Welcome to Term 2.

We began the term with a bang. The first day of the term saw Elizabeth Macarthur High School host 250 teachers from Camden High and Elderslie High school on our staff development day to lead the reprogramming for the implementation of the National Curriculum. In 2014 Year 7 and 9 will begin the National Curriculum and Years 8 and 10 will complete their stage on the present curriculum before transitioning into the national curriculum in 2015. We are building strong links with our local Public High Schools and forming KLA links. Many KLA will be teaching the same scope and sequence across the 3 schools, making public education stronger.

On the Thursday (Week 1) we had Mark Ferguson from Channel 7 News come out and talk to our Emag students about journalism. If you want to look at our students Emag there is a link to it on our website in the English page.

Friday (Week 1) we hosted pre-service teachers on the "Beyond Bridge Program”. Before these students arrived at the school 57% of them said they would apply to teach in South West Sydney schools, after meeting our kids and spending the day in classrooms 97% said they would teach in South West Sydney schools.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL....

“At Elizabeth Macarthur High School, we are focused on making a difference to the lives of the students we teach, enabling them to be innovative 21st century learners.”
If week 1 was not big enough in Week 2 five of our Year 9 students won an ABC TV film competition to appear on Q&A and ask Prime Minister Julia Gillard questions. This was a huge honour for our school. The P&C ran a fund raising BBQ at Mount Annan shopping centre to support the Mount Annan Shopping Centre promotion. If you are shopping at Mount Annan Coles or the nearby shops please place your receipts in the Elizabeth Macarthur barrel. Your child should have bought a $10 voucher home to spend at the shopping centre.

A huge thank you to parents who have paid their school fees promptly. This working capital makes a huge difference to the resources we can buy for students. Every cent of the school fees goes to buying resources for students. Teachers resourcing and salaries are paid by the Department. All textbooks, art supplies, home economic, industrial art resources and English novels are bought from school fees. Many parents have also been eager to contribute to the site development fund and this is getting us that much closer to building some shade in the school for summer.

We have also launched E-diary and Moodle in the school and staff has been trained on how to use these tools and students can access these tools through their DEC email. If they have lost their password to their DEC email then they need to see Mr Nand to have it reset. These tools remind students when assignments are due and when excursions are on. It is important that your child checks their E-diary every day.

Our school App is coming and that will allow you to interact with the school through your mobile device. While waiting for the App, Elizabeth Macarthur has a Facebook page that is has been reworked and now the newsfeeds are working. Find our official Facebook page - not the many fake ones. Our official one has our logo on it. Like our Facebook page and all the news will feed into your Facebook.

Ms K Hedger
Principal

School Captains & Prefects attended the ANZAC DAY march in Camden with Mr & Mrs Gilmore & Connor.
This term has started well with all students now settled back into their work, the term is also a shorter one with only 9 weeks.

E-Diary

This is now up and running and students who have not activated their E-Diary account need to do this as soon as possible. An email has been sent to all students via their school email accounts, students simply need to open the email click on the link and follow the instructions which will take a matter of minutes.

At the end of last term I held an introductory session on how to access EDiary in the library with the majority of classes and will get to see those classes that I have missed and pass on this information to them as well. Our staff has been in-serviced on how to use the system but as with any new program that is introduced there are always a few teething issues and this is also the case with EDiary. As we progress throughout the year these will be looked and sorted with assistance from the administrators.

The EDiary has many uses for students apart from staff giving students homework; it can also be used as a personal diary, has a full list of calendar dates, contains information about the school and photos and has the capacity for teachers to communicate directly with parents.

Parents can also have access to their child’s account to see what homework they have, a current email address is all that is needed and I have already linked over 50 parents on EDiary. I will shortly be preparing a spreadsheet that will allow parents to register their email so we can link it to their child’s account for easy access.

School App and Communication

This is almost ready to be downloaded from the Apple store, the first version has been designed and completed and Apple has just approved the app. I will send out an SMS in the next few weeks notifying parents that the app can be downloaded and is ready for use.

There will be updates during the year with more functions and information applied with each upgrade.

The app will provide direct access to the school website and email. When we were designing the app one of the main considerations that we had in mind was to provide greater communication between the school and the home and the app is another way in which parents can communicate with our school while at the same time receive updated information about activities, coming events and the latest newsfeeds.

When the app is up and running the full list of communication methods that will be available will include, the school website, electronic sign, newsletters, school app, SMS messaging system, EDiary, parent teacher nights and information evenings.

Year 11

Students are now approaching the half way mark in their preliminary course and need to ensure they are up to date with their work including assignments and any other mandatory work that is required. All students MUST successfully complete 12 units of work to be eligible of progressing onto Year 12 in Term 4. Students who have received N award letters need to ensure they have completed the outstanding work and have this signed off by their teachers. I have been interviewing students who have multiple N awards to address the work that is not completed and will monitor their progress over the next few weeks.

Leadership opportunities

Our congratulations go to Mikayla Sawyers who has been selected as our School Ambassador for 2013 and will represent the school at a number of functions that also involve all other high schools in our region.

There are also a number of Leadership conferences and activities coming up during this term involving Year 11 students. The Annual Leadership Conference that is held at Prairiewood High School will also involve three of our students, Ani Smsarian, Ben Minor and Roma Sharma and they will be accompanied by Ms Bowring.

Finally Rotary has invited our nine of our students to
participate in a weekend camp at Sutherland at the end of the month that also will have representatives from other local schools. The camp will involve Leadership, Team Building, Decision Making and other skills and activities that will help develop and build students confidence and leadership capacity. The students who will be attending are Kevin French, Scott Marshall, Liam Perry, Tenille Jackson, Brooke Robinson, Miklayla Sawyers, Chelsie Chawantawat, Ally Willhite and Janaya Suters.

Angelo Stasos
Deputy Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL—YEARS 8,10, 12

Welcome back for Term 2.

As you would be aware, this term is a short 9 week term. Already the term has started with a lot of activity as you can see below.

The Year Advisors for Years 8, 10 and 12 are working closely with student and staff to ensure students are working as well as they can in the most supportive environment we can offer.

Below you will find a snapshot of what is happening across the 3 years groups.

Year 8

Congratulations to the students who went on the school camp. The behavior was excellent and the students enjoyed a wide range of activities. Thanks to Ms. Pilley and her team of staff who took the group away for 3 days. You’ll be able to see some photo’s of the trip on the website in the coming week.

Also, please note that Year 8 Exams start next Monday. The exam timetable is on the school website and has also been given to students. It is essential to make sure student have all of their equipment and that they also are not late on any days.

Year 10

Year 10 are also about to commence their Half Yearly exams. In many subjects this is a significant part of the course and will play an important part in the ROSA.

Speaking of the ROSA, staff are currently taking a close look at student achievement to ensure they are on track and meeting the requirements of the course. Over the coming weeks, students will be receiving feedback about this and a number of parent interviews will be conducted to discuss any concerns. Please take the time to check your child’s books so you know the quality of the work they are doing. If you need further information about a particular subject, please contact the Head Teacher of the faculty. Their names can be found on the school website.

Year 12

Parents should expect to receive an outline of the remainder of the year over the coming few weeks. We are working quickly to identify where students are currently placed and then providing feedback about how they can improve their marks. As a general rule, students should be completing anywhere between 2 and 3 hours of homework per night. This may mean cutting back on casual work to ensure your child can stay on top of the work they need to be completing and revising.

Also in the outline coming to parents will be an outline of organization for the graduation and formal.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Year Advisors:

Year 8 - Ms Elyse Pilley
Year 10 - Mr Brendan Anderson and Ms Cherie Redmond
Year 12 - Ms Sam Corscadden and Ms Jade Challenor

Finally, I would encourage you to consider 2 important issues after reading this issue of Mac Chat. Firstly, we have taken on board the communication challenges faced in a society with so many platforms. The school has appointed a member of staff
to coordinate communication with families using each of the different platforms we work in and students and parent’s access. Over the coming term you will see more and more information coming consistently across the following platforms. These include: E- Diary, Moodle, Mac Chat, our school website, Facebook, Twitter, the Electronic sign at the front of the school. If you are unsure of any of these please discuss this with your child or contact the year advisor who looks after your child’s year group.

SECONDLY, PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE NEXT P&C MEETING (MONDAY MAY 20) COMMENCING AT 7PM. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF EXCITING EVENTS HAPPENING TO MAKE SCHOOL AN EVEN MORE ENJOYABLE PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD.

MR M LONG
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

YEAR 7

On behalf of all the Teachers and Administrative staff here at Elizabeth Macarthur High School (EMHS), we would like to congratulate all of Year 7 for their successful transition into High School from Primary School. This transition is not always easy, having to face new dilemmas such as using a timetable for the first time and having a variety of subjects and teachers on a daily basis. Although there were some minor concerns around not being in a class with their friends from Primary School, these were overcome very quickly as students met new people and adopted new friends. This ability to overcome minor challenges in life demonstrates a level of resilience that we attempt to instil in all our students at EMHS.

One of our highlights in Term One was our trip to The Great Aussie Bush Camp. All students that attended the camp enjoyed themselves and demonstrated the qualities of an EMHS student, having pride in themselves and their school, being respectful of their peers and being responsible for their learning and that of their peers. All teachers who attended the camp were extremely proud of all students who attended, but most importantly their mature attitude and positive reinforcement and encouragement of their peers.

Term two is a shorter term and already we are in to Week three. This week brought NAPLAN testing for Years 7 and 9 and Week four, Years 7-10 Half Yearly Examinations will commence. It is extremely important that all students prepare themselves for their Half Yearly Examinations and if you are unsure of any content covered in class, it’s not too late to ask your teacher for support. Remember to check your examination timetable and make sure you are aware of all exams that you have to sit in this two week period. Good luck!

The EMHS Athletics Carnival will also be held in Week 3. On Thursday, each period will see a year group complete the 100m Sprint and High Jump. Students will be down on the back oval for Year 7’s allocated period and then the other four teaching periods will be as normal. Friday will see all other events completed on the back oval and Elizabeth Park. Please note Year 7 students that the Athletics Carnival is linked to your Eat It, Work It, Move It assessment task and the more events you participate in, the more points you are eligible of receiving. It is all about participation, not winning. Once again, good luck to all participants!

MISS T DUNCAN, MR A BERWICK
YEAR 7 ADVISORS
YEAR 8

We have had a busy, but good start to Term 2 in Year 8. We took 60 students to The Great Aussie Bush Camp at the Tea Gardens. They participated in activities such as the giant slide, giant swing, crate climbing, swimming at the beach, kayaking, rock climbing, high ropes, commando and my favourite activity was the night time disco. Students were well behaved for the camp instructions and had a lot of fun.

Athletics Carnival is on 16th and 17th May and is compulsory for all students. On the Thursday it is only the 100 meter and high jump events, so students will be in class for most of the day and withdrawn for one period. Athletics is a component of the Eat it, Work it, Move it Passport assessment task in PDHPE and is prime opportunity for students to earn themselves marks towards their assessment task.

Year 8 are also engaging in the High Resolves program this term. They have completed the introductory session and their first focus day is surrounding ‘Collective Identity’.

Hope everyone enjoys a busy and quick Term 2.

Miss Pilley
Year Advisor

YEAR 9

Miss Fernandez and I are pleased with the speed at which Year 9 are settling in this term. We would like congratulate them on their excellent behaviour during the three days of NAPLAN testing.

The Half Yearly examinations are about to begin (Week 4 & 5), during which time Year 9 will complete 2 formal examinations, and may have some practical exams during lessons. A reminder that if a student is away on the day of any assessment task (submitted tasks as well as examinations), a medical certificate is required to explain the absence. Failure to provide one may result in the student receiving a zero mark for the task, as well as an N-award warning for the course.

We are very proud of the effort Year 9 has put into improving their uniform. There are now only a few students out of uniform, but as a group Year 9 are looking great. As the colder weather sets in, it is important to keep up the standard of the uniform. Students should be wearing the red school jumper or navy school jacket if they are cold, and should not be wearing a hoodie or coloured shirt under their school shirt. Should they need to wear another layer under their shirt for warmth, it is to be a white garment.

We would like to stress that tights and track pants are not allowed. If girls would prefer to wear tights for warmth instead of stockings, they must still wear their school skirt. Please be aware that students may be sent home to change if they are wearing tights.

Should parents or guardians not be able to provide these garments for students due to financial duress, the school can provide assistance in the purchase of uniform items. Uniform assistance forms are available from the office and only need be filled out and returned.

We look forward to hearing about our students’ academic achievements this semester and wish them luck during their examination period.

Ms C Rico and Ms N Fernandez
Year 9 Advisors
Welcome back to Term 2. We would like to take this opportunity firstly to congratulate those students who have been involved in Emag following on from Term 4 of last year. A group of our students including Hailey Broughton, Emma Nunan, Bethany Pickwell, and Stephanie Wiley have worked as Editors to our interactive electronic magazine to make it successful in drawing a lot of media attention.

In week 1, these students together with the rest of their team were visited by Mark Ferguson from Channel 7, whom talked to them about his career in journalism, looked through the Emag and gave them feedback, and was interviewed by the students for the next issue. That same week a reporter from The District Reporter interviewed the students on their Emag publishing the next week and finally, the Macarthur Chronicle also are in the process of interviewing the students for an issue soon to come out. Congratulations we are proud of you.

This is the final year of the Record Of School Achievement (ROSA). The completion of assessment tasks, your attendance and your commitment to participation within class is a leading priority. Over the next few weeks those students who have not been meeting course outcomes will be addressed on these issues. Make it a priority to catch up and ensure you are up to date. Students unable to meet requirements are putting their achievement of ROSA at risk.

A reminder about camp: The dates for this are July 29 to August 1st, if you are interested please return your forms to PE as soon as possible. Come and see us if you need any assistance,

Ms Redmond and Mr Anderson
Acting Year 10 Advisors
Hello everyone,

Just a few things that need mentioning.

Contracts for Year 11 will be distributed to any student with assessment or class work that has not been submitted. Please ensure these tasks are completed, submitted and signed off.

Jersey photo shoot went well on Monday for those who were at school that day. Unfortunately those students that were away miss out! We also worked out sizing, so if you were away, see Ms Bowring ASAP.

Formal 2014 will be at Wollongong NOT Sydney.

Uniform continues to be an issue. You are senior students and need to lead by example. If you don't have the correct uniform, get it! If you need assistance financially, ask for it!

SKI CAMP is July 29th to 31st. Last chance to book a spot.

Leadership initiative opportunities are available for students who are willing and able to do the right thing by themselves and the school. Please forward an expression of interest to take part in such initiatives with Ms Bowring.

UTS Future Students has several options including Nursing, IT, Engineering & Elite Athlete Programs. To find out more go to future.students@uts.edu.au or ring (02) 9514 1711 or see Ms Bowring.

Local HSC Invitation: stepping up 2014 After an overwhelming community response earlier this year, Stepping Up (HSC major work showcase) will be back in 2014. With dates already locked in at Macarthur Square and additional venues pending, this is a fantastic opportunity for HSC students to showcase and possibly sell their major works in the community.

Please find the following attached:
1) expression of interest form - closes August 30th at 5pm
2) Steering group application - closes May 15th
See Ms Bowring or go to: steppingupmacarthur@gmail.com

Free ATAR information session for parents will be held at Narellan Library.

The University of Wollongong will be presenting a FREE Session to parents, families and students about the ATAR.

This session has been designed to assist parents with children in years 10, 11 and 12.
This is a great opportunity for parents, families and students to find out;
• What is the ATAR
• How is the ATAR calculated
• What can we predict
• How are ATAR cut-offs set
• Subject Selection nights/ What subjects should you choose?

There will also be student representatives present to answer questions on the University of Wollongong (UOW) courses that are available.

Date: Monday 3rd June 2013  Time: 6pm – 7:30pm
Where: Narellan Library, Iron Bark Room, Cnr Queen & Elyard Streets, Narellan
REGISTER NOW!!!

Contact Amber on 4625 1863.

Seats are limited, Tea/Coffee & light refreshments will be provided on the night.
For more information to assist your child through and beyond school, visit www.macarthurparents.com.au
With the expectations and pressures of HSC looming, more and more students are coming to me saying they just want to leave and get a job. I know school isn't for everyone but again I remind my cohort, if you are struggling ... let me know! I will help you!

Having said that, you must be prepared to knuckle down and study EVERY night. Parents please help by giving your child a quiet space to work in and feel free to call me any time.

As always:
"If you haven't got something nice to say don't say anything" *& "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"

Cheers

**Ms Bowring**
*Year 11 Advisor*

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**YEAR 12**

Welcome back Year 12!

To begin, let's look back at the end of last term. The majority of Year 12 are to be commended for their work on the Year 12 Welfare Day at the end of last term. Students completed workshops in essay writing, study skills and dealing with stress. These skills will be essential in dealing with the rapidly approaching Trial Examination period, as well as the not so distant HSC. Most students embraced these workshops, worked hard and gained useful skills and ideas from them. Any students who were absent on the day can get a ‘HSC Survival Guide’, which includes a study planner and guidance in setting goals, from Ms Challenor in the English staffroom.

There are also many events that have already occurred this term to help prepare Year 12 for the examinations and beyond. The Fast Forward group attended UWS on Monday for workshops, while the Advanced English group attended lectures in the city on Friday. This exposure to university style lectures and discussions helps our students with their studies now and prepares them for their studies in the future.

Our school leaders have been attending forums in Sydney with others from across the State on dealing with stress in order to support their cohort at this challenging time. Furthermore, our Captains will be getting a taste of politics and representing our school at the end of May at Parliament House. Our prefects also represented our school with aplomb at the ANZAC Day ceremony at Camden in the holidays.

With only four weeks until the Trial Examinations, Year 12 should be engaged in a diligent study routine of at least a few hours per day. Students are advised to cut down on work and sport commitments at least for this period. Year 12 are the priority of all teachers so they should be making use of this resource and consistently submitting study notes/practice questions/practice essays to their teachers for feedback. Past papers in all subjects are available on the BOS website and students should be completing and submitting these in preparation for the Trial Examination and the HSC. The Year Advisors and Teacher Librarian are available for further support or advice. Good luck with your study Year 12!

**Ms J Challenor and Ms S Corscadden**
*Year 12 Advisors*
Q&A

Congratulations to our Year 9 Selective class, whose unit of work on "Propaganda" last term lead them to be successful in a film competition for Q&A. Five of the students including Jordan Schneider, Kristen Sattler, Taylor Jenkins, Kennedy Edgington and Priya Rai, attended the airing of Q&A at the ABC studios in Sydney on Monday, May 6, 2013, and were lucky enough to be involved in political discussions with Prime Minister Julia Gillard. To top the night, Jordan and Kristen were selected to ask the Prime Minister a question each. Here are their points presented for discussion:

Kristen Sattler:

Australian spend about $20 billion every year gambling. Currently, live betting odds are shown during broadcasts of almost every major sport in Australia. Children today are being exposed to gambling at very young ages that through time can lead them to a long term gambling addiction. Tony Abbott has said that he will impose the live betting blackout if he becomes Prime Minister. Why haven't you taken action against this, and if you intend to, how would you implement a plan?

Jordan Schneider:

Recently, the federal government has announced $2.8 billion worth of cuts to tertiary education, and self-education to free up funds for Gonski school reforms: $1.2 billion of this is being saved by making students pay the money back they get from scholarships once they hit a certain earning threshold. This is utterly astounding. How can you justify taking funding from tertiary education on the grounds of helping high school students?
Emag is sharing equal success in the English department. With a visit from Mark Ferguson from Channel 7, The District Reporter and Macarthur Chronicle; they are not only reporting on events, they are sharing their success in the media. Congratulations to the Year 8 Self-Select class on their E-book and participation in Mr Ferguson’s visit also. The Senior Counsellors together with students from both interested parties mentioned, lead Mr Ferguson into an informal discussion where he was willing to give insight on the realities of the media industry. Thank you again for the visit, the interview and some interactive footage will be available in the next issue of Emag.

11E1 and 12 Drama have been invited to attend an excursion to see The Removalists at Tamarama Rock Surfers Theatre Company, Bondi Pavilion, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Bondi Beach, on Tuesday, June 4, this term. The excursion has been opened up to Ms Bentley’s class also, as they too are doing the close study of this text. There are only 30 places available so please return your note and money as soon as possible. The cost is only $18, which includes an exclusive question and answer session at the end, an excellent opportunity where students actually get to speak to the actors and director. Please be advised that this is a long day, we meet at Campbelltown station at 8.30am sharp for a 9am train and do not return to the same station until 5pm at night.

During week 2 of this term Years 7 to 10 debating teams were lucky to have a guest speaker, Mr Sheridan, come and work with the students one on one to improve their public speaking and debating techniques. We wish them all the best for the coming competition.

In preparation for the Higher School Certificate Year 12 students from both Advanced and Standard classes have also participated in workshops. Some were run during the holidays and were highly successful as the teachers and students had the opportunity to team work, to brainstorm and extend their ideas. In Week 2, on Friday May 10, the Advanced students had the opportunity to attend a HSC Lectures excursion in preparation for exams coming up later this year.
What a busy and productive term we are having! Lots of assessment tasks have been completed and exams are in Week 4 and 5. Make sure you are prepared for this whether it is a practical or theory exam.

Our Year 12 students are tying up loose ends in preparation for their Trial Examination and they are focussed and keen to get it over and done with. One step closer to the HSC, which comes around so quickly for all of us. Students please remember our door is always open for you to ask a question or have something explained to you. So please don’t hesitate if you need us.

Year 12 Food Technology has had an interesting time developing their New Food Products. They all did a great job and found out along the way what a complex and involved process businesses go through to launch a new product into the marketplace. Excellent work Luke Beezem, Melissa Herron, Rachael New, Janelle Singh and Travis Gibson.

Year 11 Food Technology students are in full swing now. They have completed their first assessment task on Nutrition and have achieved pleasing results. Congratulations to Maria Hypatidis, Brooke Robinson, Katey Van Der Bosch, Casey Rogers and Emily Golec.

Year 12 Hospitality are working towards their Trials as well and they all completed their final workplace-ment. All papers need to be returned so that they can be signed off at school.

Some Year 11 Hospitality students have completed their Industry Workplaces. A big Thank You to all the parents who helped the students in getting their papers signed and running them backwards and forwards to work. Your support is much appreciated.

Congratulations to all the students. We have had some great feedback from the employers. Well done Lizzie Mac.

Year 10 Textiles have just completed their first practical assessment with some great results from Jasmine Coleiro, Angela Steele and Ella Jeffcoat. They will now begin their Pyjama unit.

Year 9 Food Technology just completed their Food in Australia unit of work where they had the opportunity to cook things like Lemon Myrtle Shortbread and The Aussie Meat Pie (from scratch). I hope some made it home or they have made it for their family. Get them to show you their skills in the kitchen!!

Year 9 Textiles have just completed their first unit developing skills in design and construction. They are to be commended on the design of their bags they have made. Well done girls!! Now as winter approaches, our next focus is on Pyjamas and Cuddle Wraps.

**Author of the month** has been awarded to Senior - Meagan Parker for her critical essay (Year 12) and Maggie Dorrington for her creative writing piece within the Self Select E-book.

Just a reminder; Assessment tasks have been issued and are up on E diary for all parents and students to access. Thank you again for a fantastic start to the term.

**Ms Morrissey**

**Head Teacher, English**

**LIFE TECHNOLOGY FACULTY**

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Year 9 Child Studies are learning about the "Miracle of Life". And will complete an ICT task using the program "Captivate".

Year 8 Technology Mandatory are busy completing their Healthy Breakfast Design Brief, where they need to plan and prepare a healthy breakfast dish.

Year 7 Technology Mandatory have almost finished their models of their bedrooms. What a great job they have done. We have so many creative kids and they have enjoyed being able to design and build just like they were an architect.

Year 12 Hospitality cooked up a storm in the soup kitchen on School Athletics day. They served Pumpkin & Chicken and Vegetable Soups with crusty bread and hot beverages.

On a final note, if you have any spare, unwanted uniforms just lying around, we would love to add them to our clothing pool. As the cooler weather is upon us now and we get caught with wet clothes, we often have students looking for a warm jumper of pants to keep out the cold. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs L Robilliard
Head Teacher, TAS Life Technology

CAREERS

There is much to report on this term, which has been very busy in the Careers office.

Year 12 students are encouraged to visit their Careers Advisor this term for pathways information including cadetships, early entry to university and scholarships. In addition they should be accessing individual University websites for the most up to date and comprehensive information on courses and post school options.

All students are encouraged to read their DEC emails for the latest career information and email alerts from MHS Careers and Seek2be. If you haven't subscribed to seek2be.com yet please do so. It’s free and a great resource.

TVET student of the Year Awards

Congratulations to Maddison Bracken, Year 12 who was nominated for the prestigious South Western Sydney Institute TVET Student of the Year Award. Maddison was successful at the interview and will receive her award at a dinner in August. Hayley Parker was also successful in getting to the interview round. It was a great honour for our school to have two students nominated, as only 10 students were selected. These students have excelled in all aspects of their TVET studies in Animal Studies and Tourism and are a credit to their school for their diligence and dedication.

All TVET students need to follow correct sign out procedures. The majority of students are signing out at the main administration desk at the required time. Attendance card monitoring took place in Week 6, 5th-7th March. Students are reminded that having these cards signed is proof of attendance, it’s like bundying on to the job at the start of the shift. These are good work habits to develop. The next sign off with Mrs Noonan will be in Weeks 4 & 5, so make sure you have your cards ready for signing on your TVET day.

Just a reminder to all that Macarthur Square is out of bounds to TVET students as the DEC insurance policy does not cover you if you go off campus. It was also a written requirement of your permission note from parents to do the course. In addition, students are required to wear full school uniform to TAFE and correct footwear. This does not include sports uniform.

TVET has proved to be extremely popular with Year 10 for Early Start Careers Commencement courses. Eleven students are undertaking courses in Automotive, Construction, Vehicle Painting, Metals and Engineering, Design Fundamentals and
Beauty Therapy Retail Services.

**SBAT**

Six Year 10 students are to be congratulated on starting their School Based Apprenticeship in Automotive, Construction and Retail. Nicholas Kerr, Matthew Hebblewhite, Hamish Stapleton, Bailey Straube and Daniel Sayre, Alison Rose. The SBAT involves one day a week paid work and TAFE study. Some comments from the students include “I am really loving it”, “the teachers are great and they treat us like adults.”

On 8th May, 19 students undertook their WHS General Induction Training for those intending to do work experience in the construction industry—electrical, carpentry and plumbing.

**TAFE Taster Day**

This was a huge success with over 30 students from Year 9 Kids @work and Year 10 MTC Work Solutions group attending. The students attended a variety of workshops at Lidcombe TAFE including Cabinet Making, Floor Covering, Glazing, Plastering, Shop Fitting, Wood Machining, Soft Furnishings and Upholstery, Interior Design, Furniture and Product Design, Information Technology and Telecommunications. The day was designed to give students the opportunity to experience adult learning in preparation for post school study or TVET and SBAT courses in Year 10, 11 and 12.

We also have a variety of programs running at the moment, both to help those students wanting to stay at school and those wishing to leave. Teen Challenge and MTC Work Solutions programs involve outside agencies coming in and working with students in small groups.

**MTC Work Solutions Program** is designed to support Year 10 students with educational experiences in the transition to employment for further study. The program provides group and one to one support in a range of career related skills. We currently have 20 boys in the program which began on 8th May and will continue for the remainder of the year.

**Teen Challenge** is a new collaborative pilot program between DEC and Macarthur Workplace Learning. Our school is one of four schools selected to participate. The program aims to teach students valuable soft life skills including team building, communication and trust, assertiveness and leadership. The program will culminate with the Amazing Race around Sydney on 13th June where they will compete in groups and put their new skills to the test.

As usual there is a lot coming up this term including **Year 10 Work Experience** which will be Week 8 from Monday 17th to 21st June. All 220 students in Year 10 are expected to participate and need to have completed and returned their work experience contract to us before receiving the work placement agreement. **The deadline for work experience paperwork is Week 6.** We anticipate a great week with wonderful opportunities for all our students.

**MACE (Macarthur Area Careers Expo) excursion** is Thursday June 6th 11.45-1pm. Due to strict number limits we can only accommodate the first 60 Year 10 students who pay their $5 to the office by Monday 3rd June.

**The Sydney Morning Herald HSC and Careers Expo 2013** is on from Thursday 30 May, Friday 31st May, Saturday June 1 and Sunday June 2. 10am-3pm. Cost $5. Moore Park Royal Hall of Industries. The SMH bring together over 140 exhibitors providing HSC sessions, tertiary courses, career, study skills and gap year information and resources. The Careers Office has 9 complimentary tickets to give away. Why not get a group together and make it a fun day out while getting an edge for your HSC?

**Mrs R Whitfield and Mrs M Noonan**

**Careers Advisors**
CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

Welcome back to a very busy Term Two in the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty. We have a number of exciting upcoming events for students to be involved in. Firstly our Stage 5 and 6 dancers have successfully auditioned for 2013 School Spectacular. This prestigious event allows students to perform at an extremely high standard, and the students have the opportunity to work alongside other talented students in the region and state. Congratulations to the following students involved and to their hardworking and dedicated teacher Miss Brown:

Brooke Hanley  Mikhayla Pigin  Monique Crispin
Katelyn Charles  Rachael Parkin  Zoe Brooks
Kennedy Edgington  Caitlin Barker  Kaili Schelks

Also in Dance, you may all be aware our fantastic Year 10 Dance Ensemble has been successful in their audition to participate in the 2013 Regional Dance Festival held at the States Sports Centre. It would be really fantastic if we could get together a group of teachers, parents and friends to support and encourage these dancers on their big night! The details are as follows:

When: Wednesday 5th of June 2013
Evening 7pm sharp.

Students participating in the ensemble- Caitlin Barker, Zoe Brooks, Jasmine Coleiro, Monique Crispin, Vereneke Cawley, Tayla Foster, Bethany Gosling, Caitlin Mackay, Marie- Claire Marty, Rachael Parkin, Zoe Peel, Mikhayla Pigin, Charlee Scocco, Cara Tweedie, Shelley Warden, Samantha Worley.

If you are interested please book tickets at www.swsregionarts.com.au or see the CAPA staffroom for further details.

More exciting news from the world of the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty is, we were invited to hold an Exhibition of Year 7 and Year 8 Visual Arts artworks in the Mt Annan Shopping Centre out the front of the Coles Supermarket. We are involved as part of a program that Coles is running called "Dollars for Scholars". As part of the Coles Mt Annan Promotion, Elizabeth Macarthur High School has been asked to display outstanding student art works to demonstrate the creativity and talent we have at Elizabeth Macarthur High School. It is a fantastic achievement that our Year 7 and 8 Visual Artists have achieved and should be very proud to have their hard work and creativity recognised and on display in their local shopping centre.
The exhibition is on display at the entry to the Coles supermarket, due to its very bright colours it is very hard to miss!!!

Please keep a look out for the daily notices especially if you are in Year 8 and starting to consider what subjects you are going to select for Year 9 and Year 10. Creative and Performing Arts teachers and some outstanding students will be running taster workshops whereby you can attend a class in a variety of different subjects to trial and get a feel for the subject. The following taster workshops will be run over the next couple of weeks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Drama</th>
<th>Visual Arts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Ceramics</td>
<td>Photography</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make sure you are checking the daily notices regularly for more information!

**Fees**

Just a reminder to all parents of Creative and Performing Arts students that some subject contributions are still outstanding. This includes all Year 7 and 8 students, who do a mandatory Music or Visual Arts course for one semester each year. Subject Contributions are spent on maintenance and care of instruments and materials and to acquire new equipment that students use daily in class. They also pay for upgrades to technology in the CAPA Department. Thank you in advance for your contribution to the school and the continuing high standard of teaching and learning at Elizabeth Macarthur High School. For further details please refer to the school website.

*Mrs A Szoboszlay/ Miss Kristy Pugliano*

*Head Teachers of Creative and Performing Arts*

**What's happening in Art Room 1?**

Term 1 has been a productive term by all students in Art Room 1. I have been very pleased with the efforts of my students and the dedication they have taken in the development of their skills in Practical Areas.

**Photographic and Digital Media Year 10.**

During Term 1 photography students completed a manipulation unit learning new techniques using Photoshop. Their results were outstanding. Having completed this so thoroughly they continued on with an extension task of using Instagram photographer NOIS as their influence. This term we are looking at Urban Decay and Urban Utopia which will take the students on a field trip to explore this theme further outside of our local area.

“Swings” by Lauren English

“Matts Free” by Kaleb Rideout
Year 11 Visual Arts

The first term of the preliminary course was about creating different experiences for students to later use in their Body of Work Assessment Tasks. The outcome was a wonderful array of works ranging from textural surfaces to abstract painting techniques.
Year 8 Taking a “Splash”

Ceramics was the main focus for Year 8 this term. The ocean was the source of inspiration for this task and students used various hand building techniques to create a postmodern vessel.

“SPLASH” Vessels by Kaitlin Hall, Lucas Grima, Cameron Rowlands and Brooke Gendle

Miss S Nestler
Visual Arts/Photography Teacher

Dance News:

Congratulations to all of the Year 12 Dance & Drama students that came in to school over the holidays to attend workshops and rehearsals of performance pieces. Student’s demonstrated great commitment to their studies making the two days extremely productive. Well done!

It has been an extremely busy term for Lizzy Mac Dance students. After auditioning for both South West Sydney Regional Dance Festival and School Spectacular, it is with great pleasure to inform you that our students have been successful applicants for both prestigious events. I would like to congratulate these senior students on their achievements and wish them well with upcoming performances.

Lizzy Mac will be holding a Dance incursion in the coming weeks with guest performer and choreographer Adam Murray. Adam is a freelance performer and choreographer working for The Arts Unit, Sydney Dance Company and various other programs associated with The Department of Education. These workshops will be on offer for all students at a small cost so if you are interested, listen out for information in the Daily Notices or please come and see Miss Brown in the CAPA staffroom.

Miss C Brown
Dance teacher
Drama News:
Year 12 Drama students have the opportunity to attend the theatre performance of “The Removalists” by Tamarama Rock Surfers Theatre Company in June. I encourage all students to please get their permission notes back in with payments to the front office ASAP, as places are filling fast!

Miss Brown
Dance & Drama teacher

Music News:
Semester One has been a busy time for Year 12 Music. In Term 1 students wrote their own Jazz compositions based on information learnt in class. The quality of submissions surpassed all of my already high expectations of these talented individuals. Fantastic effort!

Term two began with students attending a HSC Music study day at Liverpool Girls High School. The study day featured a large number of schools from the Campbelltown and Liverpool area, and approximately 400 students attended. Students took part in seminars on aural examination requirements, performance skills, and writing a viva voce. They also watched live performances and analysed other student’s elective choices. This successful day helped students in their preparation for their Trial HSC at the end of Term 2.

All students are reminded that their subject contribution fees are an essential part of running a successful music program. Guitars need strings, keyboards need power supplies, and drums need skins. These are just a few of the many other expenses within our faculty. The more fees that we collect, the greater the quality of resources we can supply your children.

Mr S. Winnall,
Music teacher

School Promotion

Mount Annan Central Shopping Centre is promoting "Dollar$ 4 Scholar$" from Wednesday 1st May to Sunday 23rd June 2013. Help support our school by shopping at the centre and deposit tokens received from various specialty shop into our school bank outside Coles. We could win $10,000 that will go towards providing new facilities and resources for our students.

Click on link (CTRL, Click with mouse) below for more information.

Dollar$ 4 Scholar$
We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between Monday 8 April and Sunday 9 June 2013. We will redeem these for awe-some educational resources for our school library.

For every $10 spent at Woolworths you will receive a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. Pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it's completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woolies, there will be one at Mount Annan and Narellan Town Centre this year. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. In 2012 we earned enough points for nearly 100 books and a great display cabinet.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at school.

Indigenous Literacy Foundation – Great Book Swap

Last year our school took part in the Indigenous Literacy Foundation’s Great Book Swap. All over Aus-
tralia schools and other organisations raised money and awareness for the important work that is done by the ILF. Over $77,000 dollars was donated, 97,500 books were supplied to 230 remote communities.

Did you know?

- Over 50% of very remote indigenous families speak an indigenous language
- 40% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are at school until Year 12
- 1 in 5 Northern Territory students in remote communities can read at an acceptable level
- Less than 36% of people in a remote community have access to a library

Our school is once again taking part in the Great Book Swap and will be raising money through the year to support the great work that the ILF does to ensure that all ASTI students have access to books, often in their own language, wherever they live in Australia. As part of NAIDOC Week celebrations at the end of this term we will be once again putting on a Great Book Swap and don’t forget to put Wednesday 4th September 2013, which will be our second fundraiser, in your diary or if you see the orange donation box, please give generously.

**Author Visit – Richard Harland**

We are very excited to have Richard Harland coming to visit Elizabeth Macarthur High School on Thursday 23rd May. To celebrate the release of his latest novel – *The Song of the Slums*, the steam punk author is making a series of school visits and we are lucky enough to have him come to speak to our students. Check out some of his writing in the library.
2013 EMHS Reading Challenge

Last term, the library launched the 2013 Reading Challenge in which students read for 2013 seconds (which is 33 minutes and 33 seconds). Each time they have read for 2013, they record it on a the reading log card and then place in the prize draw box in the library. At the end of term students go into a draw for an iTunes voucher. Term One saw Samantha Harkness (Year 10) and Sowaiba Azad (Year 7) win the prize draw. More reading log cards will be distributed in roll call classes. You need to be in it to win it.

Library Consultants

Elizabeth Macarthur High School aims to make a difference in the lives of the children that we teach, which includes building leadership capacity within our student body. The Library, as an integral part of the learning and teaching community, aims to provide leadership opportunities for students in every year group through its Library Consultants Program. Students will be able to be recognised for their service to the school and wider community through the linking of the Library Consultants Program with the Premier's Volunteer Program and the school’s Merit Awards program. Students can volunteer as little as a half-hour per week, or as much as they feel they can. Congratulations to the successful applicants – Mary Scott, Brianna Langston, Samantha Harkness, Maddison Drum, Carrin Goosen, Annaliese Morgan, Jessica Goosen, Brianna Alchin, Emily Hector.

Ms K Cripps
Teacher - Librarian

Mount Annan Quality Meats & Deli for your donations to supply meat for our EMHS Sports Day (17th May) & P & C BBQ fundraising at Mt Annan Central (Coles).
## SPORTS REPORT

### SWIMMING

The CHS swimming carnival was held at the end of first term. Elizabeth Macarthur had 3 students compete in individual events and a relay team also qualified. Particular congratulations to **Andrew Lam** who left the carnival with 2 state medals and missed out on the gold medal by a fingernail.

Results were as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Andrew Lam</strong></td>
<td>100m breastroke</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100m backstroke</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100m freestyle</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100m butterfly</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Luke Plumridge</strong></td>
<td>100m freestyle</td>
<td>15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100m breastroke</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100m butterfly</td>
<td>11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clarisse Baker</strong></td>
<td>100m breastroke</td>
<td>17th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200m freestyle</td>
<td>14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>400m freestyle</td>
<td>14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U14 Boys Relay Team</strong></td>
<td>(Jake Perry, Jayden Carney, Luke Plumridge, Andrew Lam)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The boys placed 5th this year. A remarkable improvement from 12th in 2012. The boys should be very proud of this achievement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CROSS COUNTRY

The school cross country carnival was held at the end of last term. All students enjoyed the day and did their best for their assessment mark and to gain zone representation. Some students added to the atmosphere by dressing up in weird and wonderful costumes.

**Cross country Age Champions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 year boys</td>
<td>Jack Edgington</td>
<td>Evie-Rose Clume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 year boys</td>
<td>Jarrod Wiley</td>
<td>Stephanie Brancatti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 year boys</td>
<td>Andrew Lam</td>
<td>Claudia Berry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 year boys</td>
<td>Jayden Lonergan</td>
<td>Clarrisse Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 year boys</td>
<td>Brayden Lovering</td>
<td>Monique Crispin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 year boys</td>
<td>Nathan Austin</td>
<td>Lauren Pickwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 year boys</td>
<td>Luke Beezem</td>
<td>Ellen Baker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **zone cross country carnival** will be held on the 29th of May. If students place in the top 8 in their age group they will be representing their school at the Equestrian Centre in Camden. Students will be able to collect permission notes shortly.
SYDNEY SOUTH WEST REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following students who have recently been selected in SSW teams:

- Ashlee Norman – Girls soccer
- Stephanie Wiley – Girls cricket
- Dylan Atherton – Boys hockey
- Josh Atherton – Boys hockey
- Travis Gibson – Boys hockey

Ms K Griffiths
Sports Co-Ordinator, PDHPE

PREMIER SPORTING CHALLENGE

That time of year again for the Premier Sporting Challenge. First week of term we got back into the swing of things and had a fantastic day down on Elizabeth Park with our feeder primary schools. Students from Harrington Park, Narellan Vale and Narellan Primary Schools in Years 5 and 6 combined with Elizabeth Macarthur’s Years 7 and 8, to learn new skills and be introduced to new leadership challenges in a range of different physical activities. Lead by our Year 9, 10 and 11’s who have had training facilitated by Premier Sporting Challenge, our participants had a fantastic day getting out and being active, meeting new friends and formulating leadership capabilities for themselves. I would like to pay special congratulations to the facilitators of the day who used all their previous training to put on great sessions. The Years 9, 10 and 11 coaches exceeded all expectations and the primary school participants and teachers did not have a bad word to say about their professionalism and the way they interacted with the students.

Mr B Anderson
Teacher, PDHPE
PREMIER SPORTING CHALLENGE
I am writing this in the middle of the NAPLAN testing season! These tests have been going since the mid 2000s and by now all parents are aware of them for Year 7 and 9. What might be less obvious is the use we put these data to. It’s not helped by the press running the usual set of stories every year either talking NAPLAN up or dismissing it! So, your child has just completed the NAPLAN tests in Year 7 and 9 or they did it a year or two ago.

What’s the point? That is a fair question and one that is not helped by all the discussion in the media about it. To this we can add that not everyone will understand the statistics behind NAPLAN! I thought it might be worth writing about the uses for these data – what they can do and what they can’t. First, what do we get from the NAPLAN tests? Over three days students sit five separate tests in literacy and numeracy. The tests are marked and a score given in five areas: reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. In addition, we get data for each question answered so we know in fine detail what the student can do. The school gets these data as a series of averages. We also get an ‘expected’ grade – what the system thinks the student should be able to do based on past tests.

Now, what are the data of little use for? It’s a snapshot of specific skills at one moment in time. This means that using them as the only measure of achievement would give us little in the way of useful information. Data are of less use in comparing schools directly because there are so many factors involved. It follows that tying them in with wider educational issues is even less useful!

What do we do with them? As a faculty we can gather these data and use them to help both students and teachers. We can identify students who show a particular area that needs more development than others. This year we are trialling a series of small-group sessions looking at each result in turn and providing individualised help for those who would benefit most. These will run throughout the year across all the 5 test areas. We have access to data in previous years so we can measure improvement in the longer term and see where extra help would be useful. This year, we started a new system, which we hope will link NAPLAN to a wider set of tests. Every student in Year 7 sat a small school test looking at literacy (and numeracy, courtesy of our Maths colleagues). We have an experienced NAPLAN marker looking at these results and suggest areas of strength as well as those needing more work. We feed these results back to colleagues who can use them to plan student learning. In future years, we want to develop diagnostic tests in the junior years to plan learning in more detail. As a teacher, I take these data and find where students need support or extending further so that each student gets an opportunity to maximise their learning. I can also compare the individual class grades to these tests to see how students are working.

As a final point I’d like to ask all parent and carers to keep us informed of any issue that might affect their child’s performance in tests and exams. We are currently dealing with cases where we could have helped with special provisions had we known in advance. Contact your Year Advisor or our faculty if you have concerns in this area.

Dr Paul Ganderton
Head Teacher, Teacher & Learning
ESL

Year 8 ESL assessments will take place this term in line with the new English Additional Language Dialect (EAL/D) Learning progression which will replace the current three phases for assessing ESL students in 2014. Initial training was undertaken last term with follow up workshops being run by TESOL NSW. With 188 ESL students in the school this will take some time to complete. I will now be assessing students in four areas speaking, listening, reading and writing to determine their overall proficiency into four categories: beginning (with and without some print literacy in their first language), emerging, developing and consolidating English.

In addition the Annual ESL and New Arrivals Surveys will be completed this term.

Macarthur Diversity Services will again be running two programs for ESL students. The Resilience Donut and Water Paper Rock. A new group of students have been selected for this term’s program.

The SWSR Equity and National Partnerships Portfolio is again holding the Refugee Week Writing Competition. Students are invited to create and submit a short piece of text (written or digital) about refugees. The aim of the competition is to help generate knowledge and understanding of refugee experiences through the sharing and telling of personal stories. The theme for Refugee Week this year is "Restoring Hope". The theme reminds us that whilst a refugee’s journey begins with danger, it also begins with hope. Refugees flee their homelands not only because they fear persecution, safety and security for themselves and their families, they hope to be given a chance to start a new life and recover from past trauma.

The writing competition consists of three categories:

- An article or story based on a refugee’s experiences
- An article, essay, a multimodal text or poem based on the theme "Restoring Hope."
- A personal story by a refugee.

Written entries should be no longer than 750 words for Stage 4 students and 1000 words for Stage 5 and 6 students. Students should submit their entry for judging to Mrs Noonan by Friday 24th May. The best school entries will then be forwarded to a regional judging panel.

Prizes will be presented at the Refugee Conference on Tuesday 18th June.

Mrs Noonan

Up & coming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th May—31st May</td>
<td>Year 7—10 Half Yearly Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd May</td>
<td>Maths Olympiad</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd June</td>
<td>Year 8 High Resolves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th June</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 9 Immunisation (Boys Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th June</td>
<td>Macarthur Area Careers Expo</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th June</td>
<td>CAPA Extravaganza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th June</td>
<td>Queen birthday Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th June</td>
<td>Math Olympiad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th—21st June</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Experience Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th June</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th June—28 June</td>
<td>Year 12 Trials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The show team has been very busy over the last couple of months. With the Royal Easter show over for another year, the students attended the last show for the term, during the school holidays. They attended the Hawkesbury Show. The students exhibited both sheep and cattle. They had a great day winning Reserve Senior Champion Cow, with Lachlan View Fire Star, and Reserve Champion Sheep with Nattai Valley Corona. The students participated in the handler's competition, winning Champion Sheep handler with Sarah Watkins.

The Year 10 students are now busy preparing two dairy calves, Deliah and Harley for the Penrith Calf Raising Competition at the Penrith Show. This will involve the class working in teams to prepare the calf. The class is holding an in class competition to see which group prepares the best placed calf at the show.

The Art and Agriculture Faculty will once again in 2013 (participate in the Archibul competition). This will involve the group designing and paint a cow with an agriculture industry theme. The two groups will have until October to create a master piece. We are still waiting on the industry that we will represent. The students will also be creating a blog. So support the students and when the site is available to the public, please make positive comments.

The Year 8 Agriculture students are currently raising a group of young layer chicks as part of their next assessment task. This involves the students caring for the young chickens and monitoring them every lesson and completing a practical report.

The first of the lambs have arrived for 2013. Corona delivered them on the 10th May. Both lambs are doing well.

For interested students, farm club is on every Thursday afternoon. All students interested in learning more about showing cattle, sheep and chooks, plus having fun working on the farm are welcome. We work from 3.30pm – 5.00pm.

Ms N Westerhoff
Agriculture Teacher
Celebrating Success

Impressive Writing in Year 10 History

The Vietnam War Era was an import time of real and progressive change in Australia’s history. Students in Year 10 have achieved pleasing results for their final assessment task. Below is an excerpt from Year 10 student Tristan Berry. Students interested in the Vietnam era may consider studying Modern History, where the American War in Vietnam is explored in depth, including military strategies and tactics, protest and peace movements, and the roles and decisions of American presidents such as John Fitzgerald Kennedy (JFK), Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon.

In the eyes of the politicians of America and Australia, the Vietnam war was an act of saviour, saving their country from the evil infection of Communism... As more men entered Vietnam, the Australians and Americans experienced a war unlike any other era, as war fighting an unseen enemy, a war of booby traps and killing civilians in order to find the enemy. It was a war that the Australians and Americans were not expecting, but were intimidated by. The records of the time suggest that as the Vietnam War ideal was unravelled and its true colours were revealed, public opinion changed.

Year 11 Legal Studies and Year 10 Commerce Visit the Downing Centre Courts

Competitions

National History Challenge - Theme: Legend, Fact and History. A research based competition for students. Applications close in August. Register and request an information pack at: http://historychallenge.org.au

The Simpson Prize - “How well does the Anzac legend tell the story of individual Australian soldiers during World War One?”. An essay and source-based competition for students
The Simpson Prize - "How well does the Anzac legend tell the story of individual Australian soldiers during World War One?". An essay and source-based competition for students in Year 9 and Year 10. Students can win a trip to Turkey and the competition closes in November. The essay question is Visit: http://www.awm.gov.au/simpson-prize-question-2014/

Exhibitions

PUBLIC SYDNEY: STOP, LOOK, LIVE!

'Explore some of our most loved sites – Bennelong Point, the Museum of Sydney, Hyde Park, Central Station and Town Hall – and see how we, the public, are shaping them. Discover what a handmade cedar coffin, a silver trowel and an ASIO surveillance picture can tell you about the remarkable history of Town Hall, or what a 2-tonne cannon has to do with the iconic Sydney Opera House. Tell us your stories – online and in the exhibition – and share the things that make you stop, look, and embrace life in your public spaces.' http://www.hht.net.au/whats_on/highlights/exhibitions/public_sydney_stop_look_live?

Excursions

Ancient and Modern History Study Day at the University of Sydney

Year 12 students will attend the NSW History Teachers’ Associations’ HSC Study Day on 14th June with history teachers, Ms. Kirkpatrick and Ms. Smith. Students will have an opportunity to learn from experienced HSC markers and academics presenting new evidence, theoretic understanding and strategies for success in HSC topics including, Pompeii and Herculaneum, Sparta, Julio Claudians, Germany and World War One. The University is an important part of Australia’s cultural and architectural history and students will also have an opportunity to explore the impressive grounds and experience university life.
This Month in History, Languages & Social

**YEAR 7**

- **History** – Ancient China’s History & Culture
- **French/Italian** – Describing other people

**YEAR 8**

- **History** – Aztec Religion and the Spanish Conquest
- **Commerce** – The Australian Stock Exchange

**YEAR 9**

- **History** – The Sydney Harbour Bridge, 1920s Australia and the Great Depression

**YEAR 10**

- **Commerce** – Budgeting and Home Finance
- **History** – The Assassination of JFK
- **Extension History** – Student Devised Thematic Studies of Modern History

**YEAR 11**

- **Ancient History** – The Discovery of Tutankhamun’s Tomb
- **Business Studies** – Investigating a Local Business
- **Legal Studies** – Law and the Individual
- **Modern History** – Nuclear Testing in the Pacific in the 1950s and 1960s
- **Society and Culture** – Personal and Social Identity
- **French** – Family, Animals, Descriptions

**YEAR 12**

- **Ancient History** – Julio Claudians
- **Business Studies** – Human Resources
- **Legal Studies** – Same Sex Marriage and Surrogacy and the Law
- **Modern History** – Life and Times of Hitler’s Architect, Albert Speer
- **French** – Speaking and Listening Skills and HSC Revision

Ms. C. Boreland  
*Head of History, Languages and Social Sciences (HSIE & LOTE)*

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**Student Exchange – Memories and Skills for a Lifetime!**

Give your child the opportunity to gain international experiences and language skills to kick-start a future career. Along with distinct language benefits, exchange students mature, gain confidence and develop a much more worldly approach upon their return to Australia.

World Education Program Australia (WEP), a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments, is now accepting applications for students to live overseas in 2013/14 as exchange students for a summer, semester or year.

WEP is offering two **$3000 scholarships** towards semester-long student exchange programs to Argentina and China commencing in 2014.

**Find out more!**

Visit [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au)  
Call 1300 884 733

Attend one of WEP’s information evenings and open days
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

The SRC have been actively working and planning to make the school a better place for students. We are planning to install air fresheners in the change rooms (as this issue has been raised by our peers). In order to be better known around the school and by our peers, we have several more profiles to share in this edition of Mac Chat.

_Name:_ Tatiana Crichton  
_Year:_ 7  
_Why I wanted to be a part of the SRC 2013:_  
I wanted to represent the school.  
_What I enjoy most about being in the SRC is:_  
I enjoy being in the SRC because you get to meet new people in different years.

_The group I am in is:_  
School Improvement group

_Name:_ Brianna Alchin  
_Year:_ 8  
_Why I wanted to be a part of the SRC 2013:_  
I love doing fundraisers and helping the school  
_What I enjoy most about being in the SRC is:_  
Being in a team and making school fun.

_The group I am in is:_  
Charities is my group

_Name:_ Rhys Browne  
_Year:_ 11  
_Why I wanted to be a part of the SRC 2013:_  
To help make the school better.  
_What I enjoy most about being in the SRC is:_  
Working in groups to organise fundraisers for the school

_The group I am in is:_  
I am in the Fundraising group

_Name:_ Baladev Dayaram  
_Year:_ 9  
_Why I wanted to be a part of the SRC 2013:_  
Because I wanted to have a say about things in our school

_What I enjoy most about being in the SRC is:_  
Having a say  
_The group I am in is:_  
I’m in the “money blowers” group as we call it (also known as School Improvement). I contribute to buying things for our school.

_Ms S White, SRC Coordinator_
“All you need to know about the ATAR”

presented by Professor Jacqui Ramage from the University of Wollongong.

“A free information session for parents who have children in years 10, 11 or 12 on the ATAR & scaling & subject selection choices for the final school years”

Monday 3rd June 6pm - 7:30pm
Narellan Library, Iron Bark room
Cnr Queen & Elyard Street, Narellan

To register
go to www.macartihulparents.com.au
OR call Amber from MWLP on 4625 1863

find out...
* What is an ATAR
* How is the ATAR calculated
* What can we predict
* How are ATAR cut-offs set!

University of Wollongong
Student Representatives will also be present to answer questions on UCW course enquiries

In partnership with
UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG
PARTNERSHIP BROKERS
SPMUTS...
Would $500 assist you with education costs?

You could receive up to $500 to help pay for educational costs including:

- School uniforms
- Text books
- Excursions
- Laptops
- Sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- Music tuition and instrument hire
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs!

The Benevolent Society delivers Saver Plus in your local area and is looking for new participants.

To be eligible you must:

- Have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- Be at least 18 years old
- Have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and
- Have a child at school, or study yourself.

To find out more contact Liz Timney, Saver Plus Worker at The Benevolent Society
4633 3722 / 0407 310 283 or
liz.timney@benevolent.org.au

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FOX SPORTS are giving you the chance to be one of 4 winners to experience a day with Tom Chadwick at the Australian Defence Force Academy. You could win return economy flights to Canberra and 1 night's accommodation. Plus you'll win a ticket to the Brumbies versus the Rebels Super Rugby match at Canberra Stadium on Friday 7 June 2013.

On Saturday 8 June, you'll be taught leadership skills, experience obstacle courses and challenges that will test your physical and mental strength at the Australian Defense Force Academy.

To enter, go to the entry page at foxsports.com.au/win and tell us in 100 words or less about a time when you demonstrated the Australian Defence Force Academy's values of doing your best, being honest, respecting others and giving everyone a fair go on the sporting field.

Entry is open to all permanent residents of Australia aged 16 to 25 years. Entries close at 12:00pm AEST on 24 May 2013.


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Young Endeavour Youth Scheme

Are you aged 16-23? looking for a challenge?

The 2013 ballot is now open

Apply online for the adventure of a lifetime

Ballot closes 31 May 2013

www.youngendeavour.gov.au
LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!
As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2013 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.
Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.
Elizabeth Macarthur High School, we are focused on making a difference to the lives of the students we teach, enabling them to be innovative 21st century learners.

Elizabeth Macarthur High School values

• teachers with a high degree of professional practice and who are committed to achieving excellence in public education through Quality Teaching.

• a supportive and nurturing environment where the wellbeing of students is paramount and where students have the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

• a safe environment where rights and responsibilities are valued by staff and students.

PRIDE      RESPECT      RESPONSIBILITY