and Labour Dynamics in Australia project and found private school guarantee a better job after university with new research showing there forwards by Dr Paul Brock: 'Paying private school fees does not likely acting to implement positive mental health programs. You are a Every school that works on being better prepared for suicide is to a

character. We are all very proud of him.

entertainment industry which is a testament to his skill, knowledge and

awarded the region's winning cheese.

VET courses provide dual accreditation and prepare students for the

winning team including Jazmine Everitt, Emily Cheung, Kristy Martin and Imogen Boughy.

Teachers were trained to make camembert cheese by program presenter and Deputy Chief Judge of the Australian Grand Dairy Awards, Russell Smith. They then transferred this knowledge to their students. Over a term, students made their own camembert cheese in the classroom and completed assessment tasks, including a multimedia advertisement. Upon completion of the program, Russell Smith, along with accredited judges, awarded the region’s winning cheese.

Mitchell Wisby was honored last week as VET Student of the Year. VET courses provide dual accreditation and prepare students for the world of work. Mitchell has already been snapped up by the entertainment industry which is a testament to his skill, knowledge and character. We are all very proud of him.

I received an email recently acknowledging the work of our Deputy Principal, Ms Sayed-Rich in bringing all high schools in our Sutherland area together in order to develop informed plans to manage the harm to communities that have experienced trauma, including suicide. I hope we never need to use these plans but if it’s ever necessary, rest assured that we will serve everyone well because we are informed, trained and well prepared. Graham Parry at Headspace wrote of Ms Sayed-Rich: “I am not sure we have thanked you adequately for your role in bringing this event to fruition. We put a very much on people like you to take the time and energy to bring schools together on this issue. Every school that works on being better prepared for suicide is to a degree less likely to have a suicide as they will be reflecting and more likely acting to implement positive mental health programs. You are a very positive example of the influence school executives can have in this process. Your school and your network will benefit from your sincere efforts”. We are indeed fortunate to have Ms Sayed-Rich join our staff and leadership team.

I am reprinting a great and affirmative report on current research forwarded by Dr Paul Brock: ‘Paying private school fees does not guarantee a better job after university with new research showing there is no long term employment advantage as public school graduates earn as much in equally prestigious jobs. A research fellow at Canberra University, Jenny Chesters, analysed data from the Household Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia project and found private school students were no more likely to get a full time job than public school students. And while private school students were more likely to attend one of Australia’s most prestigious universities, even this did not lead to a higher income than research found.’

It affirms what I have always believed, namely that you can’t do much better than being part of the Menai High School experience which strives to apply “Care and Commitment” and to provide my opportunities which

will see our students achieve outcomes which affirm that they are “skilled learners,” “skilled citizens” and “skilled for life” now and throughout their lives.

E McNALLY

Deputy Principal’s Message

September 1st 2014 was the official start of the bush fire season. The RFS has brought the date forward this year. I recently attended the annual planning meeting with DEC schools and the RFS, Fire and Rescue and Police. At, this meeting all schools were reminded to communicate the schools bushfire plan to the parents. I have attached the current Menai High school plan. You can also access a copy of the plan on the website http://www.mena-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/

moodle/emergencies. If the school is in a bushfire emergency parents need to be aware of the school plan. We may be in a situation where phone communications are affected, power may be cut and roads may also be blocked. If we are ever in this situation it will be stressful but so to reduce stress on parents I am asking you to read the school plan, have a copy on your family fridge or noticeboard (refer page 3).

Subject selections 2015 Yr 10, Yr 8 and Yr 7 Letters have now been given indicating the subjects your child has selected for 2015. We have interviewed all year 10 students and provided suggestions to attempt to provide a pattern of study that best suits their abilities. All years need to return letters to the office by Tuesday 16th.

Year 12 are now in their final week of school. On Friday Mrs McNally and Mrs Sayed Rich and I met with all year 12 indicating the expectations of Yr 12 concerning the final days of school. There is no muck day’s. If students do not follow the instructions the school discipline code will be applied. Each day your child is to wear full school uniform attend all lessons, be prepared to continue with the learning the teachers have supplied for the class. A letter was sent home early last week with the details concerning the warm and attendance after the assembly. I have reprinted this letter if your child has not handed that letter to you.

On Thursday 18th September, 2014 a formal assembly will be held to farewell Year 12. The Assembly commences at 10.30 am and finishes by approximately 12.30 pm. Parents are invited to attend this assembly. Mornie St Tea will follow in the Senior Area outside the Hall. Full school uniform (including long pants for boys, red ties for girls and plain black shoes with no colour markings) is compulsory. If students are not in full uniform they will not be involved in the ceremony. Year 12 students need to meet at the back of the hall near the basketball courts at 9:30am. Students who wish to leave school immediately after the Graduation Ceremony must return the parental permission slip attached. Students are also reminded of the Code of Conduct Rules regarding driving to and from school and carrying passengers. If a student is to be a passenger in another’s vehicle a note must be supplied by both the driver’s and passengers parents. Police and other security personnel will have been notified to ensure everyone’s safety. Parents please do not arrive at school before 10.00am. This will allow for any final organisation to be completed. If you require any further information, please contact Year Advisors on 9543 7000.

Finally I would like to wish year 12 all the best for their exams and their future. They are a credit to our school they are amazing young people who have a very exciting future ahead of them. Best wishes year 12. Have a safe and happy holiday to all.

R ALLEN

IMPORTANT DATES & COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15/9</td>
<td>Yr10 ESSA Testing/State Dance rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16/9</td>
<td>Year 10 ESSA testing/ Yr 9 Sydney Kings Visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17/9</td>
<td>Yr 12 Graduation Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18/9</td>
<td>Yr 12 Graduation Ceremony/ Yr 6 Transition program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19/9</td>
<td>Yr 12 Picnic Day/PRC Movie day</td>
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Welfare New Week 9 Term 3

Mrs Ferrero would like to congratulate Aidan Brown, Claudia Kubic, Isabella Miletich, Sara Soofi, James Walker, Wyatt Horbury and Melina Thompson from Year 9 for showing creativity and accuracy in their Japanese assessment task.

Well done to Ms Scevity to her Year 12 Modern History class for excellent analysis of film in their study of Conflict in Indochina.

Miss Blaylock would like to acknowledge Brianna Griffen in year 11 Society and Culture for her excellent effort in class.

Well done to Kayla Squires, Hope Sestanovic, Laura Fermanov, James Rennenburg, Kane Arduin, Siobhan Halstead, Sarah Atkinson and Liam Bissett from Ms Kerr for fantastic work on medieval castles and villages power points in History.

Well done to all these students

Student Eye Clinic

Student Eyecare is a mobile optometry service, providing high school students with eye examinations. The Student Eyecare Program was established to provide students the opportunity to get their eyes examined to minimize the effects of poor vision that may interfere with a student’s learning abilities and subsequently hinder their academic potential. The main visual issues that go undetected are inadequate focusing and eye teaming abilities that could lead to symptoms such as blurry vision, poor concentration, fatigue, headaches and unwillingness to read. The aim of Student Eyecare is to identify these symptoms and provide students with the appropriate treatment, which hopefully results in a more enriched learning experience.

Services are completely covered by Medicare Australia and they do not sell any items of eyewear.

Student Eyecare will be at Menai High School in term 4 to carry out eye tests on any student interested in the program, starting from week 4. Notes will be handed out to students in week 1 of term 4 and will need to be completed and handed in to roll call teachers by week 4, term 4. Students will not be able to participate in the program if the note is not returned.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me regarding this program or alternatively you can go to www.studenteyecare.com.au to read about the program.

Dental Clinic

The Dental Clinic will be running during Term 4 this year. Information and consent forms have gone out to students. Please look out for more information.

Gender Day for year 8

Notes were distributed for the Year 8 gender day. On this day boys and girls will be separated and specific program run to address the unique issues facing boys and girls at this time of adolescence. The cost for both groups will be $18. Payments are to be made to the office by Week 2 of term 4 so final details can be confirmed. Notes are to be returned to Ms Hamilton (girls) in HSIE and Mr El Masri (boys) in Maths. If child has not brought a note home please encourage them to see their Year Advisers to collect one.

Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher Welfare

Welfare New Week 9 Term 3

Sports News

MHS National Health and PE Day Fun Run/Walk

Congratulations to all, the students and staff who participated in Menai Highs Fun Run/Walk last Wednesday. It was a fun and extremely active day which resulted in 3500 laps been completed, a total of 1750kms.

A big thank you to the following Yr10 students, who were instrumental in the running, planning and overall success of the day:

Steven Miliken, Brendan Cole, Adam Engeler, Liam Johnstone, Josef Richmond, Byron Dempsey, Cameron Burgess, Madeleine Norris, Millie Richards, Lily Van Steinburg, Alexandra Shute and Suzann Godden.

M. Robinson Relieving, H.T PDHPE

Dance and Drama News

Miss Osborne would like to congratulate her Year 9 Dance class on beautiful performances in their Ballet Assessment task last week. Their skills in Performance and Composition are truly thriving.

Year 9 Drama also demonstrated excellent skills in Scripted Performance in their Duologue Assessment. In particular I’d like to acknowledge Hannah Banks, Neha Salah, Hayleigh Mottram, Megan Tang, Sharon John, Courtney Law and Katrina Toohey on their highly theatrical and well rehearsed performances. Well done and keep up the good work!!

Miss Osborne

Wellbeing Wisdom

AMDC

On Friday 12th September Australian Mobile Dental Care (AMDC) delivered a presentation at our school assembly. They gave our students a number of useful tips for dental care and warned about the dangers of failing to look after your teeth.

The AMDC van will be in our staff car park from Week 3 next term. If your child returns the completed consent form they will have the opportunity to visit the dentist during school hours. AMDC provides a variety of services including dental examinations, cleaning, fluoride treatments, x-rays, sealants and fillings. The consent forms were distributed in roll calls last Monday and during assembly, but your child can still collect one from Ms Hatzi or Ms Kavouras. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Ms Hatzi and Ms Kavouras

Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN Results

All Year 7 and Year 9 students received their NAPLAN Results at the beginning of last week. NAPLAN assesses aspects of literacy (reading, spelling, punctuation, grammar and writing) and numeracy.

The results are shown in skill bands which indicate levels of achievement. The report shows the national average and the school’s average and allows you to see how your child’s performance compared with that of others who completed the NAPLAN tests.

Additional information to assist in understanding your child’s test results can be found at www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/naplan/

M. Robinson, MHS NAPLAN Coordinator

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M. Robinson Relieving, H.T PDHPE
MENAI HIGH SCHOOL EMERGENCY BUSHFIRE PLAN

Menai High School has a detailed bushfire emergency plan which can be found on our website.

This SUMMARY is provided for your fridge door. Menai High is a fire prone school which will:

1. **Close** when the fire rating is **catastrophic** or we are directed to close by the Department of Education.

   If this occurs:
   - SMS message will be sent to all registered mobile numbers.
   - Emails will be sent to students DEC portals
   - Notice on the school website
   - Notice will be placed on the school gate

   On days with **severe** and **extreme** fire danger ratings, sport and excursions will be cancelled. A “Watch and Act” strategy will be applied to the school farm.

2. Implement our Menai High School Bush Fire Plan where by we will in the first instance **shelter onsite** by invacuating to the **school hall**. Please note that students will not be released to anyone but a parent/guardian. This is a **regulation** from which we will not deviate. The hall will be secured and staff will follow the school fire plan and the directions of emergency services personnel. A DEC principal has been appointed to the official emergency services team that will liaise directly with Menai High School Principal.

3. If directed the school will be evacuated under the direction of emergency services personnel who will advise us on the evacuation site. We will shelter at school unless directed to do something different. We practice and train students and staff regarding the intent and implementation of our fire plan.

The NSW Rural Fire Services has designated– Holy Family Catholic School car park and Akuna Oval as a “Place of last resort” or a “Neighbourhood Safer Place”. These sites are a last resort if all other options in the Bush Fire Plan fail or cannot be implemented.

**Useful Contacts**
Rural Fire Service website: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
Application: “Fires Near Me”
Menai High School: www.menai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
DEC website (see Bush Fire Section): www.schools.nsw.edu.au