Calendar Events

Week 5
Monday 26 May      YANCO Trip
Tuesday 27 May      YANCO Trip
Wednesday         YANCO Trip
Friday 30 May      Year 12 Reports posted

Week 6
Mon 2 June         Year Meetings Week
Wed 4 June         ICAS Science
Thursday 5 June    Year 12 Careers Expo
Friday 6 June      Year 11 Reports posted

Week 7
Monday 9 June      Public Holiday
Thursday 12 June   Region X Country

From the Principal

Community Participation
It is always heartening to see students at Macquarie Fields HS involving themselves in community events as enthusiastically as they do. Just this term, we have had students representing the school at Ingleburn RSL for the ANZAC Dawn Service and the Coral/Balmoral Commemoration and at school, students very respectfully conducted our school ANZAC service which also included the official opening of the ANZAC Garden by the President of Ingleburn RSL, Mr Ray James. The ceremony included a moving finale where the students carried the wreath to the ANZAC Garden accompanied by the song, “The Band Played Waltzing Matilda”. At the end of the ceremonies, Mr James joined the presenters for morning tea. I would like to thank Mr James and the Ingleburn RSL Sub Branch for their kind donation of books for our Library.

Recipients of PBL Raffle Prize Draw

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>WK/Term</th>
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<td>Tina Truong</td>
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<td>Julie Dargi</td>
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Vijaishree Kumar, Jessica Madanat, Tanaya Berde

Congratulations to our presenters: Phaylin Busby, Annie Nguyen, Melita Duong-Ma, Vijaishree Kumar, Huda Khan, Jennifer Lok,
Jessica Madanat and Tanaya Berde, to Miss Sullivan for her organisation of the ceremony, to Mrs Costa for the sound and Mr Neale for his overall vision for the event. Next year is the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli and Macquarie Fields HS is well placed to ensure this event is marked with reverence.

Opportunity to Host Visiting Students from China! August 3 – 11, 2014
We have been successful in being selected to host a visit from a group of 15 students and their teacher who will be visiting Australia from China during the above dates. We are seeking families who might be interested in hosting a student. More details will be available soon but host families would be asked to provide a bed and meals for the student and to ensure they get to and from school each day! The visit is quite short and there is a small payment made to the host families. There will be a meeting of host families where full information will be provided. If you are interested, please contact the school on 9605 3111.

Reports and Parent Teacher Evenings
Reports are on their way and will be mailed home along with instructions for booking in for interviews with your child’s teachers. If you do not receive your child’s report, it may mean we do not have your correct address. Please ensure that we have your details up to date prior to the posting of reports which commences with Year 12 later this week.

Safety in the School Grounds and Surrounding Areas
I would ask that if you are driving into the school grounds that you follow the signs at all times and only park in the designated area. This is for the safety and wellbeing of our students – your children. We are planning some changes to the layout and conditions of entry to the school and I will keep you informed as to these changes. These changes have been suggested to us following consultation with personnel at Campbelltown City Council.

If you use Fuschia Avenue when picking up your children, please be mindful of the wellbeing and amenity of the residents there and follow the traffic signs. We always like to be good neighbours so please assist us in ensuring our school maintains its great reputation in the community.

This newsletter contains some very interesting news from the Mathematics Faculty. I hope you enjoy it!

Mrs J Dolstra
Principal

PARENTS 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.

From the Maths Faculty
Maths Peer Tutoring
Mathematics Peer Tutoring is offered every day of the week except on Wednesdays. This provides an excellent opportunity for students to reinforce their learning through the support and guidance of our mathematically gifted senior students. All students are encouraged to participate in this program as not only does it help in their learning; it also builds connections and
friendships across the school body. The tutoring sessions are held at lunchtimes, with the exception of Wednesdays. We also would like to see members of the Future Teacher’s Club become involved.

Australian Mathematics Competition 2014

The Australian Mathematics Competition is a mathematics competition run by the Australian Mathematics Trust for students from Year 3 up to Year 12 in Australia, and the equivalent grades in other countries. Since its inception in 1976 in the Australian Capital Territory, the participation numbers have increased to around 600,000, with around 100,000 being from outside Australia, making it the world’s largest mathematics competition.

Students are asked to solve thirty problems in 60 minutes (Years 3 to 6) or 75 minutes (Years 7 to 12). Students mark their responses on a mark-sense sheet and these are processed by computer. The earliest problems are accessible for all students. The problems do get progressively more difficult, with the end questions providing a challenge to the most gifted student. Students of all standards will make progress and importantly have their mathematics challenged.

This year we have 66 students participating in the competition being held on 7th of August. We wish all the entrants the best of luck in the competition.

Digital Mathematics

As mathematics teachers we are consistently asked, “How can we help our child improve?” One way is to embrace the digital age and use the internet as a way of merging learning with technology. The faculty uses the following sites and finds that they do assist in the learning and understanding of Mathematics.

- www.ixl.com
- www.mathsonline.com.au
- www.hotmaths.com.au
- www.mathletics.com.au
- www.mathsisfun.com
- www.khanacademy.org

Mr Vujanic is currently trialling the ixl interactive website with his classes and some of the student feedback that he has received is listed below.

“The website is a great way to practise what you are unsure of. It creates a game environment so that you can be challenged to score more points” (Ankitha Shashidar).

“I believe that the software will be a program that will be greatly beneficial to our class. It provides us with alternative questions and skills that will further improve our works through revision” (Pooja Salimath).
The website can be accessed at home and so it is great for us students to practise different questions at home. The website is easy to use and the solutions are easy to understand” (Emily Cook).

**Australian Curriculum Update**
The Australian Curriculum has been implemented in Years 7 and 9. The student text is New Century Maths and each student has the opportunity to access additional resources and learning material through the NelsonNet digital resources.

Students are able to access the NelsonNetBook and the linked learning resources by using the student Access Code which is located at the back of the text book. There are three simple steps to follow:

2. Login and add the resources to the bookshelf.
3. Access the range of digital resources.

All students are encouraged to take advantage of this resource to either engage in more challenging work or to simply complement the work that they are currently doing in class.

During this year the faculty will be preparing for the implementation of new syllabuses for Years 8 and 10 in 2015.

**HSC Support**
Macquarie Fields High School prides itself on providing opportunities to students to enhance their learning. Mr Vujanic continues with a wonderful initiative that provides HSC support to General Maths students. His program runs on Tuesday afternoons in the form of tutoring sessions which are held in the library. If you would like your child to attend please contact Mr Vujanic in the Mathematics faculty.

After a successful trial in the Term 1, Mr Vujanic’s sessions will continue throughout the remainder of the year. Students are encouraged to be a part of the sessions and they are reminded that they must have parental permission before they attend.

Students can either bring their own questions or use the material supplied.

**Maths Challenge 2014**
The Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians is another successful event on the Mathematics Calendar. Running over a 3-week period at beginning of Term 2, 8 students from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 are participating in this Challenge.

This is a problem-solving activity organised by the Australian Mathematics Trust which is aimed at the top achieving students in their year level. They are then required to present written solutions to as many of these problems as they can. The problems are challenging and require time and persistence, but are based on mathematics which should be known at that level. Students will be able to work with a partner on two of the problems, however individual solutions must be submitted.
Sample question

I2 Cross Number

Here is a cross number puzzle:

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Across:
1. A square
3. A square
5. A square
6. A cube
7. A square

Down:
1. A square
2. A square
3. A square
4. A square

All the answers to the clues are different 3-digit numbers and 0 does not appear in the puzzle. Find all solutions to this cross number and show that there are no other solutions.

FROM THE SCIENCE FACULTY

The Science faculty has had an exciting start to the year.

My name is Mr Matchett and I am replacing Mr Pollock as the head of the faculty, joining an experienced and enthusiastic staff.

I have been teaching for twenty years, mostly in South Western Sydney. For the previous six years I was the Head of Science at Westfields Sports High.

I would also take this opportunity to welcome Mr Fletcher who is replacing Ms Clatworthy who retired at the end of last year. Mr Fletcher has extensive experience teaching at a variety of schools and joins us from Liverpool Girls High. I would also like to thank Ms Raheja who did a brilliant job in the relieving position.

We will also welcome back Ms Ferris in a couple of weeks after the birth of her son.

There are plenty of opportunities for students to engage with science.

Science Club is running on Mondays at lunch and is a great opportunity for students to engage in interesting questions and find answers to questions you weren’t even sure you wanted to ask.

ICAS is coming up on Wednesday, 4 June. We have had wonderful results in the past and I am anticipating the same for this year. You can do a bit of practice via the website below.


Mr Connor is organising the Bridge Building Competition for this year. This is a great opportunity for those who may be interested in engineering as a potential career. As well as being a great learning activity, it is always a great deal of fun.

http://www.aurecongroup.com/buildingbridges/

The Maths Challenge Team for 2014 includes:

Rohan Gorad
Priyansha Chand
Shaptarshee Bhuiyan
Hoang Duy Nguyen
Razaan Adams
Yun Qing Wei
Dhriti Bhandari
Ishan Gupta
There is also an opportunity for those in Years 7-11 to join the Space Camp tour later this year. Ms Somasi has taken some students in the past and would be a good person to talk to about this once in a lifetime experience.


As well as the staff changes there are plenty of exciting curriculum changes as we migrate to the new Board of Studies syllabuses. It is anticipated that by the end of 2015, we will have programs that are engaging and show students the wonder that science brings to the world, and why your lives would be a lot duller without it.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact me through the school.

Mr W Matchett
Head Teacher Science

Cross Country Results 2014

The 2014 MFHS school cross country has been run and won. A new course was established with students required to complete one longer lap than the usual two. The top 10 from each age group will represent our school at the Zone Carnival to be held at Hurlstone Agricultural High School Thursday May 22nd.

Congratulations to the following students who are the 2014 age champions:

12 YEARS BOYS   Brodie Hynes
13 YEARS BOYS   Brandon Easson
14 YEARS BOYS   Guojan Gan
15 YEARS BOYS   Brendan Facchinelli
16 YEARS BOYS   Chris Dunshea
17 YEARS BOYS   Alex Abdullah
12 YEARS GIRLS  Shakthi Shanmugam
13 YEARS GIRLS  Megan Lam
14 YEARS GIRLS  Cristal Gordon
15 YEARS GIRLS  Sanjana Sriram
16 YEARS GIRLS  Kristina Vukovic
17 YEARS GIRLS  Ruby Ramos

Sports Student Profile

Andrew Lam

I had the pleasure in interviewing Andrew regarding his State Swimming success.

Andrew came to our school in 2014 from Elizabeth Macarthur.

Age – 15 years
Highest Representative Honour – School Nationals 2013
Favourite Event – 100m Breastroke
Biggest Competitor – Matthew Wilson from Queensland
Why swimming? – I had asthma at a young age and I trained at Bradbury pool. I started competing at the age of 10.
Favourite sports to play apart from swimming – Basketball
Which NRL team do you support – Wests Tigers

Favourite food – Pizza
The most recent movie you enjoyed watching – Toy Story
What would be your profession in 10 years time – Medicine or Pro Basketballer
You have adapted well into the MFHS culture, what is your opinion regarding our school – Excellent school, great teachers and students

Thanks Andrew for spending 60 seconds with Mr Ninopoulos.
SRC Update for 2014

Our captains Nethanjah Costillas and Sidharth Autar have had a busy and productive start to the year. They successfully compered at the Campbelltown Council Harmony Day as well as at the Ingleburn RSL Anzac Day Dawn Service, which is a great honour. We are very proud of their effort so far and are looking forward to their future endeavours as captains at Macquarie Fields High School.

The following SRC students including Amy Huynh, Jessica Pecovski, Emily Cook, Melita-Ma Duong and Natalie Heavey are looking forward to attending the 2014 YANCO Road Trip from 25 May-28 May. The following students will be involved in a number of engaging leadership based activities throughout the road trip.

The following SRC students including Jesselyn Dang, Katherine Livanis, Dylan Scarborough and Amy Huynh are valuable members of the Future Teachers Club. They have made positive contributions within this program and are thoroughly enjoying the hands on based activities that our school is providing for them.

The following SRC students including Teresa Bernardo and Dylan Scarborough have been chosen to compere at the Public School NSW Dance Festival evening performance on the 5 June. We wish them the best of luck and are most certain that they will fulfil their duties with the highest level of professionalism. Thank you from the SRC Coordinator Mrs M Ninopoulos
Mr T Neale and Ms S Sullivan in the ANZAC Garden

President of Ingleburn RSL, School Captains and Vice Captains