Relieving Principal’s Message

On Monday 26th May teachers from Lucas Heights Community School, Alford’s Point Primary, Menai Primary, and Tharawal Primary joined Menai High school staff for the school development day at Menai High. The focus of the day was writing and how to improve students writing. We had a guest speaker Ann Leaf who has an extensive background in education and literacy. Ann presented to the teachers data that resulted in the COSBTR developing a target and teaching strategies or improving writing across all schools in the COSBTR. A number of teachers from Menai High presented workshops on aspects of writing. I have received a number of positive emails from the other principals saying how enjoyable and worthwhile the workshops were for their teachers. Menai teachers who presented were Mr Mundy, Mr Meagher, Mrs Sayed-Rich, Mrs Summerfield, Ms De Mello, Mrs Hatzi, Mrs Bourke, Mr Kelly and Mr Robinson. Well done everyone. I also have a special thank you to Mr Hamilton our TSO for his assistance with technology. Having 180 teachers all using laptops etc. at the same time does pose issues that Mr Hamilton can resolve.

The SRC need to be congratulated for raising over $600 towards the funding of a school in a third world country. A very worthy cause.

Sport continues to bring very good results for Menai High. Next week will be a very busy week. The Girls Open Soccer team will be playing in the Regional final. Unfortunately the Boys Open team were beaten in the semi-finals. Our school athletics team will also be competing in the zone carnival. This team is a large team of over 100 students. Good luck to the students and staff involved.

E Diary is functioning and both teachers and students are using the diary to help keep organised. Thank you to parents who have provided messages to teachers. It is very important for parents to communicate with the school. But parents are reminded that the e diary messaging is more for homework and classwork issues and to allow 48 hours for a response . If a parent has concerns which are more complex please ring the school to have a conversation with the appropriate staff member or to book an appointment. Emails can also be sent to the school and will be passed onto the appropriate Head Teacher, Deputy, Year Adviser etc.

Year 12 reports were sent home last week with a copy of the student PLP. Please take the time to read the report and discuss with your child. It may be an opportunity to also adjust the PLP. I have also attached a flyer concerning a free Parent Information Evening “Where to…..after the HSC?” Details are: Tuesday 3rd June 6:30pm—8:30pm Registrations are limited UOW—Southern Sydney (Loftus) 1 Pitt St, Loftus—Room G06.

Deputy Principal’s Message

It was tremendous to see the large number of boys and girls receiving academic excellence awards at the assembly in Week 4. This is a testament to these students’ levels of achievement and the hard work and commitment they put into their study each day. I often use the analogy of the waterfall when explaining to students that a little each day spent on home study adds up to a lot just as every drop in a waterfall adds up to make something great. Our student performers continue to showcase their depth of talent and I commend Samantha Turpin in Year 11 for her dance performance and Natalie Panov and Maya Stemplein in Year 10 for their rendition of the National Anthem.

The staff from our community of schools attended a school development day held at Menai High School where we studied NAPLAN data and participated in stimulating sessions on teaching ideas and strategies for enhancing writing in the classroom. It was an important opportunity for primary and secondary teachers to analyse and discuss how to best move their students forward in their writing practice. I thank Mrs Raeleen Allen for her outstanding work in coordinating and preparing for the day and to all of the presenters for the workshop sessions for their hard work. The evaluations are extremely positive and reflect the successful outcomes achieved.

There is an abundance of exciting learning, leadership and sporting activities occurring across the school. It is currently assessment and examination time and I wish the students well in their tests and for the half yearly reports. All students should be utilising their Personal Learning Plans, E Diary and organisational tools in their planning and reflection as they commit to a home study routine each night. It is wonderful to see parents, teachers and students referring to the PLP’s and E Diary in our discussions at school and this shows a greater awareness of the programs that we offer to support your child’s learning management and success. If you have not registered, it is not too late. Please contact the school for further details on how to register as a parent for the E Diary.

As we move into the winter months, I ask that students are dressed in full school uniform at all times including the correct footwear. Menai High School has an attractive and versatile uniform for Boys and Girls and the uniform shop is open on Tuesdays and Fridays should you wish to purchase new uniform items. We have high standards and expectations of our students and all teaching staff reinforce these dress standards each day.

Next term, the school will host another study tour group from Vietnam. Any parent interested in hosting a two week stay is asked to contact Mrs Ferraro or Mrs Taylor at the school. Each student hosted attracts a $420 payment and families may host two students if they can accommodate them. There are 13 students requiring a homestay.

Finally, our SRC have been actively engaging the school community and lead a successful fundraiser held at the school where they raised $600 to be donated to a third world country to set up a school. They have raised awareness about the fact that we are indeed a lucky country and that many millions of children do not have the gift of education. I commend Sarah Willetts and Joshua Mendez for their leadership of this wonderful school event and Mrs Sue Summerfield for her work with the SRC. Please enjoy the fun photo of the fundraiser.

We are a community minded school that espouses the values of Care and Commitment. Our SRE group lead by Mrs Miekle Bennet our SRE Teacher, launched a successful initiative called Operation Christmas Child. This is another wonderful opportunity for the Menai High School Community and local high schools to contribute something relatively small to go into a gift box for a child living in a third world country such as pencils, notebooks, clothes or soap etc. (See information sheet sent home last week) which makes a difference and brings joy to the life a child that has very little material goods. Our students learn to gain “rewards” from the simple act of giving. Roll call classes are currently having a fun competition to see which classes contributes the most boxes and the winning roll class will be invited to a lunch time barbeque. Please find the link to this valuable initiative as follows: http://operationchristmaschild.org.au/

Your support is welcomed.
**Welfare News!**

**Good News**
Mrs Bessell would like to acknowledge the following students for their participation in the Global Leadership Conference run by World Visions: Alison Willetts, Vicki Milekovic, Maya Stempien, Chelsea Cooper, Byron Dempsey, Megan Shipp, Alex Shute, Josh Mendez, Joel Roberts and Sarah Willetts.

Well done to 7TAF1 and 7TAF3 from Ms Shales for your excellent final party practical.

**Year 9 Risk Taking Performance Payment Due**
The 'Risk Taking' performance is a compulsory activity for students in Year 9. It deals with how students can place themselves into situations of harm and how to recognise these situations and make decisions that will help them from becoming involved in situations that could lead to harm. The cost for the performance is $7 and the payment due date was last week. If you have not paid please do so as soon as possible. A note has been sent home with all students. If you have not yet received a note your child can collect one from Mrs Ferraro. It can also be located on the school website under Year 9.

**Renumbering of School Bus Service Effective Monday 2 June, 2014**
Afternoon Bus 963 to Bignell St, Illawong will be renumbered Bus 055. Please see attached revised Bus Timetable.

**Busabout**
Neville's Bus Service, operating as Busabout, wishes to advise you that from 1st June, 2014, Busabout will no longer operate regular route and school services in our area. All current services will in future be operated by Interline Bus Service. There will be no changes to school routes and timetables, however during the transition period: the livery of buses will be a mixture of Transport of NSW, Busabout and Interline colours. Therefore we strongly advise that students check the route number and destination signs to ensure they catch the correct school bus. Students are also advised to continue to use their regular bus pass.

Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher, Welfare

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**CHS Open Girls Softball**
Congratulations to Adalynn Cole, Michaela Fagnani, Georgia Foran, Georgia Gladwin, Jodie Bigeni, Alysha Haines, Bridget Waterworth, Carolyn Oberg and Nicoletta Renneberg who competed at the Regional Carnival defeating Wooolooware and Cronulla High Schools to make their way through to the State Finals in Newcastle next month.

D Cooper

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**Wellbeing Wisdom**

**Study Help**
It's often quite difficult for parents to assist their children with high school homework and study. Even if we have professional experience in the subject area, children can sometimes be hesitant to take parental advice when it comes to school (don’t feel bad, teachers’ own children do exactly the same thing). [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org) is an excellent, non-profit website which may help your child study and revise tricky concepts in science, maths and the humanities.

R. Hatzi and the Wellbeing Wisdom Team

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**SRE News**
Audacity’s - Operation Christmas Child is now up and running. We at Menai High along with our partnering Primary Schools and Youth Groups are aiming high in the completed box tally. We are asking our families to get involved as much as you can by supporting your children or putting together gift boxes yourselves. You can use any shoe box, approximately A4 size in dimension. Involving the whole family is a fun way to bring younger siblings or grandparent into supporting a great global mission. Visit [www.operationchristmaschild.org.au](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.au) if you are unsure of what you are to put in the box. If you would like to donate to the cause, place your donation in an envelope and leave it at the front office with Attention Mrs Bennett - Operation Christmas Child. The mission will run for the remainder of this term. SO LET'S GET INVOLVED as a whole community and make a difference in as many kids live as we can.

SRE classes are continuing to grow. If your child has recently joined a class Year 7 is journeying through the Youth Alpha Course and Year 8 is continuing with the 'Radical Life of Jesus'. Your children can join anytime. Simply return a signed permission note with your child and they are included. SRE is a brilliant class for exploring faith and life in an engaging and fun way. It is non denominational, so why not allow your kids to explore and challenge their own thinking. Thanks.

M Bennett

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**CHS Open Girls Football**
Congratulations to Kristen Agius, Nicole Besz, Alessandra Camporeale, Theodora Charalambous, Nicole Enriquez, Jasmin Grey, Brianna Griffin, Jessica Kissur, Nicki Lampropoulos, Marae Papanicolaou, Adrianna Prodromou, Millie Richards, Makayla Vandenberg, Alison Willetts, Scarlett Wynn and Alex Xirocostas on the 3-1 regular time win against Engadine High School in the Regional Semi Final (Round 3). Thank you to helpers Jake Coleman, Ryan Gardner, Adam Williamson and coach James Markovic. Thank you to all the parents for transport help and support of the team. The girls now play in the Regional Final on Monday 2nd June at Endeavour Sports High School.

P Constance

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**Senior Seminar Program Schedule — 5th June, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th></th>
<th>Subject Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Business Services, Design &amp; Technology, English (Standard), ESL, Industrial Technology (Timber/Auto) Information Technology, Legal Studies, Maths 2 Unit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year 11**

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**Important Dates & Coming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 2/6</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival, Science Competition Years 7-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9/6</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SCHOOL SPECIAL BUS SERVICES

**MENAI HIGH SCHOOL**

*(8.55 - 3.20)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUS NO.</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MORNING BUS ROUTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>080</td>
<td>8.05</td>
<td>From Inaburra School via Billa around loop (L) Bangaroo (L) Yala around loop (R) Menai, Old Illawarra to school <em>(arr 8.30)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>044</td>
<td>8.18</td>
<td>From opposite Menai Marketplace via Allison (L) Mina, Beumaris (L) Portmadoc, anticlockwise loop, Llanberis (R) Portmadoc loop (L) Allison (L) Menai (R) Dandarbourg <em>(8.33)</em> (R) ANZAC (L) Menai, Old Illawarra to school <em>(arr 8.42)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(963)</td>
<td>8.01</td>
<td>From Alford's Point via Brushwood loop, return Brushwood to school <em>(arr 8.25)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>8.15</td>
<td>From Hall Drive loop via Hall (L) Bradman (L) Monash <em>(8.25)</em> (L) Ferrier around loop clockwise (R) Monash (L) Old Illawarra to school <em>(arr 8.35)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>020</td>
<td>8.22</td>
<td>From Barden Ridge (Lucas Heights Community School) via (R) Old Illawarra (L) David <em>(southern entrance)</em> around David Rd (R) Old Illawarra (R) Marsden (L) Australia, Carter (L) Menai Rd, Old Illawarra Rd to school <em>(arr 8.40)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(963)</td>
<td>8.20</td>
<td>From Bignell Street via Fowler (L) Osprey (R) Wilbung (L) Moreton to school <em>(arr 8.35)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>073</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>From Padstow Station via Davies Rd &amp; Alford's Point Road, set down on Old Illawarra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(962)</td>
<td>7.36</td>
<td>From Bankstown Interchange via Chapel Rd &amp; Gibson Ave (Padstow Station 7.54 - connects with Route 927 bus from One Tree Point) then via Route 962 along Davies, Alford's Point Road (L) Fowler to Illawong Shops, then via Fowler (L) Osprey (R) Wilbung (L) Moreton to school.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUS NO.</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AFTERNOON BUS ROUTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(962)</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>To Menai Bus Depot via Old Illawarra Rd to Bus Depot only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(963)</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>To Alford's Point via (L) Coachwood (L) Brushwood around loop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>055</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>To Bignell Street via (L) Blaxland (R) Old Illawarra, Fowler to Bignell Street.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(962)</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>To Padstow &amp; Bankstown via Route 962 <em>(express from Osprey Drive to Alma Road)</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(962)</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>To Padstow &amp; Bankstown via Route 962 <em>(express from Osprey Drive to Alma Road)</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(963)</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>To Padstow Station via Alford's Pt Rd, Davies (L) Ryan (R) Padstow Pde (R) Howard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>007</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>To Padstow Station via Alford's Pt Rd (L) Alma (R) Faraday (L) Howard. <em>(This bus does not run on Thursdays)</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Connects at cnr Alma & Chamberlain with Route 927 bus to One Tree Point.*

| 021    | 3.40 | To Barden Ridge via Old Illawarra (R) Hall Menai Public School *(students for Hall Dr loop transfer to Bus 963)* then via Menai Marketplace and Carter Rd to Barden Ridge. |
| 064    | 3.40 | To Bangor *(First Stop Menai Park footbridge)* via Menai Rd (L) Billa around loop (L) Bangaroo (L) Yala around loop (L) Menai Rd (R) Geogoolo (L) Menai Rd. *(Connects at cnr ANZAC Rd & Menai Rd with Bus 111 to Portmadoc Dr and Beumaris Dr.)* |
| (962)  | 3.32 | To Sutherland via Old Illawarra, Menai Marketplace (L) Allison (L) Menai Rd, River Rd to Sutherland Station, continuing to Miranda. |

**Bus numbers in Brackets refer to Route service buses.**

*(L) = BUS TURNS LEFT  (R) = BUS TURNS RIGHT*
Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are pleased to inform you that we are making excellent progress in our implementation of the eDiary. Whilst new technology always involves a constant refining process, most features are up and running successfully and we are fine tuning any emerging issues.

The parent-teacher communication aspect of the eDiary is also now functional and we are working with the company to ensure all features of this are operating properly. We encourage you to use the eDiary to communicate with your child’s teachers, however, please only utilise the messaging system for general questions regarding homework/classwork and be mindful of the following guidelines:

- Allow staff a response time of up to 48 hours
- Use current school processes to inform the school of absences
- Welfare concerns should be directed to your child’s Year Adviser or the Head Teacher Welfare by phoning or emailing the school
- If you wish to discuss your child’s progress or any other issues that require a longer dialogue, please phone the school to schedule an appointment

The eDiary offers the unique opportunity to be more actively involved in your child’s education and we strongly encourage you to be involved with this program. If you haven’t already done so, email us at menai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au with your email, first name, last name and child’s email(s). You will be sent an invitation and just follow the prompts to join! Please contact Mr Chiswell on the school email if you have registered but have not received your email invitation. Also feel free to contact Mrs Hatzi or Mr Kelly if you have any questions/concerns.

Thank you to all those parents who have already registered. We look forward to finalising our eDiary!

Mrs Hatzi/Mr Kelly

eDiary Co-ordinators

Mrs Allen

Relieving Principal
Parent Information Evening
Where to.....after the HSC?
Confused about Uni, TAFE,

College?
...have all your questions answered in one place!

Tuesday 3rd June 6.30-8.30pm
UOW—Southern Sydney (Loftus)
1 Pitt St, Loftus—Room G06
Registrations are limited—go to http://tinyurl.com/wheretoafterthehsc

Find out about the different educational pathways that your teenager can access to ensure future success. Representatives from:

- University of Wollongong—Southern Sydney,
- Sydney TAFE—Sutherland College,
- St George and Sutherland Community College

will be in attendance on the night to speak to you and answer your questions.

Also, headspace Miranda will be doing a presentation on “Tips on how to cope with exam pressure’.

Public Dental Service

FREE Dental Care for Children

All children under 18 years old are eligible for FREE DENTAL CARE at NSW Public Oral Health Clinics. NSW Health recommends that all children have a dental check-up. Toothache can cause children to miss school. Pain can stop children playing, eating and sleeping. To make an appointment, contact: your family dentist or phone the Public Dental Service on 9293 3333.