PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

The Public Instruction Act of 1880 – an act of the then colonial parliament of NSW, led by Henry Parkes, enshrined in law the idea of public education being “Free, Compulsory, and Secular.”

Australian leaders realised that if Australia were to become a flourishing nation, its populace would need to be educated. Those same leaders recognised that convicts and the children of convicts were going to be the future of Australia. They recognised that those same people would almost certainly be the leaders of this new nation.

Educating those who were viewed by many as the lower classes would be vital to Australia’s future.

Thankfully, public education has continued to thrive and remains the glue that binds the national fabric. Comprehensive schools have coped a battering in some places. They have suffered the predations of the so-called “privates” and specialist, selective schools, making the comprehensives far less “comprehensive” than they once were. Thankfully, this has not been the case in Mudgee, which possesses a truly comprehensive high school that takes comers from all walks of life.

So, where are we in 2015?

Public education continues to be compulsory for young people aged 6 to 17.

Public education continues to remain secular. Scripture lessons are made available to students but these lessons are not compulsory.

Public education remains free… with some qualifications.

I’ve had some queries of late regarding school fees. The nomenclature of the Department of Education and Communities is clear on this point; public schools do not charge fees. Public schools do, however, provide a schedule of “voluntary contributions” that varies from school to school.

In 2015, attendance at Mudgee High attracts a voluntary contribution request of between $60 and $110, depending on the Year attended. In addition, there is a $50 book deposit requested from senior students that covers loss and damage to text books in Years 11 and 12 that is fully refunded at the conclusion of senior study if all resources are returned. The $60-$110 – which incidentally works out to between 30 and 55 cents a day – allows us just a little more wriggle room when buying texts, photocopy paper or any of the other resources needed to keep an institution of this size afloat. Elective subjects that have consumables – timber in woodwork, ingredients in Food Technology, etc. – attract a contribution that is not voluntary so as to pay for the resources students use and keep. It's worth noting that the contributions levied are far below what it would cost to buy these same resources privately. In addition, we also have a student assistance program that ensures nobody misses out.

By way of comparison, in 2015, attendance at The King's School in Parramatta costs between $49,008 and $52,734 per year, depending on what secondary year your child attends. If you relocate to Parramatta, then attendance drops to a steal ranging from $28,896 to $31,581.

There is no comparison.

Wayne Eade
Relieving Principal
YEAR 10 – WHY NOT STUDY 2 UNIT MARINE STUDIES IN YEAR 11 2016!!!

SEEING UNDERWATER

When you open your eyes underwater, everything is blurry. We can’t focus or see clearly. Have you ever wondered why? Seeing is a major part of what diving and snorkelling is about; however, liquid environments have a major impact on our ability to see.

**Focus:** To see clearly underwater we need to wear a mask because the human eye cannot focus without an air space in front of it.

**Magnification:** Underwater, objects appear 25% larger and closer.

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**Colour loss:** As we go deeper, the colours in the visible light spectrum are absorbed one at a time. Red is absorbed first, so after about 5m we cannot see red under water, then orange, yellow, green and finally blue. At a depth of about 30m everything appears green-blue in colour unless we use an artificial light source.

Learn to scuba dive or snorkel and see amazing and bizarre things under water. Choose to study 2U Marine Studies in Year 11. See Mr Willetts in the TAS staffroom for more information.
TERM 1 WEEK 8 AWARDS

P & C AWARDS – Year 7 – Kyza Tattersall Year 8 – Joshua Weatherley
Year 9 – Sophie Turner Year 10 – Grace Wilkin Year 11 – Thomas McPherson
Year 12 – Andrew Hunter

SRR AWARD – Congratulations to: Matthew Allen (Yr 10)

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY MYDAY 2015

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<th>MyDay</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Bathurst</td>
<td>13 April</td>
<td>Advertising, Radio, Journalism, Sports Journalism, Public Relations, Theatre/Media</td>
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<tr>
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<td>13 April</td>
<td>Clinical Science, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy</td>
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<td>Clinical Practice (Paramedic), Nursing</td>
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<td>30 April</td>
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BIG SCIENCE COMPETITION

In 2015, the Science Department will provide an opportunity for students to challenge themselves in the Big Science Competition.

This 50 minute international competition is open to students of all abilities at three different levels: Junior (Years 7 and 8), Intermediate (Years 9 and 10) and Senior (Years 11 and 12).

Questions test students’ critical thinking and problem-solving skills as well as their science knowledge.

Each student who takes part will receive a certificate as well as detailed feedback on their performance in the competition. They also go into a draw to win hundreds of iTune and movie vouchers.

Our school will receive a comprehensive report for each paper level showing how each student performed on each question, the percentage of students in the cohort who answered correctly, and a comparison with the national results.

The Big Science Competition is organised by Australian Science Innovations, a non-profit organisation committed to providing high quality science extension programs that inspire, challenge and raise the aspirations of students in science.

For more information visit [www.asi.edu.au](http://www.asi.edu.au)

The competition costs $7.50 and is to be paid to the front office.

TAX FILE NUMBER APPLICATIONS

Please note that Mudgee High School no longer processes tax file number applications.

Australia Post now verifies your ID for tax file number applications.

Several Mudgee High students travelled to Penrith to compete at the NSW All Schools Triathlon. Amelia Coombes, Morgan Hurrell and Tim McDonald competed in the Individual event on Thursday 26th March. Amelia competed in the Senior section that included a 750M swim, 20KM ride and 5KM run. Amelia placed 33rd overall and 15th in CHS. Morgan and Tim competed in the Junior section that included a 400M swim, 10KM ride and 3KM run. Morgan placed 56th overall and 18th in CHS. Tim placed 40th overall and 10th in CHS.

The second day of competition, Friday 27th March, saw 4 Mudgee High teams compete, 1 in the junior division, 2 in the intermediate division and 1 in the Senior division. Our junior team consisted of Tim McDonald (Swim), Lachlan Wall (Ride) and Campbell Wall (Run). They placed 52nd overall and 13th in CHS.

Our first intermediate team consisted of Luke Beckingham (Swim), Hamish Bourke (Ride) and Jesse Boness (Run). They placed 17th overall and 9th in CHS. Our Second intermediate team consisted of Ryan Tyrrell (Swim), Will Toovey (Ride) and Andrew Foley (Run). They placed 44th overall and 15th in CHS.

Our Senior team consisted of Thomas Smith (Swim), Josh Toovey (Ride) and Harrison Maynard (Run). The boys finished 5th overall and 2nd in CHS, securing them a CHS silver medal and a podium finish for the 4th year in a row. These 3 now have the complete set of CHS Triathlon Medals.

Thankyou to all of the parents who travelled down to Penrith for the event.

Peter Smith – Triathlon Manager
IRONFEST will be held at Lithgow Showground on 18th & 19th April 2015.

Aiming to educate through entertainment, Ironfest features historical events over these days - jousting, and the annual colonial battle re-enactment event entitled ‘The Battle of Lithgow’. Both events depict accurately extremely interesting periods in history. The re-enactments are very dramatic, featuring artillery, cavalry and infantry, and there is a fully authentic military encampment, hospital and blacksmith’s workshop. Lots of roving entertainers, music, dance, woodturning demonstrations, as well as Australian made goods on sale at the stalls.

Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Sunday 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
Tickets at gate:
One day - Adult $35; Conc. $30; Child $25; Family $95.
2 Day Weekend - Adult $55; Conc. $45; Child $35; Family $140.
For more information you can visit the Ironfest website at www.ironfest.net.au

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS EXCHANGE STUDENT
Learn about another culture, learn a new language or perhaps improve your culinary skills

Hosting - An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

Visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student
or call 1300 135 331 for more information

Traffic rules and regulations around schools are there for a very important reason... the safety of our children. Did you know?

Loss of demerit points apply when certain offences are committed in an operating school zone. For example, a minimum penalty of a $415 fine and the loss of 2 demerit points applies for stopping or parking a vehicle on or near:

- A pedestrian crossing
- A children's crossing
- A marked foot crossing

Double parking
Minimum fine is $311 and 2 demerit points

Parking in a bus zone
Minimum fine is $311 and 2 demerit points

Parking on the footpath
Minimum fine is $173 and 2 demerit points

Obstructing traffic
Minimum fine is $173

NO STOPPING ANY TIME
Minimum fine is $311 and 2 demerit points.

School opening and closing times are busy times for pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic outside the school. Drivers have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all children.

Always drop-off and pick-up your children from your school’s designated area, following your school’s road safety procedures with care and courtesy.
THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

![KIDS CAMPS](image)

Entertain the kids this school holidays with a Sport and Recreation camp. Our popular Kids’ and Family Camps offer a range of exciting activities to keep even the biggest kid entertained. Try your hand at over 40 different activities, including fishing, slip’n’slide, abseiling, crafts, kayaking, cooking and more. Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Kids’ Day Camps start from $47. Family Camp weekends start from $63 per day for kids and $96 per day for adults (kids under 5 attend free; cost includes accommodation, meals and activities).

Bonus! Residential Kids’ Camps include supervised transport from:

- Central Station, Sydney
- Penrith
- Lithgow
- Bathurst
- Orange
- Wellington
- Brooklyn
- Mooney Mooney.

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facebook.com/nswsportandrecreation