Principal’s Message

Presentation Night begins at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th December and I hope everyone takes the opportunity to celebrate the multitude of the year’s success stories. It is a night for everyone, not just for prize winners. Many success stories are not acknowledged at these big events but certainly contribute to the big picture that is this big, harmonious and happy school which generates it’s own momentum for achievement and “personal bests”. For example Ben Muraratto, Josh Muraratto, Sam Lynch and Jaymie Thornycraft are going to feature in the Head Space Campaign ad for Mental Health. The boys are in a scene on our basketball courts and were highly praised by the production company for their professionalism during the shooting of the ad. They were fantastic Menai High ambassadors! On February 9, 2015 the first P&C meeting in the library will feature a one hour presentation by Head Space on what parents and families can do if depression, anxiety, self harm or suicide touches adolescents in the family. This is a not to be missed opportunity that all parents should lock into their diaries. The second P&C meeting on March 9 will be a forum reviewing Menai High School’s SRE policy and practice.

Further examples include Sam Turpin’s appointment as a Global Volunteering Network Youth Ambassador for 2015-16. She will fulfil this role nationally and internationally over her 12 month appointment. Brittany Jansen is another amazing Menai High student who has just won the National Global Volunteering Network Youth Ambassador for 2015. She will fulfil this role nationally and internationally over her 12 month appointment. They were fantastic Menai High ambassadors! On February 9, 2015 the first P&C meeting in the library will feature a one hour presentation by Head Space on what parents and families can do if depression, anxiety, self harm or suicide touches adolescents in the family. This is a not to be missed opportunity that all parents should lock into their diaries. The second P&C meeting on March 9 will be a forum reviewing Menai High School’s SRE policy and practice.

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Welfare News!

We are ending the year with a great amount of students being recognised for their fantastic work.

Mr Constance would like to commend the following students for their excellent work in Science: 9S8 Alyssa Saurine, Vittoria Camporeale, Katrina Toohey, Aaron Tannous and Leah Briscoe; 10S5 Nicholas Diwell, Ethan Gault, Cooper Challinor, Lisa Johnston and Jefferson Martin.

Ms Kavouri and Mr Collela would like to say thank you and acknowledge Gemma Grigg, Sarah Island,洛奇 Jones, Lara Van Den Dolder, William Lipscombe, Monica Koech, Mia Enright-Bullock, Chloe Gow, Rhys Dean, Dylan Holdstock, Daniel Ferlazzo and Taegan Charles for representing Menai High School at the Year 6 school visits.

Well done to Jake Lee, Cameron Burgess, Steven Milekovic and Imogen Boughey from Ms Bourke for outstanding results in the Science Yearly exam.

Congratulations to Sarah Wilson and Emily Davenport for excellent yearly exam results in Textiles Technology, and to Adam Douglas, Julian Jones, Eric Lam and Haris Khan for excellent yearly exam results in Information Software Technology from Mrs Kendrick.

Mrs Shales would like to acknowledge Katy Gao, Lara Callaghan, Stephanie Pittet, Mackenzie Chegwidden, Olivia Henessy, James Papadopoulos, Elise Cladwell and Angela Mataio for excellent construction of bags for Textile technology.

Well done from Ms Lewry to Justin Brown, Angus Law, Natalie Perin, Aaron Kalan and Jayden Locaputo-Panagis for excellent results in their first HSC assessment task in Food Technology.

Congratulations to Imogen Boughey, Emily Cheung, Jazmin Everitt, Guessh Jantui and Kristy Martin from Ms Bourke for excellent Alternative Agriculture assignments and a big thanks to Chloe Traynor and Caitlin Stephen who have done a fantastic job as farm leaders while the senior students have been away.

Ms Wearing would like to congratulate the following students on their outstanding yearly exam results. From 10H1 Caitlin Tullis, Prudence Wilkins-Wheat, Megan Shipp, Vicki Milekovic, Cameron Burgess, Elizabeth Faust, Ethan Mackay, Imogen Boughey, Madeleine Norris and Josef Richmond, and Joseph Messiter from 10HS. From 9H1 James Walker, Tayla Nisbet, Adam Douglas, Blake Fraser, Emily Davenport, Leyton Davies, Olivia Cooper, Isabella Mileitch, Maddison Boyling, Cody Gale, Hannah Banks, Courtney Bryant, Sarah Ragheb and Chrsitn Tsafis, and from 9H4 Jemma Harlow.

Vaccinations

The final round of vaccinations will be held on Monday 8th December. Year 7 and year 9 boys will receive the last of the HPV vaccinations. While Year 7 students will have a chance to catch up on missed HPV vaccinations next year, boys from year 9 will need to go to a GP for any missed doses.

Due to a worldwide shortage of Chicken pox vaccinations these will not be administered to Year 7 students as indicated at the beginning of the year. NSW health will be sending home information regarding this to any student that indicated they were to have that vaccination.

It has been a great year at Menai and my first year has gone so quickly. I wish everyone a safe and happy holidays.

Ms Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher Welfare

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Year 12’s gift to the school has set us up to be a Border Leicester study and I can introduce our new very regal sheep as well as the new anti-crow bow ties that now grace the necks of our sometimes noisy roosters.

Post student Tra Mi Dinh was awarded The Orloff Family Trust Award for the Most Outstanding Dancer at the graduation ceremony of her Bachelor Fine Arts (Dance) Degree at the Victorian College of the Arts. The award was described by the head of Dance at VCA as the dancer most likely to succeed in the profession (to which she added that the VAC has a pretty good track record!) She was always amazing and continues to be so. It is significant that she has been featured by many of the choreographers that she has worked with during her time at the VCA.

I’m also thrilled to share that Australia Swimming recently released the 2014 National Swimming Age Ranking and Sarah Siqueira was very well placed, ranked 1st-100m Butterfly, 6th-50m Butterfly, 6th-200m Butterfly, 16th-100m Freestyle and 16th-200m Individual Medley.

Orientation Day was a huge but highly successful day. Not only did students and parents familiarize themselves with the school but an amazing team of office staff processed a record $60,000 in payments. Well done Kylie Beck, Penny Farquhar, Julie Taylor, Ruth Brewster and Jenna McNally.

The only sad news this last week is that a significant group of seniors were suspended for driving and/or being a passenger in a student car during school time. This is a safety issue for seniors were suspended for driving and/or being a passenger in a student car during school time. This is a safety issue for

Please note the advice re changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program for 2015 is outlined on the page 3 of this newsletter. This is a big deal for young workers.

E McNally

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E McNally

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Ms Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher Welfare
Wellbeing and Wisdom

End of Year Reports

In the coming weeks, the junior school’s end of year reports will be distributed. A child’s report card can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride; it can also cause concern, frustration, and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period is a time to establish new goals as well as reflect on past work habits and achievements. Importantly, it is a great time for parents to communicate with their children and assist them in determining a path for future academic enrichment and social/emotional growth.

In Term 1 next year, students will be asked to reflect on this report to update their Personal Learning Plans.

L Ferraro and the Wellbeing Wisdom Team

Sports News

Congratulations to Alysha Haines and Bridget Waterworth on their selection to the Sydney East Regional Softball Team.

Jon Ryan is also to be congratulated after the Sydney East Water Polo team he was a major part of finished a fantastic 2nd place in the NSW CHS Tournament last week.

Finally, congratulations to Maddie Lawrence who won two silver medals at the Australian Figure Skating Championships. Maddie has now been selected to compete at the MozarT Cup in Salzburg, Austria. Congratulations Maddie on these outstanding results.

K Newman, Sports Organiser

Urbanlife Church Hosts
Carols in Parc Menai
21st December, 6pm-8.30pm
Kids Corner, Face Painting, Jumping Castle, Sausage Sizzle and drinks
BYO chairs and rugs. All welcome!

Urbanlife Holiday Kids Club
Kids in school Kindy to Years 6 in 2015 are welcome ‘BLASTOFF’ is on from 20th January to 23rd January. Full-day’s program, 9am-3pm. Games, craft, jumping castle, Zone and much more! $20 per day or $60 for the week.
Bookings essential through urbanlife.net.au, follow the links and register on line. OR phone our Children’s Pastors - Laura on 0425 230 239 or Meikle 0431 268 668.

Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

Dear Edith McNally

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN.

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC27248’

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC22804’

The ATO will continue working with teachers to educate students about tax and superannuation. The curriculum resource Tax, Super & You is a free, easy to use, online educational resource aligned to the school curriculum of each state and territory. This resource can be accessed at taxsuperandyou.gov.au

In the coming weeks we will provide more information by email on how students can apply for a TFN and the educational services we can provide. In the meantime if you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Regards

Steve Vesperman
Deputy Commissioner of Taxation