Principal’s Message
 Please be aware that there has been a student diagnosed with MEASLES. Multiple local medical practitioners have advised that measles have been reported to be an active concern in the Menai area. Everyone needs to be vigilant, aware of the early symptoms and implement isolation strategies if they appear. This is particularly important for unvaccinated and pregnant people. Please err on the side of caution and consult your doctor if concerned.

I am really excited by a package of amazing Creative and Performing Arts opportunities for Menai High School and COSETR’s students. I can only say “wow” and I suspect my sentiments will be echoed in Menai, Tharawal, Alfords Point, Bangor and Illawong primary schools as well as in all years in Menai High School. Relieving Head Teacher Mr Kelly has advised that -The Creative and Performing Arts faculty, at Menai High School, is aiming to enrich student-learning opportunities in the Creative Arts by implementing a new no cost partnership program with our primary partners. In 2014, three exciting workshops will occur enabling students, from feeder schools, to strengthen their technical skills in three key areas including Dance, Music and Visual Arts. Specialist teachers will deliver these workshops and students will learn alongside talented Year 9 elective students.

Dance Workshop—The two day workshop will enable 18 students to perform a choreography as a combined dance item at the MHS Creative and Performing Arts Concert, June 12.

Music Workshop—The Director of the Sutherland Shire Children’s Choir and Menai High School Choir, Natalie Woodcock, supported by accompanist Ruth Beeton will be providing a three-hour workshop to be performed at the MHS Creative and Performing Arts Concert, June 12.

Visual Arts—Combined Mural Workshop will enable 18 students to develop and refine their painting skills. Miss Jessica Almond and Mr Mitchell Kelly will deliver the two day workshop which will lead to a large-scale mural for permanent display at Menai High School.

Important—Principals and/or Stage 3 teachers, are requested to provide the school name, number of students attending and the name of the course by Thursday 10th April. Week 11, to Mitchell.kelly2@det.nsw.edu.au Please send the permission slip details to parents. The completed form needs to be returned to the MHS office by Friday 9th May, 2014.

If you want to serve your child and their learning well, ask to be shown their PLP—Personal Learning Plan on Moodle. If they can’t or show any reluctance it is a sure indicator that they have not finalized it for whatever reason. Contact their Year Adviser to find out who their mentor is so that they can give them a “nudge over the line” and make sure they actually have defined and clarified the four key questions which make up their goals, namely -

- Where am I now?
- Where should I be?
- How will I get there?
- How will I know when I get there?

PLP’s can make a big difference for your greatest asset, your child. It takes little time and pays an enormous dividend.

In the interests of planning for Year 10 Work Experience please note the proposed Work Experience dates for 2014—all Year 10 must find work experience placements for Weeks 9 and 10 Term 4 December 1-9 and December 8-12. Mr Gregory and Careers Adviser Mrs Brown will provide guidance, support and administrative guidelines to support parents and students booking up employers and experience opportunities.

Congratulations go to a number of students excelling in a variety of activities. Chris was selected to compete in the State Tennis Championships, Callum and Cayle were selected for the Sydney East Boys Basketball team, Emily, Aisha and Prudence successfully auditioned for the 2014 NSW Public Schools Year 10 Drama Ensemble, Jonathan was selected in the Sydney East Swimming team while Ben Lewis earned the praise of Rugby Union World. I received high commendation for Ben—“I am writing to congratulate you on the attitude and behaviour of Ben Lewis, one of your pupils, whom I recently had the pleasure of coaching during the recent ARU Junior Gold Cup. Ben showed great leadership and mateship throughout and was a credit to his family and your school. Ben was polite and respectful of the coaching staff, opposition and his team mates.” We all wish him well.

Last week, I acknowledged the Year 11 Leadership team for their work in organizing the Bandaged Bear Breakfast; they were fantastic. There were some other Year 11 students who also deserve recognition for their work, they include Loreena, Jacqueline, Bridget, Gabrielle, Marissa and Jack amongst a host of others.

Deputy Principal’s Message

The teachers and Support Administration Staff at Menai High School are a testament to our core values of Care and Commitment. Last week, a range of programs were delivered to extend and support your child’s education through the various expert teams who have driven whole school agendas or offered specialised programs to cater to the needs of every student at the school. Last week, Personalised Learning Plans program for Years 7-12 featured across the school and provided crucial time and teacher support to facilitate an education plan for every student. Students engaged well with their active participation into the process of developing their own academic goals and reflecting upon their future directions. Thanks to The PLP team, led by Mr Luke Meagher Head Teacher Administration for his inception and great leadership of the important program.

Similarly, the E-Dairy team has been working hard to ensure that students are utilizing the benefits of a three way system to communicate and plan for school work and in particular home work and assessments. Parents, Students and teachers will find this electronic tool expedient and accessible as we all become accustomed to its functionality and benefits.

The Bandage Bear breakfast held last Friday was a delight and especially to see a harmonious school community working together to raise money for such a worth-while cause. The students and staff organisation created an ambient and enjoyable atmosphere which culminated in a highly successful school event. Thanks to everyone who donated a gold coin on the day.

Specialised programs such as the Elite Talented Athletes program launch last Friday provided 40 of the school’s highest achieving athletes the opportunity to engage in expert talk from other elite athletes and to gain insight into a range of topics such as the importance of nutrition whilst performing at an elite level, nutrition and sports performance and training with talks schedule by physiotherapists later in the program. Thanks to Mr Cory Payne, Professional football player who retired two years ago and founder of the Future Direction Network (FDN) and Mr Paul Ambrose, a professional triathlete and attended Menai High School. Thanks to Mr Matt Robinson, Head Teacher, PDHPE for his inception and great leadership of another important program and to the Menai High School students who will become all the wiser from hearing these tremendous stories of sporting and educational success.

The ANZAC Day ceremony will be held first week back and I thank Mrs Lynne Kerr, Head Teacher HSIE and her team of students working on the special assembly. ANZAC Day holds great significance to Australia’s History and identity and to our school. I look forward to the day’s proceedings.

It has been an exciting start to the year for your child’s education and we continue to aim high and far at Menai High School toward achieving the best results in everything that we do. I take this opportunity to extend to all MHS families, students and staff my best wishes for a safe holiday and enjoyable break.

E SAYED-RICH
Welfare News!

Good News
Well done to Jessica, Georgia, Sam, Nick and Cameron from 8TAF for very good Cultural Food Tasks and research assignments.

Congratulations to Sarah, Rachel, Taylah, Alicia, Isabella, Jordan, Jordan, Jenny and Samantha for outstanding achievement in their first assessment task for Community and Family Studies.

Ms Wearing would like to congratulate Britney, Angelique, Nathan, Zachary, Albert, Sabrine and Stephanie for their excellent Preserved Human Remains Poster.

Sarah, Taegan, Zuriah and Dylan from 7E are to be congratulated for their outstanding Poster assignments and well done to Lia, Isabella, Sarah and Lauren for delivering outstanding speeches in Modern History.

The First Round of Vaccinations
Thanks to students in Years 7 and Year 9 for the smooth running of vaccinations that occurred on Monday. If your child was away on the day there will be catch up opportunities in the next round of vaccinations occurring during June. Information will follow closer to the date. If you have any concerns please read the information provided for you in the pack you received with the consent forms.

Year 10 Study Skills Day
Well done to all Year 10 students for their participation in the Study Skills day. The sessions were successful and many teachers commented on the positive attitude of all the students involved. These sessions are designed to help Year 10 students develop strong skills to enable them to study more effectively as they near the senior years of schooling students.

Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher, Welfare

School Cross Country
The school Cross Country Carnival will be held at school on Friday 2nd May, 2014. Year 7 and 8 students are allowed to wear sports uniform all day. Any Year 9-12 students who wish to participate must write their names down in the PE Staffroom by 30th April, 2014.

Period 1—Year 7
Period 2—Year 8
Period 3—Years 9-12

All asthmatics should ensure they have their puffer on the day.

K Newman, Sports Organiser

School Athletic Carnival
The Menai High School Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 6th May at The Ridge Athletics Track. Buses will leave from the front of the school at 8.15am sharp and return at 3.15pm. The cost will be $5 and is to be paid on the day. All permission notes must be returned to Roll Call teachers as soon as possible. Students who are making their own way to the track must be there by 9am and pay $2 on entry.

All students are encouraged to wear clothing that matches the colour of their sport house. No student will be allowed to leave the ground unless they are with a parent, or have a note from a parent which outlines the time they can leave and the specific details of how they are getting home.

K Newman, Sports Organiser

Dance
Miss Osborne would like to congratulate her Year 8 Dance class on their excellent efforts in their first assessment for Composition. She would also like to acknowledge Year 9 Dance on their extremely pleasing Performance and Composition Assessment Results. Both classes have been working exceptionally well to achieve their very best in Dance and their impressive results are showing this. Keep up the good work.

E Osborne

School Newsletter Goes Online
As of next term, Menai High’s school newsletter will be available electronically, either by email, a free App (School Enews) or by download from our school website.

To take advantage of the email service, parents will need to subscribe using the link on our website (www.menai.h.schools.nsw.edu.au) under the ‘Links & Emergencies’ tab. An email will be sent to your email address and you will need to click the ‘Activate Now’ link within this email.

The School Enews service also has the facility to post and email notes for the various year groups so you should tick the year groups your children are currently part of to receive/access these notes.

We would love every parent to receive our newsletter electronically as it would reduce photocopying costs, support our environmental initiatives, and be a more reliable form of delivery than our current student school bag option.

If, however, you do not have access to the Internet at work or home and would like your child to continue to bring home a hard copy of the newsletter each Monday, please contact the school (9543 7000) before the end of this term.

D Cooper

New Traffic Arrangements
Details of the new traffic arrangements are now available on the Menai High School website.

Staff Development Day
Term 2 Change of Date
As part of the ongoing initiatives of the Community of Schools Between the Rivers (COSBTR) a combined School Development Day has been scheduled for Monday 26th May 2014 (staff only day at school). This replaces the traditional School Development Day at the beginning of Term 2. Schools involved are Lucas Heights CS, Menai HS, Menai PS, Alfords Point PS and Tharawal PS. On this day (Monday 26th May) staff from involved schools will be taking an in depth look at English NAPLAN data from Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Staff will be identifying specific areas for improvement and sharing particular programs which are aimed at improving NAPLAN results. This initiative also supports COSBTR schools transition to high school programs. Please make note of this change in your diaries.

School resumes for Term 2 on Monday 28 April 2014. Students should be in attendance on this day.

Senior Seminar Program Schedule—10th April, 2014

Year 11

| Period 2 | Business Services, Design & Technology, English (Standard), ESL, Industrial Technology Timber/Auto, Information Technology, Legal Studies, Maths 2U |
| Period 4 | Legal Studies |
| All Day  | Primary Industries—Easter Show |

Important Dates & Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7/11</td>
<td>NSWCCHS Swimming: Year 12 Exams (all week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28/4</td>
<td>Day 1 Term 2—School resumes for all students and teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 9/5</td>
<td>Formal Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28/5</td>
<td>Staff Development Day—student free</td>
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