Principal’s Message

I was delighted to see the large number of parents purchasing the school wet weather jacket last week. I despair at the number of wet, cold kids who have no rain protection, walking to school in absolutely bucketing rain last week. At $18 this almost weightless plain black spray jacket stores in its own pocket and fits into virtually nothing. It is unhealthy, unpleasant and does not support learning to arrive at class drenched. I encourage parents to buy the cover-all jacket and put it in your child’s bag without argument.

Please be reminded that the staff car park is for staff only and should not be used for drop-offs or by anyone other than staff.

Congratulations go to Maddison Boyling, Adam Engeler and Adam Ogden who have been selected to represent Sydney East in the NSWCHSSA Athletics competition in early September. We wish them well.

Menai High School requires all students to bring their own personal technology device to school every day. All staff have a benchmark performance target of students using their laptop or tablet in at least 60% of all lessons. DELL is our technology partner and we need students to have one of the DELL options as their technology device. This ensures easy access and technical support at both the school and systems level. It allows easy classroom management of learning for teachers. Devices can be ordered via our Menai High School DELL Technology Shop which can be found on our website via the ‘Personal Technology Devices’ heading under ‘Our School’. Parents should only purchase DELL products from this range.

DELL is providing not only well priced products but are also providing some of the best professional learning to our staff free. It is a good partnership that serves everyone well. Our data is also showing us that less than 40% of parents are registered with ediyari. If you are not registered you are not serving your son or daughter as well as you could were you to have access to their home study requirements and teachers. If there exists a problem preventing your registration please contact Mrs Hatzi or Mr Kelly at school or alternatively myediary.com.au supports direct parent requests for assistance.

All Year 10 students receiving any form of learning support will meet with their teacher mentors in order to follow-up on their subject selections for 2015. Students will do their best when their curriculum package is appropriate and meets their needs. Parents should feel free to contact the Learning Support Team if they have any concerns. Menai High School has a fantastic Careers Newsletter and Careers website. The latest Careers Newsletter focussed on the University application process and early entry schemes. Parents can contact Careers Advisers Mrs Brown and Mr Gregory if they wish to discuss any issues about their child’s pathway from school to work.

“Colonel Chris Hadfield is one of the most famous astronauts on Earth. Through the creative use of social media, he’s making space exciting and accessible to new generations of enthusiasts, most notably through his performance of David Bowie’s Space Oddity while on board the International Space Station.” Very recently he was interviewed by Dr Alice Gorman from Flinders University. It takes just under 22 minutes to play. http://theconversation.com/in-conversation-with-astronaut-chris-hadfield-30032. I found it a fascinating interview—incidently, early on he describes in striking detail what Australia looks like from space. I think that many parents and families will find this engrossing.

A parent has requested that I remind everyone about the need for safe driving near the crossing near the Fire Station on Old Illawarra Road. I have had numerous reports of near misses by drivers who appear to pay little attention to the pedestrian crossing.

Deputy Principal’s Message

The Year 12 students studying Industrial Technology Timber and Auto, Design and Technology and Visual Arts have produced quality major works that have been a culmination of four terms of hard work and dedication. These spectacular works are currently on display in the community hall and I wish the students the best of luck for the marking of their major projects. Similarly, the Year 12 Drama, Music and Dance students have recently completed their major HSC performances and other subject areas also have major projects such as the Personal Interest Projects (PIP) in Society and Culture and major works in HSC subjects such as Extension 2 English and Community and Family Studies. Year 12 teachers are to be commended on their commitment and care of their students and on the hard work they have put in with their Year 12 classes. As the trial examinations are over, I remind parents that the lead up to the exams is an important time for students to attend all of their classes each day and maintain a balanced routine with study and other commitments. Our school website has useful information about stress management and upcoming HSC lectures at Sutherland Library. I wish all Year 12 students the best outcomes in all of their subject and in their final preparations and in the lead up the HSC next term.

Year 11 Society and Culture attended a cultural exchange at Fairfield High School last week and enjoyed their annual Multicultural Day celebrations. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience different cultural activities such as the flag ceremony, dance and music performances from around the world.

The SRC students raised awareness at last Friday’s assembly of Mental Health and focussed on ways to access support and help within the school and organisations outside the school such as Head Space and Beyond Blue.

Year 11 leadership team participated in the school captain speeches for 2015 and delivered a high calibre of speeches to the whole school. I look forward to the announcements for School Captains and Vice Captains on Monday, 25th August, 2014.

National Science week was celebrated on assembly on Friday with a focus on past, present and future trends in Science. Well done to the Year 10 group of presenters and to Mr K Scott Head Teacher Science.

Our next Academic Effort Assembly is on the 29th August, 2014. I look forward to acknowledging students who continue to strive to excel in their studies and schooling.
**Welfare News!**

Another great week of student achievement.

**Good News**
Mrs Scevity would like to congratulate the following students from her 7I class, **Sarah Burrows, Chloe Lam, Annelise Faust, William Daley, Lauren Lamotta, Alyssa Oliver and Priyale Singh** for their fantastic castle designs based on fact and imagination.

Ms Safarik would like to acknowledge **Isabella Miletich and Hannah Banks** from Year 9 for working well in Science and completing an excellent ‘Sea level Rise’ report. **William Whiston** of Year 8 is also congratulated for his attentive and focused attitude to his work.

Well done from Miss Loh to her **8E class** for their excellent homework assignment on Healthy Science Nutrition.

**Year 11 Captains Speeches**
A big congratulations to all of the Year 11 leadership team for their excellent speeches at assembly last week. They were entertaining and well presented and kept everyone engaged. I wish you all the best as you await the results of the election.

**Student Voice  Student Leadership Meeting**
Well done to **Zachary Adamson, Jordan Macbeth and Alexandra Shute** for representing Menai High School and the SRC at the Student Voice student leadership meeting held at Gymea Technology High School on Monday 18 August. They networked with students from other schools and shared various ideas and strategies being initiated by the SRC at Menai.

Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher Welfare

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**Wellbeing Wisdom**

**Study Skills**
Term 3 is well and truly underway which means that Year 11 Yearly Exams are looming and the junior and HSC exams are occurring next term. This is the perfect time to remind our students that practicing effective study habits is crucial to achieving success in school.

As exams approach, it is expected that all students will be preparing for them in addition to their normal homework requirements. Students need to engage in active study and not simply read through their notes. This may be in the form of making a set of study notes for each subject by pulling out the key concepts from their book work, preparing mock exams for themselves, making flashcards for key terms and definitions or by involving parents to test them on what they’ve learnt. The NSW Department of Education website is a great place to start for ideas on study and exam techniques: [http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/students/high-school/assignments-and-study](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/students/high-school/assignments-and-study)

The Wellbeing Wisdom Team

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**Menai High School/Daylight Schoolwear**
This year's 20% off sale will be held in the last 2 weeks of Term 3 2014 in normal shop hours—Tuesday 9th, Friday 12th, Tuesday 16th and Friday 19th September. The sale includes all items except woollen jumpers, blazers or any special orders. Sale is only for stock that is in the shop and there will be no refunds or exchanges.

Thank you

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**Cows Career**
The Cows Career was great fun spread out during three weeks—the cows left on Friday 15th August. We had to get the calves off bottles and onto buckets. It was a success, they are on buckets and drinking all by themselves. We also had to take them for little walks around the farm and provide fresh clean water and 500 grams of food each day.

Dylan Roth, Year 7

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**Senior Seminar Program Schedule—— 28th August, 2014**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period 2</strong></td>
<td>Business Services, Design &amp; Technology, English (Standard), ESL, Industrial Technology (Timber/Auto), Information Technology, Math 2 Unit, PDHPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period 4</strong></td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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**A BIG THANK YOU**
The Homework Club wish to send a BIG THANK YOU to **Mrs Codmani** who sent in lots of yummy afternoon tea for all the students last Tuesday afternoon.

D Cooper, Head Teacher

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**School Chaplain**
The federal government funding for our Chaplain, Elizabeth Ramsay, ends this year. If you would like to contribute to funding her continued service at Menai High School go to mychaplain at www.generate.org.au.

All contributions are tax deductible.

E McNally

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BE YOUUnique
Sutherland Shire Healthy Minds
Seminar & Expo 2014

‘To hear a range of Younique talks on mental health topics and learn about services in Sutherland Shire’

SPEAKERS
Peter Slattery – Resilience & Self-esteem
Local School Presentations – Projects on Mental Health
John Goodwin – Personal Story
Toni Garretty – Families & Carers
Sutherland Community MH – Acute Care Services
Andrew McClelland – Mind/Body Wellness
Beate Zanner – Holding Suicide
Fay Jackson – Personal Story
Black Dog Institute – Breaking Down Depression & Building Resilience

Information stalls of services in Sutherland Shire | Entertainment | Laughter Yoga | Refreshments provided