Menai High School

Parent Newsletter

Issue 19 Published Weekly 22nd June, 2015 Week 10B

Principal’s Message

As always the Year 7 morning teas were a great success and a great source of joy and pride for parents, grandparents, students and teachers. For everyone’s delight I am sharing just one of many notes and emails acknowledging the great joy and cultural health that abounds in our school.

“As a grandfather I was invited by my granddaughter to 7H’s morning tea for which she was the hostess. My husband and I thoroughly enjoyed the morning and all the students were well behaved and demonstrated their skills and knowledge with a certain degree of confidence. Obviously I am unaware if each class followed a similar format but their presentation certainly covered all learning areas especially Science and History. We enjoyed the work display as well. Unfortunately my calculator skills left much to be desired but I probably wasn’t alone. In closing I wish to thank you for this great initiative which was informative and entertaining (and the cake was good too). Great public relations for the school. Congratulations!”

Despite the overwhelming goodness we all enjoy we still continue to face some really significant challenges and I am going to focus on two which would benefit from ongoing school and family discussion and direction. In particular:

1. Last week I suspended two students for aggressive behavior and fighting. At Menai nothing makes violence acceptable or justifiable. Anyone involved in violence, even as a response to provocation and attack, will be suspended until they acknowledge that violence never solves problems and that they must exercise the many non violent conflict resolution strategies available in our school.

I also suspended another student for persistent disobedience. I will never accept behaviours that prevent other students from learning and teachers from teaching. These suspensions give students and their families time to reflect on their choices and change their behaviour.

2. I have received multiple letters of concern from parents, council and the bus company about dangerous behavior on the RED BUSES. These buses are not supervised by teachers. Entry to the school buses departing from the front of the school are supervised, organized and safe. I do not have the authority to exercise this outside the school. Families need to seriously consider which bus service they and their children use. The bus company has complained that some students behaviours are dangerous particularly when they surge the entries and improperly press the emergency buttons. These are all bus company and/or police issues which should concern us all. I have repeatedly requested some safety fencing to manage Red Bus entry but my requests have been rejected to date. Your children need your action in that the school cannot directly supervise multiple buses. As a safety warning I would recommend only using the school bus service or contacting Police or Transdev if concerned.

Next week we celebrate Refugee Week with a massive program organized by Mrs Sayed-Rich and Mikhail Kallon which will see Year 10 students from six shire high schools come to Menai High School to learn about the Refugee Experience in our interactive refugee camp which will be set up all week in the central quad. When families come for parent teacher night they should take a look at this great initiative and opportunity. Kogarah Council is also running a great Refugee Week event on June 27 in the Kogarah library from 11.30am-3.30pm. This event will feature a screening of the movie “The Good Life” with Reece Wotherspoon, a simulated Refugee Camp as well as special guest speaker ex Menai student Abu Turay, who will be reflecting on his amazing meeting with Malcolm Fraser when our ex Prime Minister was still alive. This is a great opportunity and great reflection of the potential for good association with both refugees coming to Australia and Menai High School’s capacity to nurture the best in every student.

Last week Ms De Mello and her fabulous basketballers including Maddeline Norris, Taylor Nisbet, Renee Mihaere, Olivia Cooper, Halle Hiasia, Mya Davis and Crystal Li competed in the final 8 for the 2015 NSWCHS Basketball title in Terrigal. They came 7th and it confirms that they are the “wonderful people who give their all” that we have always known them to be.

I would also like to thank Elle Whitfield and Andie Anastopoulos of Year 11 for their administrative support for theYear 8 PBL Project.

E McNally

Deputy Principal’s Message

Parent/Teacher Night Year 7, 10 and 12 Tuesday 23rd June

It is wonderful to see how many parents have booked in for parent teacher interviews on Tuesday night. The evening starts at 4pm and finishes at 7pm in the school hall. This is a very important event, parents and teachers come together to discuss the progress and how both can support the learning of your child. Please ensure you access your schedule. All changes should have been made by now. The evening will be busy and each interview will be a 5 minute interview. We look forward to seeing everyone at the parent teacher night.

We have a wonderful culture here at Menai and it was demonstrated again on Friday with the Year 12 production. This event not only allows students to showcase talents the school may not have seen before but it also provides a great platform for the students to bond as a year group, solve problems, demonstrate team work, cooperation, creativity and resilience. It also shows the respect our students display, towards each other and the teachers. Many acts on Friday had teachers as members of the acts performing in partnership with the students. This activity really does display the qualities connected to our Menai High Exit outcomes.

Year 10 and 8 will receive a letter this week concerning the subject selection information evening for 2016. The night will be held on the first Wednesday of Term 3, July 15th starting at 6pm. An information booklet will also be emailed to all Year 10 and Year 8 students this week so families can discuss the information during the holidays. The booklets will also be uploaded to ediary and the school website.

The staff will be running a school development day on Monday 13th July, the first day back of Term 3. The focus of staff learning will be technology and also further work on the school development framework.

I wish everyone a safe and productive break and look forward to working with everyone in term 3.

R Allen

IMPORTANT DATES & COMING EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13/7</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14/7</td>
<td>All students return</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15/7</td>
<td>Years 8 &amp; 10 Subject Selection Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 17/7</td>
<td>NSWCHS Cross Country</td>
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Welfare News!

Good News
Ms Hamilton would like to acknowledge the Year 9 netball team, Renee Alilaha, Mikalee Clark, Charli Gault, Tiani Holmewood, Clare Shooter, Taylah Stokes, Chelsea Tasker and Ruby Van Steinburg for their sportsmanship, teamwork and cool play under pressure. Well done girls.

Congratulations to Claudia Kabic, Elena Tsakalis and Emily Davenport for your excellent results in the textiles Technology half yearly exam from Mrs Kendrick.

Mrs Shales, Mr Oste and Mr Chalson would like to commend 7IA3 and 8IA3 Technology for their excellent effort with assignments.

Ms Wearing would like to acknowledge the following students. To Piper Milliss, Kurt Haines and Louise Wise from 10History5 for excellent revision for the Half Yearly exam. To Jude Mendez, Laura Umansky-Zamora, Koby Roberts, Sophie Senn, Ben Werner, Noah Barnett, Joshua Thomas-Altken, Jessica Mendez, Zach Spiros, Lauren Mitchell, Jackson Pollock and Lucy Chen in 7S for great Ancient Egyptian Newspaper assignments. To Lauren Jerrett, Kristy Kirovski, Hana Soofi, eden Mcshefferey and Zena Kassir in 9History5 for excellent results in the half yearly exam, and to Lauren Jerrett and Zena Kassir for excellent revision for the half yearly exam.

Great work everyone.

Vaccinations
Any students who missed their vaccinations in Year 7 on Monday will continue with their vaccinations on November 16th when the third round of vaccinations will occur. Any doses missed this year will be made up next year.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Y Mazoudier, Head Teacher Welfare

Year 10 work Experience
Reminder - you should be actively seeking work experience venues over the school holidays. Work Experience is mandatory and is scheduled from 30th November until 11th December. Students are to see Mrs Brown if they require additional forms.

J Brown, VET Head Teacher/Careers Adviser

Amazing Cultural Experience – Host Families Needed
MHS has been offered another fabulous opportunity to host international students from Indonesia from 31st August to the 12th September 2015. We are looking for Menai High School families or other families in the community, to host one or more of these students. These students have excellent English language skills and come from Lobschool Kebayoran in Indonesia which is ranked highly for its academic success. For more information regarding the visit or an application form to act as a host family, please contact Mrs Taylor in the office or Mrs Ferraro in LOTE.

L Ferraro, Coordinator

Mathematics Competition
The Mathematics Competition will be held on Tuesday 11th August, 2015 for Years 7 to 12. Entry is $9.00 payable (in an envelope) at the Front Office by 19th June, 2015.

G Low/C O’Donnell, ICAS Coordinators

Open Women’s Basketball
The 2015 MHS Open Women’s Basketball made it to the top 8 NSW CHS championship. We came 7th and had a terrific tournament. We won two games and lost two games and defeated a top 4 ranked team along the way. This tournament capped off a remarkable Open Women’s Basketball season, best ever. I was so proud of the girls, who played in the spirit of the game and have been so successful. I would like to thank all parents who supported the trip especially the mums who came away with the team. (Melinda Nisbet, Kelly Davies and Lyn Crockett).

Congratulations to all players, Maddeline Norris, Taylor Nisbet, Renee Mihaere, Olivia Cooper, Halle Hlasiak, Mya Davis, Crystal Li and Clare Murray who was a huge part of helping win the Sydney East competition, however was injured for this tournament. A special congratulations to Taylor Nisbet who had made the Sydney East team this year and Maddeline Norris who has been simply outstanding this season. Maddeline Norris made the Sydney East, NSW CHS and Under 18 NSW State basketball team. Maddeline was a scoring machine and against Narrandera she scored 47 points.

S De Mello, Coach

Gifted & Talented Corner
Congratulations to our Paper Plane Qualifiers who will now represent our school at the University of Sydney Open Day in August!
A reminder about our new -

Astrophotography Club
Tuesdays 5.00-6.30pm; Lab 3 (Term 2, Week 10 - Term 3, Week 5)

A Hanna

CALLING FOR SUTHERLAND SHIRE HOST FAMILIES
The Sutherland Shire—Chuo (Tokyo, Japan) Sister City Student Exchange program is celebrating 24 years this year. In 2015, to continue this great initiative, the Sutherland Shire—Chuo City Sister City Association is calling for Shire-based families with high school students to:

EITHER host Japanese students for 8 NIGHTS FROM FRIDAY 24TH JULY 2015
Experience Japanese culture without even leaving home? Have fun and share laughter, stories and Australian life?
AND/OR travel on a fully escorted student tour of Japan in September/October 2015
17 days exploring unique Japanese experiences
* Tokyo Disneyland * Japanese family Homestay *Experience school in Japan *Ride the bullet train (Shinkansen) to Kyoto
*Stay in traditional accommodation *Volunteer in rural Japan
*Cultural activities such as Martial arts/Calligraphy/Taiko drumming

JAPANESE LANGUAGE SKILLS NOT A REQUIREMENT
For more details about this program: www.sutherlandshire-japanstudentprogram.com sutherland.chuo@gmail.com

Senior Seminar Program Schedule— Week 10, Term 2, 2015

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<th>Monday Period 3</th>
<th>2U Maths, ESL, Hospitality, Society &amp; Culture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Period 3</td>
<td>Ancient History, Drama, General Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Period 3</td>
<td>Biology, Extension 1 Maths, Hospitality</td>
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Monday Period 3 | 2U Maths, ESL, Hospitality, Society & Culture
Tuesday, Period 3 | Ancient History, Drama, General Maths
Wednesday, Period 3 | Biology, Extension 1 Maths, Hospitality
On our Home page you will find a copy of our latest parent newsletter, a calendar of school events, a list of important upcoming events and latest news items.

Under the Our school tab you will find our Annual School Report, school uniform information, a copy of our Welfare & Discipline policy, and a list of executive staff and year advisers.

Under Curriculum & Activities you will find information on all the subjects offered and teaching & learning programs available at Menai High.

Caring for Students provides information on support available to students and their families as well as information on our Awards scheme.

Under the School years tab you will find links to resources for each scholastic year level including year timetables, bell times and copies of notes and handouts issued to students.

Under the Moodle & other links tab you will find links to Menai High's online learning platform – Moodle, as well as links to the school's Facebook page, the school's Careers webpage and other important sites.

MHS MOODLE – HOW TO ACCESS WORK WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

After logging on, scroll down to 'Course Categories' on the left hand side of the home page. Select a faculty, e.g. English. Underneath the sub-categories box there will be links to Stage 4, Stage 5 and Stage 6 Support. Select the appropriate stage and click on 'Enrol me'. Follow the instructions on the page.

Students' Moodle usernames are their Portal username, e.g. david.cortez and their password is their portal password.
ROBO CAMPS
June/July
Holidays

Dates now available!
RoboCamps
by FIRST® Australia
@ Macquarie University

Beginner
June 29
School Years K-2
June 30 – July 1
School Years 3-7

Intermediate
July 2-3
School Years 3-7
July 6-8
School Years 8-12

Advanced
July 8 - 10
School Years 7 - 12

A robotics holiday program for school years K-12

FIRSTAustralia.org/robocamps

Bogan Bingo
ITS BINGO
Bates Drive School

$30 per head includes nibbles but the fun is free!
Table of 10 or we can place you on a
table where you can make new friends!

Dress like a bogan with prizes for best or worst dressed.
There will be lots of games and raffles, bring your money and
win some prizes.

Tickets available from Bates Drive School: 9521 6049

WHERE
Kareela Golf Club, Kareela

WHEN
Friday 16th October, 2015
7pm for 8.15pm start

TIME
WWW.BOGANBINGO.COM
Discover real value...

"With hundreds of offers to choose from, we've enjoyed more than $1,000 of value in just one year!"

"I love my Digital Membership! Now I always have my entertainment offers with me, wherever I go."

Menai High School is fundraising for our Agriculture Department with the Entertainment Book! With thousands of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers, here's a taste of what's in it for you:

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<tr>
<th>75+ OFFERS!</th>
<th>100+ OFFERS!</th>
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Menai High School Agriculture Department will receive $14 for every membership sold, so order yours today!

Menai High School
Contact: Mr Michael Boyd
Email: michael.c.boyd@det.nsw.edu.au

To order your Book or your Digital Membership visit [www.entbook.com.au/2026q65](http://www.entbook.com.au/2026q65) or complete your details below:

Name: 
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Email: 

Address: 
State: 
Postcode: 

Sydney and Sydney North: $70 including GST: 
Sydney Greater West: $65 including GST: 

Bank(s)  Digital Membership(s): $______
Bank(s)  Digital Membership(s): $______

Payment type: [ ] CASH  [ ] VISA  [ ] MASTERCARD  [ ] Post my order $10.50 TOTAL ENCLOSED $______

Credit Card number: ___________ Expiry date: ______/______ CVV:

Cardholder's name: ____________________ Signature: ____________________

Membership are selling fast and will run out soon, so order yours today!