Providing high quality education in a safe, respectful and responsible environment
INFOGRAPHIC FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS

**FACULTY:** ENGLISH

**TEACHERS:** Mrs J Davies (HT), Mrs D Daniels, Mr B Cox, Ms A Heckendorf, Mrs A Goodworth, Mr S McNeill, Miss M Tetley, Ms S Fellows, Mrs R Kirk and Miss K Eslick

**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**

**Semester One:**
- **Windows on the World:** A study of biography and autobiography, first and third person text
- **Wide Experience of Poetry**
- **Real Heroes:** Emphasis on documentary, media and non-fiction texts
- **Close Study of a novel text**

**Semester Two:**
- **All the World’s a Stage:** Special study of drama and plays
- **Creativity:** Special study of creativity through animation and story telling
- **Page to Screen:** transforming familiar stories into film
- **Indigenous Voices:** study of the literature of Aboriginal writers

The sequence of these units will vary from class to class to allow for best use of resources.

The main skills developed in these units are:

**LISTENING** - May be divided into a variety of situations
- (a) Auditory Perception - how it affects meaning and tone
- (b) Listening and observing - relate observation to listening eg. Drama and Film.

**READING** - This involves
- (a) The enjoyment of reading
- (b) Ability to read at a reasonable speed with comprehension
- (c) The ability to read aloud with appropriate pronunciation and intonation
- (d) Ability to read efficiently - wide range of materials - wide range of purposes

**SPEAKING** - This involves
- (a) Ability to communicate confidently - person to person - person to group - person within a group.
- (b) Development of expertise or artistry in speech.

**WRITING** - This involves
- (a) Ability to write to a purpose eg: narrate, inform, persuade
- (b) Ability to write to an audience eg: How you write for friends differs from writing to a stranger.
- (c) Ability to write in various forms eg: stories, poems, plays, letters.

**VIEWING & REPRESENTING** -
- (a) Critical viewing of media products including film
- (b) Responding creatively and analytically to media

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:**
Each unit will have an assessment task. In addition, class tasks must be completed.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**
- Essential: 192 page exercise book, blue pen, red pen, ruler, pencil, pencil sharpener and eraser.
- Desirable: Dictionary – mini (pencil case size) dictionary is helpful.

**PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:**

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**
The opportunity to participate in Public Speaking and Debating. English and writing competitions are also coordinated through the department.

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**
Encourage students to read widely in many forms: novels, magazines, newspapers, brochures are all helpful.
Encourage students to watch News, documentary and quality drama programs as part of their TV/Video viewing.
Encourage students to write: letters, shopping lists, notes, telephone messages.
Look at your child’s book a couple of times a term.
**INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS**

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<tr>
<th>FACULTY: MATHEMATICS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TEACHERS:</strong> Mr D Tooney (HT), Mrs T Best, Mr G Lynn, Ms S Robinson, Mrs T Mulligan, Mr A Laurie and Mrs C Bennett.</td>
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**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**

The aim of the Year 7 course is to review essential skills learned in Primary School, while extending these skills and introduce new concepts needed for studying Mathematics at High School.

Each Semester covers Number, Space (Geometry), Measurement and Algebra.

- **Semester 1** - emphasises basic number skills, decimals and introduces algebra and directed number.
- **Semester 2** - focuses on harder number skills and fractions and uses these skills in measurement problems involving Mass, Area, Volume and Time, Probability

The Maths faculty has developed a flexible program for Year 7 where the order in which these concepts are studied in each semester are at the discretion of the teacher.

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:**

- 15-30 minutes per night based on classroom work
- Assessment - a class basis from class tests, assignments etc.

**SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**

- Scientific calculator (can be purchased from office at school for approx $20)
- Note: We recommend a SHARP (Model E–531 WH or Model EL–531RH) OR CASIO (Model fx–82MS, Model fx–82AU). If you have access to a calculator from an older sibling or family member, these models are still quite acceptable to use.
- 240 page grid book – covered
- Blue or black pen
- Red Pen
- Lead pencil
- Rule (30cm with mm markings)
- Geometrical instrument set consisting of protractor, set square and pair of compasses
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**
- Maths Challenge, Maths Competition

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**

- Ask student about homework each night.
- Look at child's workbook and comment (positively) on what they're doing
- Be positive at home about Maths - perhaps include your child in working on some of the calculations you do at home to reinforce the relevance of Maths, eg: Tax time, Interest rates, Credit cards, purchasing on terms, average fuel consumption this month etc.
# INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS

## FACULTY: SCIENCE

### TEACHERS:
Mr D McLennan (HT), Mr G Evans, Miss C Stanford, Mr N Manwaring, Mrs R McGonigle, Mr T Rae, Mrs M Harries, Mrs M Gadd and Mrs Laidlaw

## BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:
- Introduction to Science
- Chemical Mixtures
- Classification
- Rocks
- Particles
- Space
- Forces
- Energy
- Cells
- Let’s Experiment I + Food
- Ecology
- Year 7 will complete approximately 50% of the content required for the compulsory statewide ESSA (Essential Secondary Science Assessment) exam at the conclusion of Year 8

## HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:
- Completion of all bookwork
- Insertion of all handouts
- Consolidation exercises
- Assignment work

## SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:
- Fully enclosed shoes
- Hair tied back in lab
- Exercise book, approximately 164 pages per semester, stapled spine must be covered at least with contact
- Red, Blue & Black biro, Pencils, Ruler and Eraser.

**This basic equipment is essential.**

## PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:
Nil

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:
- Science Competitions – students are encouraged to participate in a variety of competitions as advised by teachers throughout the year.

## TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:
- Students are given a Student Information Sheet at the beginning of each module. This is glued into their workbook and provides an outline of what each module will cover.
- All students are provided with an Assessment Schedule for each semester. Parents can view and help their child organise submitted work.
## INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS

### FACULTY: HSIE (HISTORY)

### TEACHERS: Mr R Finter (HT), Mrs M McFarlane, Mrs S Spinner, Miss C Windeyer, Mrs C Mort, Miss J Windsor, Mr S Fitzgerald and Mrs K Croake

### BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:

1. **Overview:** ‘Out of Africa’ Theory
2. **Depth Study One:** Investigating the Ancient Past, Case Study on Australian Aboriginals
3. **Depth Study Two:** The Mediterranean World, Case Study on Egypt
4. **Depth Study Three:** The Asian World, Case Study on China

A complete copy of the Yr 7 History Program is available to any student or parent on request.

### HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:
Students will receive a variety of small pieces of homework, which may range from finishing off a piece of class work to researching some information in the library. One major assignment will be completed each semester. Students are required to keep their workbook neat and up to date. This particularly applies to catching up on work missed during absences.

### SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:
It is essential that every period each student have their own basic equipment. This should include:

- Their notebook of at least 128 lined pages, which is covered and clearly shows their name and class.
- A red and blue pen, lead pencil, coloured pencils, ruler, sharpener and eraser.
- A thumb drive for saving backup copies of computer work.

### PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:
No major excursions are planned. Individual classes may walk to local sites during their normal class.

### EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:
Australian History Competition

### TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:
All students in NSW are required to study at least one semester of History in each of the Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Parents can help foster this program by displaying an active interest in their child’s study of History in the following ways:

- Help with a study planner/diary showing dates due for tests, homework and assignments.
- Encourage an interest in current events via the nightly news, magazine articles, documentaries.
- Encourage use of an Atlas at home. World maps on walls and desks are an ideal way to learn.
- Look for and talk about articles that relate to the topics listed above.
- Check through the student’s notebook for neatness and blank spaces. Insist that any photocopied sheets be pasted in.
**INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS**

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<tr>
<th>FACULTY: HSIE (GEOGRAPHY)</th>
<th>To be taught in Semester 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>TEACHERS: Mr R Finter (HT), Mrs M McFarlane, Mrs S Spinner, Miss C Windeyer, Mrs C Mort, Miss J Windsor, Mr S Fitzgerald and Mrs K Croake</td>
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**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**
This course aims to introduce students to the study of Geography with an emphasis on understanding the world around them, the impact of humans and the need for management.

The main sections of the course are:-

What is Geography?
- Key geographical features of Australia
- Key geographical features of the world
- An understanding of the – Atmosphere (temperature, precipitation, weather climate) – Lithosphere (landform features) – Hydrosphere (oceans, rivers) – Biosphere (living things)
- Sample studies of a variety of ecosystems (Forests, Arid, Alpine, Polar, River Catchments)

A complete copy of the Year 7 Geography Program is available to any student or parent on request.

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:**
Students will receive a variety of small pieces of homework, which may range from finishing off a piece of class work to researching some information in the library. One major assignment will be completed each semester.
Students are required to keep their workbook neat and up to date. This particularly applies to catching up on work missed during absences.

**SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**
It is essential that every period each student have their own basic equipment. This should include –

* Their notebook of at least 128 lined pages, which is covered and clearly shows their name and class.
* A red and blue pen, lead pencil, coloured pencils, ruler, sharpener and eraser.
* A thumb drive for saving backup copies of computer work.

**PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:**
No major excursions are planned. Individual classes may walk to local sites during their normal class. Utilising GIS and GPS technology.

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**
Students may participate in the Australian Geography Competition, NSW Schools Geography Competition and the National Geographic Geography Competition

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**
All students in NSW are required to study at least one semester of Geography in each of the Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Parents can help foster this program by displaying an active interest in their child’s study of Geography in the following ways –

- Help with a study planner/diary showing dates due for tests, homework and assignments.
- Encourage an interest in current events via the nightly news, magazine articles, documentaries
- Encourage use of an Atlas at home. World maps on walls and desks are an ideal way to learn.
- Look for and talk about articles that relate to the topics listed above.
- Check through the student’s notebook for neatness and blank spaces. Insist that any photocopied sheets be pasted in.
- Encourage revision of key terms. Quiz the student on definitions, places etc. This will help students prepare for their weekly Map Mastery Quiz.
# INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS

**FACULTY: TECHNOLOGY**

**TEACHERS:** Mrs M McQuiggin (HT), Mr C Roberts (HT), Mr J Nicholls, Ms H Dziura, Mr G Willetts, Mr M O’Sullivan, Mr P Smith, Mr F Wheeler, Mrs K Bailey and Mr A Couch.

**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**

Technology endeavours to lead the student step by step through the process of designing. Design is a way of creating a solution to a problem. Designing usually begins with a 'problem' (a design brief). Students plan to develop a suitable solution, then work to produce the product and then test (or evaluate) it to see how effective the solution is. The process involves your child in researching and analysing the information to ensure that they choose a suitable solution. They may have to sketch and label their ideas. They may have to test a variety of materials before they make a choice, they may have to develop skills in using equipment. They may have to plan a series of steps so they can make something in an organised 'production process'. Each area or context will see them working with different materials and design briefs. It is important to realise that a lot of work goes into the product before they actually make it. Your child will progress through a number of different areas of study. They will be given specific requirement lists when they commence each topic.

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:**

Completion and extension of classroom activities. Maintain portfolio to a satisfactory standard. Investigation of suitable materials for use in the design project.

**SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**

- The practical nature of these Technology areas requires students to wear **covered leather or vinyl shoes which must have a leather or vinyl tongue (no fabric/material upper allowed)**. Each context area will have more specific requirements.
- Subject contribution fee - $20.00 per semester.
- A 96 page exercise book.

**PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:**

Nil

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**

Students will be experiencing many new skills in the various context areas. Please encourage them to work to their full potential. It is desirable for students to develop skills not for parents to practice theirs.
**INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS**

**FACULTY:** CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS (VISUAL ART)

**TEACHERS:** Mr M McNamara (HT), Ms A Peters, Mrs C McNeill, Mrs H McLennan & Mr J Hayward

**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**

Year 7 students will study the language of Art and a range of themes that develop an appreciation for art. They will make artworks on paper, in clay, with paint in print etc, which reflect their responses to the themes. They will study the artworks of other artists (particularly Australian) and how these artists have treated issues in the art world.

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:**

Occasional need to complete bookwork/project. Revision of special art spelling and words as they are treated in class.

**SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**

- A3 Sketchbook, 2B pencil and eraser
- Overshirt for painting/clay may be useful
- Subject fee for Art materials is $35

**PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:**

Occasional drawing/observation assignments during Art class time. Occasional visits to exhibitions in town.

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**

Exhibitions and competitions as advised from time to time.

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**

- Look in their Artbooks when at home. Get the students to explain how their artworks reflect their understanding of other Artists' works. Discuss presentation of bookwork and ideas for improvement.
- Hear spelling words!
**INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS**

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<th>FACULTY: CREATIVE &amp; PERFORMING ARTS (MUSIC)</th>
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<td>TEACHERS: Mr M McNamara (HT), Mr C Holleman</td>
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**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**

We will involve Year 7 in the reading and writing, listening, playing and composing of music. From their involvement in all of these areas the children will come to understand how musicians deal with their craft. We will sing and learn some playing skills on keyboard, guitar, percussion instruments and music technology.

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<th>HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:</th>
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<td>Regular spelling revision.</td>
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<td>Finishing off class work, completing small assignments.</td>
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<td>Practise pieces</td>
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**SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**

- 128 page exercise book

**PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:**

- May be a visiting performer or two – nothing planned yet.

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**

- Band, choir, Year 7 concert and MAD concerts.

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**

- Spelling
- Bookwork completed and neatly presented.
- Supervised regular practise for students studying instruments.
- Helping to find information for projects, assignments.
- Listening to practise sessions, attending performances.
INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS

FACULTY: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PDHPE)

TEACHERS: Miss A Wilson (HT), Mrs R Burke, Miss R McCann, Mrs K Gallen, Miss P Smith, Mr S Hatch, Mrs E Kurtz and Mr I Giammarco

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:

PDHPE provides opportunities for students to learn about, and practice ways of adopting and maintaining a healthy, productive and active life. It also involves students learning through movement experiences that are both challenging and enjoyable.

Students in Year 7 will be given an opportunity to develop a variety of skills including communicating, decision-making, problem-solving and moving. These skills will be developed through learning experiences related to the following concepts:

- growth and development
- personal awareness and relationships with others
- active lifestyle
- movement skill
- risk taking & minimising harm
- healthy food habits
- emotional wellbeing

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:

Students will benefit from having access to current information on health issues via newspapers, magazines, TV programs and Libraries.

All students will be given homework on a regular basis. Students are encouraged to use a diary to record homework and assignment work.

SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

Practical activities require a red school shirt & blue shorts (refer to Uniform Policy). Uniforms are available from several outlets in Mudgee at reasonable prices.

98 page exercise book.

PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:

To extend student experiences it is common for students to be taken to external venues such as the pool, tennis courts and Walkers field. These facilities may incur a small fee which will be communicated to students during the term. Bus travel is required at times at a cost of approximately $2 per trip.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:

Students may nominate and trial for any number of school representative sporting teams. These are advertised on assembly, through daily announcements and during class time. Athletics, swimming and cross country events are also conducted at various times during the year. These activities are compulsory for Year 7 students with the aim of promoting positive participation in physical activity, not just competitive outcomes.

TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:

- Encourage students to read health related articles in newspapers and magazines. Lifestyle programs on TV are also useful resources.
- Ensure students have appropriate change of clothes for practical classes.
- Take the time to listen to student comments regarding your family health and lifestyle as they are most likely to have current and beneficial information for all.
- Encourage your child to discuss health related issues in an open way. This enables students to develop vital skills that will promote resilience and coping strategies.
**INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS**

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<th>FACULTY: LANGUAGES</th>
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<td><strong>TEACHERS:</strong> Mr W Eade (HT), Ms M Date and Miss M Hutchins</td>
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**BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:**
* Communication in simple terms in a variety of everyday situations
* Study of various aspects of Japanese culture
* Use of Japanese language learning computer software and hardware
* Writing in Japanese script: hiragana and simple kanji
* Hands on cultural activities, including origami, calligraphy and masks
* Japanese pop culture – fashion, music, anime, manga

**HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:**
* Nightly revision of work covered in that day's lesson
* Book work up to date and handout sheets pasted in
* Assignment work as requested
* Preparation for tests

**SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**
* 128 page exercise book

**PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:**

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:**

**TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:**
* Check book regularly
* Sight information sheets intended for students and parents
* Encourage student to ask for help if he/she is having difficulty with work
* Ensure student revises daily work and completes set homework
INFORMATION FOR YEAR 7 PARENTS

FACULTY: LIBRARY

TEACHERS: Mr F Scognamiglio

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE YEAR 7 COURSE:

Students at high school do not usually have separate "Library Lessons". Rather information literacy skills are taught through units of work across all subject areas by both the class teacher and the teacher/librarian working together.

Throughout the academic year, all students undertake resource & research based units of work in a number of subjects. These involve accessing and using information from a variety of sources including books, videos, DVD’s and the Internet. Students are encouraged to borrow from the wide selection of fiction and non-fiction books available to them. Students are also encouraged to participate in the Premiers Reading Challenge.

Whilst students are required to have their own reading material for roll call, they may borrow books from the library for this purpose.

NB: Students are fiscally responsible for resources they borrow. Items lost or returned damaged will require a replacement cost.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:

The Teacher-Librarian is available to students during recess and lunch to assist students with their respective homework and/ or assignment needs.

SPECIAL CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

The signing and returning of the MHS Acceptable Use Policy for technology is necessary before students are able to use computers at school. Students need to present their ID card to borrow.

The use of library computer is for both Academic and personal information use. However, preference will be given to students completing assigned work and research based assessments.

PROPOSED EXCURSIONS:

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS:

The Teacher-Librarian is available to assist students in developing advanced Information literacy skills during breaks or at times approved by their respective teachers.

TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP THEIR STUDENT WITH THE STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT:

Encourage students to read widely and use the resources for both school and personal needs.