Calendar Events

Week 7
Monday November 17  P&C Meeting 7-30pm
Friday November 21  Year 12 Formal

Week 8
Monday November 24  Year 10 Work Experience
Wednesday November 26  Art Exhibition
Thursday November 27  Art Exhibition
Friday 28 November  Art Exhibition

Week 9
Monday December 1  P&C Christmas Party
Wednesday December 3  Year 7 Orientation Day
Thursday December 4  Semester Awards Yr7-11

Week 10
Monday December 8  Presentation Night 7pm

Week 11
Wednesday December 17  Last day for Students – Yrs 7-11

Recipients of PBL Raffle Draw

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>WK/TERM</th>
<th>PRIZE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Esaid</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>$15 Rebel Sport Voucher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron D’Onofrio</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>$10 Canteen Voucher</td>
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<td>William George</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>$25 Event Movie Pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tasnova Shafi</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>$20 JB HiFi Voucher</td>
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<td>Sandeepa Mallikage</td>
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<td>$10 iTunes Voucher</td>
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<td>Julia Cheng</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5/4</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Appiah</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6/4</td>
<td>$20 JB HiFi Voucher</td>
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<td>Alex Seiuli</td>
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From the Principal

Once again Macquarie Fields High School staff and students have been recognised for their outstanding efforts across a range of endeavours. Firstly, I would like to congratulate Evita Tran, on receiving the Victor Chang Award by the Victor Chang Institute. I was privileged to attend the award presentation with Evita and her family and so proud of her achievements in Science. Well done, Evita!

Several staff members were recognised recently for their commitment to teaching and to Public Education. The Come Together Awards were presented at a beautiful event held on Tuesday 4 November at Sydney Town hall and it was a special event with family and friends sharing in the celebrations. Longstanding member of staff and Relieving Head Teacher Social Science, Mr Perry Celestino received an award for a teacher in an Executive role, Mr Adam Baker, also from Social Science was recognised for excellence in classroom teaching and Mrs Jasmine Brooker, from our Administration staff received an award for her outstanding work. I would also like to congratulate Mrs Marika Livanis, our P&C President, for her outstanding contribution to the school’s P&C Association over several years and

**PARENTS PLEASE NOTE**

**Students absent from school**

Where a student is absent from school, a note explaining the absence must be received by the school within 7 school days. Where a note is not received the absence will be recorded as unjustified. This cannot legally be changed should a note be received after 7 days. Absences both justified and unjustified are recorded on school reports.
thank her for her commitment and dedication to our school. Mrs Livani was also recognised at the awards ceremony for her contribution to the life of the school and her community involvement through the P&C. We were also well represented in the entertainment for the evening, with Caitlyn Ryan and Lauren Weblin dancing as part of the Shining Stars Ensemble. I am also very pleased to say that I also received a Principal’s Award for my commitment to Public Education. I would like to thank the staff and students of Macquarie Fields HS for their support of my in my work. I honestly cannot do my job without the support of the students, staff and members of the parent and wider community. We can genuinely say that Macquarie Fields HS is an award winning school, with award winning staff and students! Well done, all!

Are you In the Picture?
I hope you are able to join us for our annual art exhibition, In the Picture. The opening of the exhibition is Wednesday 26 November at 6pm, with light refreshments provided. The CAPA Faculty and our students have been working very hard to get the exhibition together and I know it will be thought provoking and interesting.

2014 Ensembles Concert
This evening will showcase our Concert Band, the Dance Ensemble, Drama Ensemble, String Ensemble and the Vocal Ensemble and will be held on Tuesday 2 December at 6.30pm in our hall. Light refreshments will again be provided. I hope you can join us for a night of wonderful entertainment.

We are very fortunate that we have such a dedicated team of teachers in the CAPA Faculty, led by Mrs Heather Costa and I would like to thank all of the team for their dedication and commitment. These capable professionals rehearse with the students before school and at lunchtimes on a regular basis and many hours go into making these ensembles the first rate performance teams that they are. Congratulations also to the many students who freely give up their lunch times and before school times to rehearse with the various ensembles.

Semester Awards and Presentation Night
It is that time of the year where we recognise the achievements of our students within the school. At Macquarie Fields, we do this through both our Semester awards, which will be held on December 4 and Presentation Night which will be held on December 8. Invitations to these functions will be given to the students shortly and I look forward to sharing the success of our students with you at these events.

End of Year procedures
The end of the year is fast approaching and I would like to remind you that students are expected at school each day until the end of the year (Wednesday 17 December). If your child is absent from school prior to this time and you have not notified us that your child requires their place at this school in 2015, it may not be possible to hold their place if we do not have this information. Please secure your child's place at this school by applying for an exemption from attendance at school and writing a letter stating the date of return and that you would like us to maintain your child’s place at Macquarie Fields High School.

There will be one more Newsletter before the end of the year which will contain further information about the return to school for 2015. Please keep an eye out for this important news.

We have many events coming up in the next few weeks and I look forward to your joining us to celebrate your child’s success, whether it be academic, musical or artistic expertise. I extend congratulations to all students who will be recognised for their endeavours over the next few weeks.

Mrs J Dolstra
Principal
Creative and Performing Arts Faculty

The Creative and Performing Arts Faculty have had an exciting and busy year in 2014. Firstly I would like to thank all the staff, Mrs Heather Davidson, Mrs Amanda Langley, Mrs Lisa McDermott, Mrs Karen Metcalfe and Miss Minh Thi Tran who have worked tirelessly to provide outstanding learning opportunities within the classroom and in extra curricula activities.

String Ensemble
Miss Tran was appointed to Macquarie Fields as a targeted graduate at the start of 2014. She is a talented violinist who was keen to start a string program at the school. Students immediately responded and were very excited to be able to participate. With the support our wonderful P & C we were able to purchase new violins for students who wanted to learn. Her expert tutoring has allowed these students the opportunity to learn an instrument. In addition she has an advanced group of students who have had prior lessons and own their own instrument.

The String ensemble has had a number of performance opportunities including the School Administrative Manager’s Conference at Liverpool Catholic Club, Semester Awards and at Macarthur Square as a part of our schools presentation for Education Week.

Variety Night
Variety Night was held at the end of Term 2. The night was a huge success. Performers from all year groups were involved in dance items, bands and individual artists. Even the CAPA staff had some fun with their performance on the night. Many staff were on hand to support on the night. We look forward to continuing the tradition in 2015.

School Administrative Manager’s Conference
In term two students were given the opportunity to perform for the SAM Conference at the Liverpool Catholic Club. The advanced string ensemble performed with Miss Tran and two of our Year 12 students Sadia Khan and Alvin Soh also performed. The performances were very well received and we look forward to taking up the opportunity next year.

Zoo Excursion
At the start of Term 2 Year 7 went to Taronga Park Zoo!! They had activities to complete and data to collect so that when they returned to the Art classroom they were ready to create!! Students travelled on air-conditioned coaches and spent the day in small groups looking at various exhibits. Our students were wonderfully behaved and really enjoyed the opportunity to explore one of Sydney’s most popular landmarks!
World’s Biggest Classroom

The World’s Biggest Classroom is held in conjunction with the Schools Spectacular. Student work from many schools is displayed around the Sydney CBD and at suburban train stations such as Liverpool. Student works are also placed on display at the Entertainment Centre as a part of celebrations for Schools Spectacular. The year’s theme is ‘Australia’. All our art teachers selected works that represent Australia and submitted them to be a part of this year’s World’s Biggest Classroom. Congratulations to all the students who had work entered this year.
**Concert Band**

The concert band has continued to grow and develop throughout this year. Many of our students are increasing their proficiency on their instrument and Tuesday morning rehearsals have seen us increase our repertoire. Earlier this year the Camden/Campbelltown City Day Band (The Daytones) came and spent the best part of a day in a workshop with our students. This culminated in a concert for Year 7. Our concert band played with the Daytones and then they performed alone and conducted instrument demonstrations. We hope to continue our relationship with the Daytones in the future.

The opportunity for our students to work with this ensemble made up mostly of people who have retired, including a number of former teachers, was a significant link we would like to keep with our community.
The band also performed at Celebration Day and we look forward to joining with the String Ensemble to perform the National Anthem at Semester Awards and Presentation Evening later this term!!

Choir – Music Count Us In
Music – Count Us In is a national initiative to heighten the community’s awareness of the importance of Music Education. Right across the whole of Australia students come together at the same time on the same day to perform the same piece. This year the vocal ensemble took part at Tumbalong Park at Darling Harbour. There were celebrities such as John Foreman, Casey Donovan and Sam, the former yellow Wiggle. As you can see from the photos our students had a wonderful experience and enjoyed themselves spreading the good word about the importance of Music in Education.

Lunch Time Concerts
The lunch time concert was introduced by Miss Tran this year. This was an opportunity for students to perform in front of their peers. Students from all classes were able to perform from elective classes and Year 7 and 8. We look forward to more Lunch Time concerts in 2015.

Education Week - The ‘Pop Up’ classroom
Students from Visual Arts along with Mrs McDermott had art lessons at Macarthur Square in Campbelltown as a part of Education Week and Macquarie Fields High School’s contribution to the celebration of Public Education. The students and shoppers created ‘Shattered Bug’ drawings using charcoal!! In addition the string ensemble also performed on the day.

Dance Ensemble – Fire in the Fields
Miss Shakespeare has worked with Dance Ensemble this year. They were able to perform at the annual community celebration of the Creative Arts – ‘Fire In the Fields’. The girls danced beautifully and were a wonderful representative for Macquarie Fields High School at this event. Thank you to Miss Shakespeare for her commitment and hard work with this ensemble.
**Tap Ensemble**
During recent months, Mrs Metcalfe has also started a Tap Dancing Ensemble. A small number of dedicated students have taken up the opportunity to try tap dancing for the first time or bring the skills they already have!! We look forward to seeing the group develop and perform in 2015.

**Wrap Up**
At the time of writing this article we look forward to the next few weeks and the fast paced race to the finish line for 2014. A number of ensembles will be involved in performance opportunities. These include semester awards, presentation evening, the Art Exhibition, Ensemble Performance Evening and Orientation Day. Please note the following dates, we love to see parents coming and watching their students perform and we thank you as always for being supportive of your children’s involvement in Creative Arts here at Macquarie Fields High School.

**ART EXHIBITION** – Wednesday Evening 26 November

**ENSEMBLES CONCERT** – (This will include performances from a range of extra curricula ensembles and a drama performance from the Year 9 Elective Drama class) – Tuesday Evening 2 December.

Students will bring home more detailed information closer to the date.

**A HUGE NOTE OF THANKS!**
Earlier this year I attended a meeting of the schools P&C. Their response to my request for funds to buy more instruments, and in particular violins, was generous and enthusiastic. $16,000 was donated not only for instruments but also for a brand new piano for one of the music classrooms. This will be a valuable resource for years to come. On behalf of all the students who now have the opportunity to use this equipment we say THANK YOU!

**Mrs Heather Costa**  
**Head Teacher**  
**Creative and Performing Arts**

**World of Maths Incursion**
World of Maths is a yearly event in which Year 8 students participate in a problem solving activities for a day. For two periods in week 1, students engaged in brain twisters and mental challenges with a mathematical concept at the centre of each activity. These activities were presented by a visiting company and were set up in the school hall. The hands-on activities were designed to enable students to experiment and explain mathematical and physical properties relating to gravity, path finding, electricity, 3-dimensional space and puzzles, cogs, probability and even animal conversation.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the activities and benefited greatly from the experience. Feedback from students will ensure that this event will run in 2015. Year 7 students will have the opportunity to participate in this event next year.
As a special note, the presenter said that our Year 8 students were very respectful and extremely well behaved. Well done Year 8.

Greetings from the school library team

We have exciting news to share with our school community.

Brand New Tiered Learning Space!
I wish to gratefully acknowledge the school Parents and Citizens Committee who generously used your P&C Contributions to fund the complete refurbishment of the Tiered Learning Space which is adjacent to the Library. This is the first full refurbishment of the Tiered Learning Space since it was originally built nearly 30 years ago. The students came back to school at the start of Term 4 to a wonderful, fresh learning space with brand new carpet and seating.

New fully flexible learning space!
Another new addition to the learning spaces in the school Library was the addition of 10 ‘Flip-top’ tables on wheels. This completes the transformation of the Fiction end of the Library into a fully flexible learning and activity space. When we hold large events in the Library, it is now safer and quicker to roll the large pieces of furniture out of the space and having the flip top tables, the tables
themselves take up less space when we pack them away. With our new flexible space we can hold year meetings for 180 students provide a performance space for visiting groups or for our own students as well as allow teachers to set up the library in any form they need for a variety of learning activities.

Summer Holiday Reading and Overdue Library Books
Students are welcome to borrow books over the summer school holidays as long as they have no overdue library books and have returned all textbooks. Occasionally the Library staff send home letters for significantly overdue books. We are about to send the next batch of letters out for overdue books and we would appreciate your assistance in ensuring your child promptly returns any overdue books.

Overnight loan of School Blazers
Parents are asked to assist to ensure that when their child borrows a school blazer for a formal occasion or excursion and brings it home, the blazer is returned to the Library before school on the next school day. We only have a small collection of blazers and we regularly need the blazers the next school day for a separate event. Parent’s assistance in ensuring prompt return of school blazers is greatly appreciated.

Poetfest-Yr 7 L Fresh the Lion

Miss Hannaford
Teacher Librarian