Exams and completion of the Preliminary Course

Congratulations to Year 11 who have now completed their Preliminary Course exams. During next week Mr Ford will meet with Year 11 and discuss with them the timeline for the commencement of their HSC studies. In this meeting we will be discussing the need to meet course requirements by resolving any outstanding N-awards. Failure to do so will result in repeating the preliminary HSC course. We will also outline the MGHS processes for enrolling in extension courses and changing their course pattern of study. This will require students to complete the relevant form and have an interview time set with students and parents. These are very important decisions and require a comprehensive understanding so that students and parents are aware of what these changes mean. During Week 1 of Term 4, Year 11 students will be issued and sign for a HSC Assessment Booklet which is a vitally important document. It is imperative that parents and students read and understand all aspects of HSC assessment policy and guidelines. As part of the transition from Year 11 to Year 12, parents are also asked to finalise payment for outstanding preliminary HSC accounts. This helps ensure that the school delivers the best possible educational opportunities for students.

Uniform

At the commencement of Term 4, students and parents are reminded that the uniform changes from winter to summer. Leather enclosed shoes should be worn at all times with white socks. Students are reminded that in circumstances where they are out of uniform, they must bring a note from home signed by a parent and give it to their Stage Leader.

Year 6 Transition

During Week 9, the first stage of transitioning took place for our future MGHS students. Year 6 students from 40 different schools met and participated in an exciting day of discovery and learning during their first major visit to our school. Students were involved in a broad range of mini-lessons, treasure hunts and data collection activities. Students will return in Term 4 for a second transition day and an official Orientation Day. Huge thanks to Ms Dykgraff for her organisation of the day.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable holiday period and remember that Term 4 begins on Tuesday 6 October for staff and students as Monday is a public holiday.

Warm regards,
Ms N Kennedy and Mr D French
Relieving Principals
Introduction to Shakespeare

When I first heard that my class was going to study Shakespeare in Term 3, I felt surprised and nervous. I had learnt a few things about Shakespeare in primary school, but nothing major. So when a Shakespeare matrix was handed to me, I knew this term I had to work hard.

There were a variety of activities worth different amount of points and I had a hard time choosing my activities. I saw an activity at the bottom of the paper for creating a Shakespearean costume. This was perfect! I could incorporate my skills of design and research into the project.

Then I started researching and planning my design. I had limited materials and equipment, so I had to do more planning and improvising. One of my greatest issues was to sew the costume by hand, so whenever I had spare time, I would use it to complete my costume.

With some time and patience, I finished the dress and ensured that every detail was right. In addition to making my costume, I also wrote a poem in iambic pentameter, to finish the required amount of work.

Overall, I enjoyed learning about Shakespeare in more detail and I find it is a very interesting topic.

By Jasmine Zeng, Year 7

An Elizabethan costume designed by Jasmine Zeng as part of her Shakespeare work in English
Sports Spectacular Week - 17th to 21st August, 2015

Week 6 was rather an exciting week for Macarthur Girls, as the Sports Spectacular Week took place. It provided students with the opportunity to participate in a range of sport related activities. These activities include:

**Sports Trivia Quiz:** On Monday each roll call was presented with a quiz and based on successful completion, they were given a prize. This year the prize was awarded to 9R5.

**Teacher vs Year 12 Student’s Dodgeball Match:** On Tuesday, many teachers and students were gathered at the gym to spectate the dodge ball match, which was quite the game. The students and teachers battled against each other and yet again, for many consecutive years, the teachers had defeated the students. Thank you to the teachers who volunteered their time to participate!

**Who Am I? Quiz:** On Wednesday, each roll call again was given a quiz and based on time, accuracy and completion; students were awarded with a prize. Students were able to participate and use their sports knowledge to participate in the quiz. Congratulations to the winning roll calls!

**Obstacle Course:** On Thursday, groups of students were able to participate in an obstacle course on the back oval, which forced students to jump, duck, roll and score for the win. Congratulations to the Year 7 team which consisted of Rayven, Gloria, Alexis and Anandhini, and the Stage 5 team which consisted of Mariam, Manel, Tahlia and Pisila, for winning this activity!

**Teacher vs Student Dance-Off:** On Friday, the most entertaining and exciting event was held. Students battled through the form of dance against the teachers. This was the first time running this event and it was indeed a success. (Mostly because Ms Salvador and Ms Goldsworthy had prepared multiple costumes and planned a surprising routine for every single song!) Thank you to all teachers and students who participated in this activity.

**Footy Colours Day:** Also on Friday, both students and teachers were encouraged to wear footy jerseys or footy colours to raise awareness for children with cancer and to support the “Fight Cancer Foundation”. For a very important cause, we managed to raise a total of $891.25 for this foundation.

Thank you for everyone’s support and participation during this week. Look out for more Sports Council activities running throughout the year!

Thank You,

Sports Council
The last session of the 2015 Careers Lunch talks Series

Presented by Dr Edith Chow, Senior Research Scientist, CSIRO and Trisha Lal, (ex HSC 2012) B/Medical Science (Major in History & Philosophy of Science) and 2016 University of Melbourne - Medicine
The Parramatta Viva 7’s play centre is at
**GIPPS ROAD SPORTING COMPLEX**
**GIPPS RD, GREYSTANES**

Competition starts on Friday 9th October 2015 and runs every Friday night. Age groups are from U6’s through to Opens (18+)

**$99 PER PERSON**
which includes a cool Viva 7’s t-shirt. 9 people needed to make a team.

Go to **www.viva7s.com.au** for more information and to register your interest in playing this summer’s hottest competition

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**VIVA7s**

STAY FIT AND HAVE FUN WITH YOUR MATES AND FAMILY

**VIVA7s.com.au**

**CROSS THE LINE**
Upcoming Dates

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P & C Meetings

All parents are invited to come along to the staff Common room on Tuesday nights in week 4 and 8 of each term. The meetings are from 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Tuesday 1 September

Information

SCHOOL ONLINE PAYMENTS

Please be advised that any school payments made via our website prior to 6pm will be processed by the bank the following business day. However, payments made after 6pm will take two business days to be processed. This may result in your daughter missing out on a particular sport, class or excursion.

If your daughter has a deadline to pay example 12pm, then payments need to be submitted before that time. We strongly advise early payments to avoid disappointment.

Thanking You

School Administration