PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I have a confession to make.

I am a fan of Star Trek.

I’m not a Trekkie as such; I don’t speak Klingon and I am not conversant with the ways in which one sidesteps the Kobayashi Maru “no-win" test for Star Fleet wannabees.

Star Trek is responsible for a number of pop-culture references, not least of which would be: "Beam me up." The phrase is pure Star Trek. It was used by characters when they found themselves in situations that had gone pear-shaped. Faced with imminent death, a flip of the communicator – they always seem to have a good signal in the 23rd Century – and a request that the head of engineering perform a rapid extraction using teleportation, crisis avoided. Brilliant!

Science Fact: communicators – mobile phones – are well and truly with us.

Science fact: although teleportation is in its infancy, it increasingly looks like a possible future reality. Let’s not forget, Star Trek does take place in the 23rd Century.

Mudgee High fact: a small number of our students have cottoned on to a way in which they can effect extraction from school using their communicators as primitive teleportation devices. They utter words like, “Mummy, I feel sick,” (sometimes code for “Mummy, I don’t want to do Maths/Sport/History or whatever” or “Mummy, I miss my Xbox”) into their communicators and its mummy who materialises at the front counter to transport them away.

Now it goes without saying that mobile phones are a great technology. The mobile phone has revolutionised the ways in which we stay in contact. But like all technology, mobile phone use must come with some responsibility. It is more than twelve months since Mudgee High implemented a new mobile technology policy. By way of contrast to the old policy, the new policy allows for the use of mobile phones and other similar devices at school. But that usage comes with particular caveats. These stipulations relate particularly to use in classrooms where safe, responsible and respectful teaching and learning trumps all other demands.

So what we are asking is that you encourage your children to talk to their teachers if they feel sick or have left something at home that is desperately needed before requesting you attend them here at school. In doing so, we can ALL be kept in the loop so that when a parent or carer suddenly materialises at the front counter, requesting to see a sick or ailing child, the response will not be blank or puzzled stares.

Wayne Eade
Relieving Principal
WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YEAR 7?

Check out our year 7 web page.

https://sites.google.com/a/mudgeehighschool.net/year-12-2020/home

This is your one stop spot for information about year 7 at Mudgee High School.

AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child has the opportunity to participate in the Australian Geography Competition. This is an excellent opportunity for them to test their geographical knowledge and skills. In doing so they have the opportunity to win great prizes, including being a part of the Australian team for the International Geography Olympiad in Beijing China, participating in the Geography Big Week Out Challenge, books, medals and certificates.

The cost of this competition is $3. Students must pay this to the front office by 27th February 2015. The actual competition date will be set for the end of March.

If you have any questions about this competition please contact me directly through the school phone number 6372 1533.

Claire Windeyer
Head Teacher HSIE
YEAR 10

Did you know the octopus is the most intelligent invertebrate? (An invertebrate doesn’t have a back bone). Studies have shown that octopuses learn easily, even by watching another octopus. Octopuses are able to solve problems such as removing a plug or unscrewing a lid to get prey (food) from a container. They have been seen using tools, such as a coconut shell to hide from predators and using rocks and jets of water as tools!

How many legs does an octopus have? Well, not eight. Some research suggests they have four pairs of arms whilst other research suggests some species may actually have two arms and six legs. Octopuses have three hearts. Two pump blood through each of the two gills, while the third pumps blood through the body.

Do you want to why an octopus uses ink, or how they squeeze into impossibly small cracks and crevices? Did you know they have a beaklike jaw or can even drop an arm to escape a predator and then regrow it?

Learn all about these and other amazing marine animals by choosing to study 2U Marine Studies in Year 11. See Mr Willetts in the TAS staffroom for more information.

ENGLISH FACULTY

Welcome to 2015 from the English Faculty. We have a big year planned and are delighted to see so many keen faces returning to our classes. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new students who have joined us, particularly Year 7. We are looking forward to helping guide you through the wonderful world of literacy and literature.

This year we have some exciting events on the horizon. Besides a range of new and engaging units as part of the incoming National Curriculum, junior students will have the chance to engage in a variety of reading, writing and speaking opportunities throughout the year. These will extend their learning beyond the classroom. Notifications will be placed in the morning announcements to let students know when these opportunities are taking place, so listen well in roll call and check the English noticeboard or talk to your friendly English teacher for information.

Senior students will have the even more thrilling prospect of moving not only metaphorically but physically beyond the classroom, with a number of exclusive excursions being organised to assist in their understanding of their HSC texts. Advanced English students will soon be voyaging to Sydney to witness the ‘Sport for Jove’ production of Hamlet, and steps are currently being undertaken to organise a possible excursion to see The Crucible in the near future. Standard English are similarly excited to have the chance to attend a production of The Shoe-Horn Sonata, which they will be studying later in the year.

To help all our students gain their most from their lessons this year, the English faculty is also putting the call out to all students to check that they have returned their novels and textbooks from last year. We would also love any donations of magazines and newspapers on a variety of topics to assist with our Advertising unit as well as the Roll Call Reading programme. Thank you!

2015 is going to be an exciting year of learning and the English faculty is looking forward to helping all our students to gain the most from their MHS experience.
SPONSORSHIP

MUDGEE HIGH SCHOOL - LINK PROGRAM
GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
GLENCORE
Ulan Coal Mine

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNIOR BASKETBALL
Registration days for Junior Basketball for Boys and Girls from year 7 to year 10 will be held at the Mudgee PCYC on Wednesday 11th February from 3.30pm – 5.30pm

ART CLASSES
Ceramic, Wheel thrown and handbuilding
Wednesday afternoons starting Feb 11
8 week course 4-5.30pm $220 + firing fee
Contact Toni 0401 175 148 or email info@themudfactory.com.au

Mudgee Girl Guides invite you to
Come and Try Guides!
Thursdays 4:30-6:30pm
For girls aged 6-14 years
Uniting Church Hall Mortimer St (opposite Woolworths)
Girls are welcome to try Guides for 2 weeks before joining
Annual Membership starts from the time Guides join
Please call Rachel on 0432170479 for more information.
Or visit our website www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
Hello Mudgee!

Challenge Community Services has over fifty-seven years’ experience providing community support to people with disabilities, foster carers and children. We are excited to be launching our new disability and foster care services in Mudgee and are celebrating with a free BBQ, jumping castle, give-aways and information forum on fostering, the NDIS and more!

All members of the public are welcome to attend so come along and experience first-hand how Challenge can help make a difference in you and your loved ones lives!

Date
Tuesday, 24th February 2015.

Time
4.00pm to 7.00pm.

Where
Challenge Mudgee, 23 Perry Street, Mudgee.

Rsvp
Merry on 02 67 631 880 or merry.abrams@challengecommunity.org.au.

Could you be a foster?

Unsure about the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

Interested in local disability choices?
Safer Drivers Course for young learner drivers

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.

Fantastic opportunity and only $140 for 20 log book hours

Sat 21st and Sun 22nd February
To Book:
Ph: 6330 1400 or email cevans@skillset.com.au
Skillset
341 Havannah St Bathurst