**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

01 December 2014

To begin with, some complete and utter MADness.

On Tuesday 2/12, Mudgee High will hold the second and bigger of its two, annual MAD concerts. MAD is of course an acronym for Music, Art and Drama. The gymnasium will be the venue to be if you’re keen to see what our young singers, musicians, thespians and other artists can do. The performances commence at 7pm and a MAD concert is always well worth a look.

On Wednesday evening 3/12, the School Representative Council (SRC) has organised the last social of the year. The Term 4 social is open to students from Years 7-11 (with some provisos), as well as Year 6 students from our various feeder schools and is one more way in which we make the transition from primary to secondary schooling just that little less daunting. The social will run from 7pm until 10pm and, like all of our socials, will be supervised by teaching staff volunteers.

On Thursday 4/12, we will run an extended staff development afternoon/evening. The development session has two parts. Ms Tyrrell will run the first session on working with students on the autism spectrum, differentiating the curriculum so as to better meet the needs of students on that spectrum. The second and longer session should begin at 4.30pm. It will be devoted to the school management plan for 2015-2017. We will take all of the findings gleaned from the school management planning meeting of four weeks ago and, working in teams of staff and parents, we will identify three strategic directions for the next three school years. The three directions we come up with will ideally complement each other, focusing our efforts on achieving better outcomes for all of our students. The directions will become our educational priorities, the success of which we will be able to measure through the collection of relevant data at timely milestones. Perhaps best of all, they will be succinct; they will go to the heart of what it is that will drive success at Mudgee High over the next three years and beyond. As a parent or carer, your participation on Thursday afternoon would be a bonus to our planning and also allow you some insight into some of the pedagogical concerns that underpin what it is we do and will do at Mudgee High.

Finally, a word about deadlines. In the final days and weeks of this year, we will send off a number of end-of-year excursions. Permission notes were sent out for several of them as early as Term 3, and each of them has had a payment cut-off date. There is a good reason for cut-off dates. The financial system employed in state schools requires cheques be drawn payments for things like venues and buses and anything else that costs (a quaint, 20th Century practice that the system has yet to discard), as well as rolls that include medical details and contact numbers for all involved – a little like a flight manifesto. Getting payments in before or at least by the day of the cut-off allows these processes to take place in a timely rather than rushed fashion. Thanks for your understanding!

24 sleeps until Christmas!

Wayne Eade

**PBL Focus**

Students should be aware that the office is a busy space where being a good communicator is essential. Students should remember to be polite, and follow the school procedures. An example of this is when they feel unwell. They should first consult their teacher, who will send them to the office where contact home can be made. It is in a student’s best interest to always have their student card with them at school so that they can make office procedures more efficient.

**Term 4 Week 9 Awards**

**P & C Awards – Year 7**  Alleginah Hornery  **Year 8** Joshua Montgomery

**Year 9**, Olivia Webb  **Year 10** –Jaide Riley  **Year 11** – Emma Bell

**SRR AWARD Term 4 Week 9** – Congratulations to: Emma Kurtz
Year 12 fundraising efforts were extremely successful in 2014, raising a total of $26,443.97. Students are to be proud and congratulated on this achievement. Throughout the year numerous students have participated in many activities including volunteering at the Motor Cross, Pizza Days, Swimming Carnivals, Athletics Carnivals, A Day on the Green, raffles and finally the annual Rainbow Day. This year’s beneficiaries are Lifeskills Plus Mudgee and St Francis of Assisi College Fatuberliu, Mudgee High School’s sister school in East Timor. Both charities will be able to provide valuable resources to their community from these donations. Year 12 2014, would like to thank the Mudgee community for its support and generosity in contributing to the fundraising effort.

November 25th was White Ribbon Day.

White Ribbon is the world’s largest movement of men and boys working to end men’s violence against women and girls and to promote gender equity, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity. White Ribbon Australia, as part of this global movement, aims to create an Australian society in which all women can live in safety, free from violence and abuse. Part of this process has been to include snippets of information to the students during roll call. The statistics are staggering. Nationally representative surveys have found that anywhere from one-quarter to one-third, and even up to one-half of Australian women will experience physical or sexual violence by a man at some point in their lives. One woman is killed every week in Australia by a current or former partner. This must be affecting families at Mudgee High. If any parents have questions about this whole school activity please phone the principal.

You don’t have to live with domestic violence.
In an emergency call 000
Wimlah Specialist Domestic Violence Service (Mudgee) 6372 1422 | 0458736027
Mudgee Police 6372 8599
Mudgee Hospital 6378 6222
Housing Plus (Mudgee) 6372 7816
1800 Respect www.1800respect.org.au 1800 737 732
Domestic Violence Line NSW 1800 656 463
Mudgee Community Health 6378 6236

You can get help. You have a right to be safe.
Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia 1800 424 017
Immigrant Women’s Speakout Association NSW 96358022
ACON Anti-Violence Project (DV in LGBTIQ relationships) 1800 063 060 | 92062116
Women’s DV Court Advocacy Service (outreach to Mudgee) 0405 901 207
Women’s Legal Services NSW 1800 801 501
Western NSW Community Legal Centre (outreach to Mudgee) 1800 655 927 | 6884 9422
Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience. You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner drive at a FREE two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

VENUE
Club Mudgee

TIME & DATE
Wednesday December 10
5.30 – 7.30pm

BOOK NOW ON
0434 964 764
or email
parentworkshop@optusnet.com.au

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers
Safer Drivers Course
For Learner Drivers

The Safer Drivers Course involves two modules:

Module one: A three-hour facilitated group discussion on
how to manage risks on the road. This will involve a maximum
of twelve participants and will be facilitated by a facilitator.

Module two: A two-hour in-vehicle coaching session to
develop low-risk driving strategies. This will involve two
participants and a coach. Course cost: $140

Participants must have completed 50 hours of actual on-road driving experience to be eligible for the
course. Credits gained under the T for 5 scheme cannot be included.

Participants who complete the course will receive 20 hours credit recorded in their learner driver log book.

To find your closest club or book into the next available course check out our website:
www.saferdrivers.org.au

Call us on 9625 9131 or drop into your local club to find out more

PCYC Cowra, 40 Young Rd, Cowra 2794 Ph. 6341 2035

Preparing you for your P’s
Become a safer driver and earn 20 hours of bonus log book credit by enrolling in a
Safer Drivers Course.

The Safer Drivers Course is available to learner drivers under the age of 25 who have completed at least 50 log
book driving hours.

Monday 22nd December 9am-12pm
To Book:
Ph: 6330 1400 or email: c.evans@skillset.com.au
Skillset
341 Savannah St Bathurst

Fantastic opportunity and only $140 for 20 log book hours

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