The View
Mount View High School’s Newsletter
“Delivering excellence, innovation and success”

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Issue 5  JULY 2015

2015 EVENT CALENDER

| TERM 3 | Wk 2 | Mon 20th – Tue 21st Jul | · Showcase production from 6.30pm |
|        | Wed 22nd – Thur 23rd Jul | · Regional Athletics at Glendale |
|        | Wed 22nd Jul | · Mayoral Debate Workshop at Cessnock Council Chambers 10am |
|        | Thur 23rd Jul | · Yr8 & Yr9 Subject Selection Information Evening from 5pm – 6pm |
|        |                | · Yr10 Subject Selection Information Evening from 6.15pm – 8pm |
| Wk 3   | Mon 27th – Fri 31st Jul | · Education Week |
|        | Wed 29th Jul | · Mayoral Debate Heats at Cessnock Performing Arts Centre |
|        |                | · CCGPS Education Week reception at Mount View High School |
|        | Fri 31st Jul | · Science & Engineering Challenge for nominated Yr9/10 students |
| Wk 4   | Mon 3rd – Wed 5th Aug | · Yr10 Interviews |
|        | Wed 5th Aug | · Mayoral Debate Final at Cessnock Performing Arts Centre |
|        |                | · Leos Change Over Dinner 6pm |
| Wk 5   | Mon 10th – Fri 14th Aug | · Yr12 HSC trial period |
|        | Mon 10th Aug | · AECG at Kurri Public School 4pm |
|        | Wed 12th Aug | · P & C meeting in common room |

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Ms Desley Pfeffer
Welcome to our first newsletter for Term 3. It is hard to believe that it is July already and that we are already turning our attention to subject selection for 2016. That said though, there is still a lot happening and yet to be accomplished this year!

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the many teachers and students who were in the school during the holidays to do some extra classes, especially in preparation for the HSC. I am sure that your efforts will be rewarded.

Our progress towards the school’s strategic plan 2015 - 2017 is well underway. There is a focus on providing the very best facilities as well as ensuring that students’ academic success and wellbeing is paramount. Here’s a little of what is happening:
- the LEAP (Learning, Exhibition and Performance) Centre has been handed over and we are in the final stages of fit out;
- our school library will undergo a major refurbishment at the end of this term, incorporating feedback and suggestions from students and staff alike - it promises to be a wonderful place to inspire students and will finally provide staff with a space to undertake training in a professional setting
- organisational effectiveness has been strengthened with the adoption of a fully inclusive software program called Sentral - attendance and student wellbeing is underway, mark book and reporting modules and a Parent Portal will follow
- a new timetabling team has been established and have begun training in Edval software - online subject selection will be undertaken within the next 2 weeks
- changes have been made to our school’s curriculum which we believe will strengthen academic and vocational opportunities for our students - this will affect our current Yr 8, 9 and 10 students and will be

FACULTY LEADERS

English  Melissa Wyper  PD/H/PE Rlg  Jamie Grove
Maths  Andrew Gill  TAS Rlg  Andrew Newman
Science  Natalie Death  Admin Rlg  Liz Alder
HSIE  Lynne Davies  Teach/Learn  Leanne Triggs
CAPA  Larayne Jeffery  Wellbeing  Julie Myers & Steve Quigley

YEAR ADVISERS

Year 7  Jodie Scheffler  Year 8  Rebecca Conn
      Year 9  Rebecca Bartlett  Year 10  Angela Roughan
      Year 11  Sharon Curran  Year 12  Christine Bell
explained further at the Subject Selection Night on Thursday night
- plans for a revised house system, which will improve school morale and students’ sense of belonging to the school will be endorsed later this term for 2016 implementation
- our partnership with the University of Newcastle is constantly expanding with opportunities for students aiming for university entrance and two exciting research projects to be undertaken in our school later this year
- many students are also benefitting from our increased participation with the Beacon Foundation – 38 students received free bikes to improve their physical fitness; students have gone on visits to Origin Energy, IHG Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley and Komatsu to ‘uncover’ what it is that businesses expect of young people entering the workforce; a number of Year 10 students recently attended a “Polish” program to learn about the ‘soft skills’ that are so important when applying for a job; and there are many more opportunities planned
- professional development sessions were held on Staff Development Day at the beginning of this term that focused on many of the other aspects of our plan, including positive education, Tell them from Me student surveys, and Visible learning.

If you have not had a look at the strategic plan please do so on our school’s website - http://www.mountview-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/14038873/14050126/School_Plan_-_Final_Apr_15.pdf

Finally, on behalf of Mount View High School staff and students, I would like to congratulate Colin Chapman who, at the P&C mid-year dinner on Friday night was awarded life membership of the P&C in recognition of his tireless work for our school and as a Past President of the P&C.

**DEPUTIES’ REPORTS**

**Mr Shane Hookway – Deputy Yrs7/9/11**

**2016 Subject Selection Information Night – Thursday 23rd July from 5pm in the MPC**

The information night will be for students in Year 8 selecting for Year 9 in 2016, for students in Year 9 selecting for Year 10 in 2016, and for students in Year 10 selecting for Year 11 in 2016 and will be held on Thursday 23rd July in the MPC (hall).

**Students this year in 2015 will have:**

1. New processes of selecting subjects (via the internet)
3. New opportunities for acceleration into the HSC whilst still in Year 10
4. New curriculum pattern of study for 2016 for students in Year 9 and Year 10

As such it is really important that every effort is made to attend this evening.

The evening commences at 5pm and runs through until 6pm for Year 8 and 9 students and then from 6.15 till 8.10pm for Year 10 students. This year we will be working hard to move our process for selecting subjects, online. Students will be provided account details and instructions via their @education email. The school website will have all relevant information including subject information booklets posted onto it. Facebook and SMS will be used to notify the community about all relevant information and deadlines.

**Stage 5 (Year 9 and 10) presentation**

5.00 – 5.05 Welcome to country
5.05 – 5.10 Principal’s Address: Desley Pfeffer
5.10 – 5.25 Deputy Principal’s Presentation by Shane Hookway. Curriculum and subject selection processes: The presentation relates to recent changes made to the curriculum for Stage 5 students (Year 9 and 10) taking effect for 2016. Included also is the subject selection and timetabling process at Mount View High School.
5.25 – 6.00 Subject Stalls: Opportunity to speak with relevant staff to find out more detailed information relating to specific subjects. This will be conducted in the Multi-Purpose Centre.

**Stage 6 (Year 11) presentation**

6.15 – 6.20 Welcome to country
6.20 – 6.25 Principal’s Address: Desley Pfeffer
6.25 – 6.45 Deputy Principal’s Presentation by Shane Hookway. Curriculum and subject selection processes: There will be two presentations. The first explains timetabling processes at Mount View High School and requirements for the Higher School Certificate. The second presentation introduces the executive of the
school and highlights subjects that they are responsible for.

**6.45 – 8.10** Individual Subject Presentations: Students and parents will visit specific school classrooms to hear detailed information relating to subjects.

**Curriculum Changes**
During Term 2 Mount View High School executive made changes to the curriculum pattern for 2016 and beyond. The net changes revolved around the variety of electives that are offered to Stage 5 (Year 9 and 10) and Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) and also the number of electives that a student may study during Stage 5 (Year 9 and Year 10). The 2015 – 2017 school strategic plan has a focus on investigating and developing new courses for Stage 5 & 6 electives to be introduced in 2016 and beyond, along with investigating curriculum structures of electives in Stage 5. This was the initial catalyst for change. Student voice, parents and citizens and the school executive were all involved in collaborative decision making process about changes to Year 9 and 10 elective patterns that would better suit Mount View High School’s ability to meet the needs of students now and into the future. Endorsement relating to change was gained at all levels across the school learning community.

**The Change**
From 2016 Year 9 and 10 students will study 2 electives for 7 periods per cycle each. This will replace the current structure where students study three electives during Year 9 at 5 periods per cycle each and 3 electives in Year 10 at 4 periods per cycle each. This has been represented visually below.

### Current pattern

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<th>English(I)</th>
<th>Maths(II)</th>
<th>Science(II)</th>
<th>History/Geography (I)</th>
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### 2016 pattern

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<th>English(I)</th>
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Other adjustments to accommodate include shifting a period of English from Year 10 into Year 9, maintaining the number of English hours delivered across Years 9 and 10. A single elective period was consequently shifted from Year 9 into Year 10. The Year 10 careers lesson has been reallocated to electives. In 2016 careers will be delivered via a more personalised structure.

**Rationale**
The expected benefits to the students of Mount View High School include a range of new courses being offered for study in 2016 meeting the current and future needs of the students. Included in this will be the ability for some Year 10 students to be accelerated in to Year 11 Preliminary HSC. Preliminary HSC Hospitality will be offered as a Year 10 elective during 2016. For students who are successful in gaining a place in this course they will have the option of completing the HSC component of that course in Year 11. Students who are successful in completing a VET course during Years 10 and 11 will have the option of having a 1 subject (7 periods) reduced study load in Year 12. Students who elect to leave at the end of Year 11 will leave with a Certificate II in the VET subject they have successfully completed.

The staff of Mount View High School are excited about the prospects of improved student outcomes and look forward to the opportunity to discuss with families, curriculum patterns that will suit individual needs.

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**Mrs Julie Smith – Deputy Yrs8/10/12**

**Arborist’s Inspection**
We have had an additional arborist’s inspection of trees on the school site, this time looking at trees on the school’s perimeter and in the school farm.

Some further tree lopping and safety management will take place in the coming weeks. Students should not be affected by these activities as they will be taking place away from the general playground area, however, all students, visitors and school staff are reminded to take notice of safety barriers and to ensure that safe behaviour is foremost.

**School Development Day**
Mount View High School staff participated in a most effective and well evaluated day on the first day of Term 3. All staff participated in three professional development sessions ranging from ‘Sentral’ (our new administration program), the Safe Schools Coalition, Positive Education, ‘Tell Them From Me’- what are students telling us?, Visible Learning and Effective Feedback to Students, Teacher Accreditation to staff.
wellbeing activities. Presentations were from school staff where they were sharing their own expertise with colleagues. Evaluations demonstrate that this was highly valued by all staff.

School Administration and Support Staff also participated in a very effective day where they were presented with a number of key note speakers who spoke on topics ranging from positive interaction with students to finding passion within your job. They also attended breakout sessions on customer service, finance training and first aid.

We remind parents that there is no School Development Day at the start of Term 4.

Year 12
I remind Year 12 that Term 3 is an opportunity to make every lesson and every day count! This term will fly past and whilst we look forward to the graduation activities at the end of term there is a lot of work to complete between week 2 and week 10.

I ask that all students find out where they are with respect to ‘N’ warning letters and they seek advice as to how to redeem these and so ensure that they are able to complete their HSC successfully. Advice can be sought from Miss Bell, Mrs Godber or Mrs Smith.

All students should have accessed BOSTES ‘Students Online’ to find their personalised HSC timetable as well as study hints and practice exam questions for those examinations with multiple choice answers. These activities would be a useful preparation for the Trial HSC coming up in week 5.

Disability provisions for the Higher School Certificate examinations
Disability provisions in the HSC are practical arrangements designed to help students who couldn’t otherwise make a fair attempt to show what they know in an exam room.

The provisions granted are solely determined by how the student’s exam performance is affected. Provisions may include braille papers, large-print papers, use of a reader and/or writer, extra time or rest breaks.

A note to parents
If you are concerned about whether disability provisions apply for your child, you should contact the school’s Year Adviser or Counsellor.

The application form must be submitted by your child’s school as it requires specific information about the difficulties your child may experience in a classroom or examination situation. This does not mean, however, that you should not be involved in the application process.

Who can apply for disability provisions?

The definition of ‘disability’ in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) includes:
- physical
- intellectual
- psychiatric
- sensory
- neurological, and
- learning disabilities, as well as
- physical disfigurement, and
- the presence in the body of disease-causing organisms.

(Australian Human Rights Commission).

Note that the disability provisions apply only where the disability is such that a practical arrangement is required to reduce disadvantage in an exam situation.

Disability provisions also apply to temporary and emergency-related disabilities. A typical example of an ‘emergency’ is where a student breaks their writing arm a week before an examination.

Students who become ill during an examination period may be eligible to make an illness/misadventure appeal rather than a disability provisions application.

Disability provisions for other year groups?
Disability provisions can also occur for students in other year groups that meet the same needs basis.

Please contact Ms Alder (Rlg Head Teacher Administration) or Ms Parish (Learning and Support Teacher) for more information.

Year 12 Report – By Chris Bell
It has come to the time of year that is very important for Year 12 students. Decisions need to be made about directions for next year, assessments are being finalised and final reports are being drafted. This then ends with graduation at the end of the term followed by a quick turn-around for the start of exams in October.
Students will be given guidance about enrolling with UAC to make choices regarding university degrees. These are due at the end of September. Also, there are numerous opportunities for students to complete applications for early entry at various universities, including Newcastle University for the first time this year. Some of these are due early in August.

Trial exams mark the end of the assessment period for the HSC and students need to make sure they have finalised all N-warnings to maximise their results for each subject. Those students who have multiple N-warnings will be interviewed soon to help them achieve their HSC. Monday homework centre is open to all students from 3.00 to 5.00 pm to give them a space to study and complete assessments in an environment where they have access to technology and teacher help.

The key to success this term is to remain organised and seek help from teachers when required. We are here to help your student get the most out of their HSC.

**P & C NEWS**

The next P & C meeting is on Wednesday 12th August 2015 in the Common Room starting at 6.30pm. The P & C invite all parents to attend.

The Mount View High School P & C advise that at the August 12th meeting a budgetary item will be considered that requires a vote of members. To participate in this vote attendees of the meeting must be a current financial member of the Mount View High School P & C.

**CCGPS**

The Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools (CCGPS) has a website to support our families and the broader community. Learn more about the initiatives in place across our schools, creating strong educational pathways for all our students. Great links to parent support sites and local community services, and information about who we are and what we are doing within your community. Check out the website and get involved in your child's future today! www.ccgps.schools.nsw.edu.au

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

**School Fees & Student Assistance**

The Admin Office is open for parents to make payments to school fees anytime between 8am – 3.45pm. Alternatively online payments are also welcome.

The student assistance scheme is available to assist parents/guardians meet the cost of subject fees, excursions etc. Therefore parents who receive Centrelink benefits may be entitled to apply for student assistance. If you would like assistance under this scheme please collect a Student Assistance form available from the front office for consideration. For any enquiries regarding Student Assistance please contact our Business Manager, Mrs Knudsen.
From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them in the designated Mount View High School collection box. Customers receive an Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards).

Mount View High School also has an Earn and Learn sticker collection box located at school outside of the Attendance Office. We welcome your sticker donations.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Liz Alder – Rlg Head Teacher**
**Administration**

**Attendance Questions?**
Phone 49902566 ext 1
or call into the Attendance Office

What do you do if you are feeling sick at school?

1) Tell the Teacher.
2) Get a note to go to Sick Bay.
   Sick bay staff will give immediate help to make you comfortable and safe.
3) If you are too unwell, the Sick Bay staff will contact your family to collect you from school.

All ill and injured students need to be logged into our system so that we can provide the best possible care. Students are not permitted to contact families directly during lesson times for any reason.

**Contact Details**
Please ensure that the school always has your most recent contact details.

Daily SMS’s and regular phone contact is often used by Mount View staff to communicate with our families.

Change of contact details can be advised in writing via note, email or forms available at the main office. Please ask if you are unsure what to do.

**Notification of Holidays**
Applications to take holidays during school term are available through the Attendance Office. Please ensure these are completed and submitted for approval before your holiday to avoid attracting unexplained or unjustified absences on your records.

**Educational Neglect**
Please take the time to read the included flyer regarding Educational Neglect. It outlines Department of Education policy and procedures about compulsory school attendance.

**ENGLISH/DRAMA FACULTY**

**Melissa Wyper – Head Teacher**

Subject selection is the important topic of this week, with students in Year 8, 9 and 10 all completing their subject selections in the next two weeks. For Year 10, this means deciding which English to choose when moving into Year 11: Advanced, Standard or Studies. To help make this choice students are encouraged to seek the advice of their English class teacher and the Head Teacher, Melissa Wyper.

The differences between Advanced, Standard and English Studies...

**Advanced English** is the subject for the passionate reader and writer who enjoys sophisticated texts and essay writing. The texts for this course include Shakespeare, 1800s literature and poetry.

**Standard English** is the subject for the majority of English students who can commit to analysing texts and who plan to go to university after school. The texts for this course include 1800s Australian short stories, 1900s poetry and film.

**English Studies** is the subject for the student who is interested in the media and current issues, who plans...
to go to an apprenticeship, traineeship, the defence force, Tafe or workplace, after school. The texts for this course include modern novels, media articles, short stories and film.

The Electives on offer for students currently in Year 8, 9 and 10...

HSC Drama is an elective that offers personalised and collegial learning experiences and creative expression in the HSC. Year 10 current drama students are encouraged to continue in their studies to experience the high sense of achievement in the major work and group performances. Any student from Year 10 can select drama for their Year 11 elective and everyone is welcome.

Drama is the subject for the student who is interested in play building, working with others and performing. These may also be areas that a student wishes to explore and develop within themselves. Drama is on offer for Year 9 and 10 students in 2016 and we encourage students to talk with current drama students, as well as Mr Russell, Ms Baum and Ms Johnson, to find out more.

The Writers Craft is the subject for the student who has a keen interest in creative writing, the process of writing a novel or series of short stories and the field of publishing. It will be offered to Year 9 and 10 students in 2016. We encourage student to talk to Mr Russell to find out more. The students in this class will enjoy the experience of working together to explore current trends in creative writing and sharing their own interests in the different genres of texts.

SCIENCE/AG FACULTY

Natalie Death – Head Teacher

Year 12 Experiment Fest 2015
On 15th June, students from Year 12 Biology, Chemistry and Physics attended Newcastle University to take part in Experiment Fest. Students attended practical sessions for each subject area, aimed at enhancing their practical knowledge for the HSC. They had access to equipment not available in high school and were able to consolidate their learning by talking to University personnel in each of their subjects.

Biology students were able to use high powered microscopes to view blood cells and calculate the size of a single blood cell. They then used equipment to measure their pulse rate during exercise. After this, students were then able to use the automatic pipettes usually shown on the news whenever a scientist is being filmed doing cutting edge research. They used these to give precise measurements when experimenting with different conditions for enzyme activity.

Chemistry students used equipment such as Atomic Absorption Spectrometers to determine a calibration curve to identify the sodium concentration of a sports drink, back titrations to determine the sulphate concentration of a fertiliser and colorimetry to determine the nitrate concentration of a water sample.

Physics students explored the wonders of the photoelectric effect and magnetic levitation. Students were able to view a specialised piece of equipment called an interferometer in action and examined electric and magnetic fields by re-creating Thomson’s experiment.

This annual experience with the University of Newcastle is such a valuable one that enables our HSC Science students to excel in their learned knowledge and skills in a higher education setting.

Year 9 and 10 Science and Engineering Challenge
Our Applied Scientists and selected Year 9 and 10 students have been invited to participate once again in this year’s Science and Engineering Challenge on the Friday 31st July.
This excursion is designed to be an interschool competition to pit our students’ problem solving and critical thinking skills to the test!

It will be held at the University of Newcastle at a cost of $25 per student. Good luck to our team!!

Year 10
A reminder that all Year 10 have been issued with their Independent Research Task. This is a mandatory task set by the Board of Studies. Students are to select a topic of their own choice; research it, conduct an experiment at home to test their ideas and then present.

Year 10 and 12 Agriculture and Vet Primary Industries
These students will be travelling to AgVision at Homebush Bay on Wed 29th July to participate in a variety of career oriented workshops to gather information and skills that could benefit them in selecting a rewarding career in the Agricultural field. Money and notes need to be submitted as soon as possible.

HSIE FACULTY

Lynne Davies – Head Teacher

Junior Homework
As I have reported in earlier View articles, during 2014 the History staff decided that we needed to take a more consistent approach to the tasks and homework that we give to students in Years 7 to 10. A decision was made to create a web site which could be accessed by both students and parents at any time and the History Online Homework Centre was ‘born’. The site can be found at http://mvhshistoryonline.weebly.com/

It is an expectation that students access the site and complete the homework every two weeks and present it to their teachers for marking. We are aware that there are students who will have various reasons for not being able to use the website and these students can request copies of the homework from their teacher or directly from me.

In April 2015 Hannah Onion of year 12 was one of 20 students who went to Gallipoli. The following article is about her experiences
As many people know I represented our school and community in April and I went on a trip of a lifetime and experienced the 100th anniversary of the Anzac landing in Gallipoli. Although I visited Venice and Istanbul, the epitome of the trip was visiting the cemeteries and grave sites that lay across the coast line of Gallipoli. There were five main events that I experienced that I know I will hold for the rest of my life and I would like to share with everyone.

The first was when we were on one of the military history tours and we were being told about the battle of the Nek. Imagine this, me along with our group were standing on a patch of grass where both the Turkish and the Australian lines were, it wouldn’t have been more than 30 metres apart, and the historian talked about how on our side we had young inexperienced men, eager to fight and ordered only to use bayonets. On the Turkish side there were older more experienced men, defending their land with machine guns. The original plan was to bombard the Turks before our first line went up and over the trench but due to miscommunication the bombardments stopped well before the first line of men attacked, giving the Turkish time to prepare. The
first line went up and over. Hundreds killed in an instant. The second line was sent, all killed. The third line prepared to go over knowing that they too would die, putting memoirs, diaries, photographs and gifts aside for their loved ones. When the men were finally told to stop the soldiers turned to each other with tears in their eyes and hugged each other, happy to still be alive. We were told that after the war, when Charles Bean the historian passed this area of the beach by boat, he is said to have seen a snow capped mountain and so he went on land to investigate. As he got closer to the ‘snow’ he realised they were the sun bleached bones of the hundreds of young men that died at the Nek and still to this day, directly under where we were standing, still untouched are many of those men.

The second experience occurred on Anzac Day itself at the dawn service. A man got up to speak and he said that the 25th of April makes him very happy, and I thought to myself how? It is a time of sadness and mourning. He continued, he said Gallipoli gave birth to comradeship and digger humour. In one square mile of Gallipoli there was more laughter than in 100 miles anywhere else. And that made him happy. He spoke about how these men made the best of the cards they were dealt, they didn’t complain. He believed that the comradeship that was sown at Gallipoli is yet to be recreated and it is because of that notion that the 25th of April makes him happy. I think this thought resonated with me so much because he held such a positive memory of these men and I believe that that is how we should remember them as well, in a positive light.

Thirdly, during our trip we visited a large number of cemeteries where we saw a massive number of graves, panels and memorials for all of those who had past. A lot of personal memoirs were left by friends and families as a reminder of the men's spirit and good nature. We have all heard of the story of Simpson and his donkey. Well he is portrayed as a massive Australian hero. He is seen as a selfless, extraordinary person putting his mates before anything else. When we think about this man we, well at least I, envisioned a larger memorial, with a larger plaque. When we visited his gravesite I found it very interesting that his grave was the exact same as all the others. He was buried in a cemetery next to hundreds of his comrades, not distant from another in anyway. This made me think, if this man was so extraordinary, and received the same grave as everyone else; all the other men must have done amazing things as well. And they did, there stories just haven’t been told.

The next experience also occurred while visiting the cemeteries in Gallipoli. We visited a memorial where we were able to read these famous, heart-rending words, attributed to Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. He was a commander of the Ottoman forces at the Dardanelles during the First World War and later the founder of modern Turkey. His words grace memorials on three continents, including at Anzac Cove, Gallipoli. These words allude to the idea that even with the conflict between our two countries and the devastation we caused for Turkey, our sons are still their sons and they will treat them as if they were their own men. This can be seen by the large number of foreign memorials sites, such as British and Australian that can be found on their shore. The forgiveness and mutual respect Turkey has for other countries had a great impact on me and it made me realise that maybe they weren’t the enemy after all.

Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives...
You are now living in the soil of a friendly country.
Therefore rest in peace.
There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours...
You, the mothers,
who sent their sons from faraway countries
wipe away your tears;
your sons are now lying in our bosom
and are in peace,
after having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well.

Finally, with in our tour group there were many characters and relationships arose which resembled the Gallipoli diggers. At the start of our trip we were
told that the one thing they wanted us to take back from Gallipoli was the Anzac spirit and I believe every single person did that without even realising it. Everyone got along so well, with a lot of laughter and pranks being made but when it came down to it we supported each other in the group like they were family, similarly to how the Anzacs would have been back in 1915. We had one of the student’s grandparent pass while we were away, and he required a lot of support, and encouragement. When we were visiting the memorials emotions were at a high and tears fell. This all so commonly thrown around word of ‘mateship’ was shown so vividly between everyone on the trip and we all have a much higher understanding of the diggers because of that.

This experience has given me a different perspective that I would have never considered prior to this trip. It was a trip that I will never forget and I am so grateful for the support I received from this school, the chaperones who went with us, the RSL clubs and the many sponsors that made it all possible.

8T and The Tasmanian Devil

During Term 2 we were set the task of researching a threatened species and planning a campaign to raise awareness for that animal. After learning about threatened species we decided that we would like to try and raise money. We then had to choose what animal we wanted to raise money for and after much debate our class decided to focus on the Tasmanian Devil. With the help of Miss Curran and Miss Redfern we put our heads together to come up with ideas for the fundraiser. As a group we decided on a wide range of fundraising activities.

We then had to take our proposal to Ms Davies and she helped us to decide on four final activities. The events we finally decided on were:
- A morning & recess BBQ
- A donation tin at the canteen for spare change
- A lolly guessing competition
- A cake stall

Kate Schreiber and Georgia Shaloub then took our proposal to Ms Pfeffer and she was very supportive. After the approval of our Principal, the proposition was taken to the Executive meeting which included all head teachers. All of the teachers were on board and were happy to help out in any which way that they could. On the 16th of June, we all arrived at school early to prepare for our morning BBQ Breakfast. We cooked: bacon, eggs, sausages and pancakes. At recess we sold the same menu but we had another stall from which we sold all different types of cakes and brownies.
Our day was a huge success. It was filled with fun, laughter and lots of cooking and making money. We all had to contribute in some way and we were all assigned different jobs. Ella Myers, Charlotte Nelson and Sofia Kurki spoke on assembly addressing the cause we were trying to raise money for and tried to convince people to bring money to support our activities. The day was a huge success and our fundraising saw us achieve our goal of $500. We would like to thank all of the students and staff for their support.

As part of our preparation for the fundraiser we had to first learn about what made the Tasmanian Devil, a threatened species. Some of the information we collected is below, this information came from a brochure created by Ella Myers, Sofia Kurki and Charlotte Nelson.

**What is a Tasmanian devil?**

A Tasmanian devil is a marsupial that is native to the southern island state of Australia, called Tasmania. The scientific name is Sarcophilus Harrisii. The gestational period of a devil is 21 days. They are a heavily built species and are good fighters. The average weight is 8 kilograms or 17 pounds. Tasmanian devils are in desperate need of help and attention.

**Why do they need help?**

They are becoming endangered by an aggressive type of tumour called Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD). The disease is a non-viral, transmissible, parasitic cancer. The tumour develops around their mouth and face. This causes them to be unable to eat and as a result of that they end up starving to death. Tasmanian Devils are bound to extinction within the next 20 years without conservation or help.

**What are you donating your money to and why?**

Your donation is used to support research experiments to try and find a cure for DFTD. The funding is also used for captive breeding and saving the Tasmanian devils. Every single donation made is getting us closer to finding a cure to save these precious marsupials. Every dollar given is of massive support and as a native species to Australia, saving them would allow generation of families everywhere to still be able to see their species flourish.

**Middle Schools Program Term 2 2015 – By Vicki Neech**

During Term 2, I had the pleasure of working with an enthusiastic group of Year 6 students from some of our partner primary schools. There were thirteen Year 6 students from four primary schools who undertook an
ancient history research task. The task was completed in eight weeks on Thursday afternoons in the library at Mount View High School.

The students worked in groups to find information about an ancient society of their choice. This information had to be presented in an imaginary newspaper from that society. Three groups chose Rome.

The girls from Nulkaba Public School – Sophie Percival, Chelsea Webb, Lilly Stace and Chloe Beckett – were very well organised and showed great teamwork in their excellent completion of the task.

Two boys from Millfield Public School – William Cagney and Brodie Singleton - also chose Rome. They did a good a job to present their newspaper by the due date.

The other group that chose Rome were from Bellbird Public School – Takota Allen, Kaitlin Willis, Sarah Burns and Sarah Wiese. These girls not only produced a newspaper, but also made a current affair- style video which was very imaginative and entertaining.

The group from West Cessnock Public School – Elizabeth Anderson, Susan Anderson and Ethan Floyd - decided to research ancient Persia. They found interesting information and presented it in an impressive finished product.

All of these students are to be congratulated for their effort and successful completion of the Middle Schools Program in Term 2.

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**CAPA – STATE OF THE ARTS**

Larayne Jeffery – Head Teacher

Showcase and New School Song!
The term is off and running with our major event ‘Showcase’ showing on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July at 6.30pm in the MPC. An excellent show is planned to highlight the talents of our creative students along with entertaining compères and faculty presentations. Our new school song will be launched at Showcase and will feature two of our very talented ex-students who assisted in the two day composition workshop last term where a team of students wrote the new song under the guidance of visiting composer Paul Jarmen.

Tickets are available from the front office at $15 per student and $20 per adult. Limited tickets will be available at the door. Grab your seats and have some fun!

University Partnership Project
This term we have joined together in partnership with the University of Newcastle to present a CAPA performance at the Griffith Duncan Theatre on Thursday 5th November. University students and lecturers will assist us with preparation for the event.
which will consist of a spectacular dance/music item based on the theme “Technology in My Life”. The program is particularly aimed at Year 9 students and building aspirations in CAPA.

**Music Curriculum Studies**

Year 8 students are very excited to begin their study of film music and will be analysing and performing a variety of film music examples based on the conceptual study of structure, texture and dynamics. Students will present an individual task involving a discussion of a film music example with reference to the musical features and functions of film music. Students will also be composing a mini-movie soundtrack as part of their studies.

Year 9 students have begun their study of Musical Theatre and have booked an excursion to the Capitol Theatre to see Les Misérables on the 12th August. Students will focus on a wide variety of musicals and set, stage and lighting design.

Year 10 students are studying Music in Education with the aim of visiting primary feeder schools in Term 4 to apply their knowledge and learning to their younger colleagues.

Preliminary students are finalising their last topic which is an Elective Topic Study of their own choice. Their research involves a wide range of topics from Jazz to Music and the Related Arts.

HSC students are preparing for their final performance program. Their actual HSC Music examination will occur in week 9 of this term, only 3 weeks after their Music trial exam in week 6. All students are presenting one of their HSC pieces at Showcase next week as preparation for the big event.

**Learning, Exhibition & Performance (LEAP) Centre**

The LEAP centre has had the final inspection and the structural building is now complete. Furniture and fit out are underway and students are very excited to be using this space as part of their learning process. Watch this space for news about the official opening!!

**Year 7 Art**

Last month in Year 7 Art some students were creating Textural Clay Sculptures that remind us of eggs.

The students built their sculptures from clay and after being fired in the kiln, they were stained using coloured inks.

When looking at the eggs the students started imagining what kinds of creatures might hatch from them, where they might be found and what habits that creature might possess.

Imaginations went wild and the students drew their animal using watercolour and artline pen. They created plumage and scales, fur and flesh using drawing techniques such as hatching, crosshatching and stippling.

The students then applied their scientific knowledge and created a science style record of their new creature, documenting everything from species’ name to habitat.

Sensational and fantastical works were completed.
Handwashing is the single most effective way to reduce the spread of germs that cause respiratory disease. Flu sufferers should avoid public places and close contact with others.

Handwashing is a simple step-by-step process:
· Wet hands with water and apply soap;
· Lather for 10 to 15 seconds;
· Rinse hands under running water;
· Dry hands with a clean towel;

Term 3 Wellbeing Programs

During this term a variety of programs to support student learning, engagement, wellbeing and awareness will operate in the school. Specific students will be invited to participate via a letter sent home to parents requesting permission. Parents can make contact with Steve Quigley or Julie Myers to discuss their child’s involvement. Such programs include:

Inspirit
Brave
OATS — outdoor education
Shine
Boys shed
Rock and Water
The Men we Need
Inner Pyrotechnics

All programs will begin in week 3

Academic support

During Term 2, the school ran a series of catch up sessions for students who have outstanding non-completed assessment tasks. These sessions were held on Monday and Wednesday afternoon from 3pm – 5pm.

Students are invited once again in Term 3 to participate in this support program. Mount View High School staff will in attendance to support and help students complete these tasks. Letters have been sent out to Year 9 and 11 families making parents aware of incomplete tasks and inviting students to participate.

The Importance of Sleep

Youth Scholarship Program

NSW Government in conjunction with Family and Community Services (Housing) are offering students of Mount View High School the opportunity to apply for an academic scholarship as part of the Youth Scholarship Program.

The scholarship aims to assist eligible young people living in social housing to complete the Higher School Certificate of TAFE equivalent by providing a one-off payment of $1500 to be spent on education related items.

Students studying Years 11 and 12 in 2016 are eligible to apply. For further information, please see Mr Quigley in the Wellbeing office or visit www.housing.nsw.gov.au Applications close 31st July 2015.
Mission Australia Youth Survey

Mission Australia is running their annual Youth Survey. Students aged 15 to 19 have the opportunity to respond online to questions about social inclusion/exclusion and focuses on values, concerns and thoughts about their future. The information gathered will be used to make informed decisions for our school and community.

Could we please encourage you to allow your child to participate in the survey by returning the permission note which has been sent home. If you require another permission note, please see your Year Adviser or Mr Quigley in the Wellbeing office.

Mount View High School was fortunate to receive sponsorship from the local business community to enable us to run these workshops giving our students the opportunity to participate in such a beneficial program especially for those students looking to enter into the world of work. Mount View High School would like to thank Mr Bryce Gibson and the Cessnock Leagues Club for their generous contribution to ‘Polish’.

Feedback from participating students:

“I have learnt how the workplace works and what employers look for”

“Beacon helped me understand what to expect at an interview”

“Beacon helped me with confidence”

“I have learnt how to present myself at an interview”

“I now know more skills that are usable in everyday life”

“I feel more confident, and I now know what employers want to see, I feel this will definitely help me in the future”

“My future is brighter because of Tim and Jade teaching us how to be work ready, and showing us there are many more work paths than what’s in the papers.”
TAFE Outreach are running the following courses in your area. For more information about these courses please contact Annabelle at TAFE on 65421115.

At Kurri TAFE
- Introduction to Floristry on a Friday from 9.30am to 1.30pm from 31st July.
- Café Operations and Accommodation Services on a Thursday from 10am to 1pm from 6th August.

At Maitland TAFE
- Café Operations on a Wednesday from 10am to 1pm from 12th August.
- Acrylic Nails on a Monday from 10.30am to 1.30pm from 3rd August.

At Metford TAFE
- Basic Computing on a Friday from 9am to 12noon starting soon.

SPORT
Mount View High School Lawn Bowlers Do Us Proud By Col Butters
I was fortunate enough to accompany four very dedicated lawn bowlers to compete in the Lawn Bowls High School Challenge on Thursday 18th June against Hunter River High School at Raymond Terrace.
Playing at the East Maitland Bowling Club, I can only say that they did us proud. Not only did they win against the other team and enter the next round after two sets of 10 ends, but they also worked as a team, represented us well and took the game extremely seriously until winning the match with the very last bowl which prevented a sudden death playoff. I was standing up and willing the bowl into position for them.

With Michael Walters being the skip or Captain and in charge of the team, he was accompanied by Luke Sweeney, Reid Browne and Angus McKenzie. In fact it was the lawn bowlers watching on from the clubhouse who were enthralled by the match and informed me that they have never seen such teamwork from young men like that in a long time. All I can say is “well done”.

They travelled to Muswellbrook on Friday afternoon to register at 5pm at the John Hunter Motel and then they had to be formally dressed in their school uniform and blazers to attend the Rotary dinner at the Muswellbrook RSL Club. At the dinner Cameron and Marnie had to present a speech on their elected country of Italy and provide information on their team members.

Early Saturday morning they had to be dressed in their traditional Italian clothes and arrive at the Muswellbrook Council Chambers by 8am ready to start debating world resolutions for the country of Italy. Cameron and Marnie had spent a lot of personal time researching the United Nation resolutions and gave very inspiring and convincing speeches throughout the day, even getting a standing ovation and a round of applause as they tried to shut down other countries from opposing to declare their nuclear weapons.
There were 16 high schools competing including many high schools from Newcastle such as Merewether High and Hunter Performing Arts, Dungog High, Scone Grammar and Bulahdelah Central. There were two prizes given on the day. First prize went to Kotara High who represented Germany and they now go to Canberra to debate at the National MUNA Assembly. Mount View High took out the next prize called the Peace Prize, which is a great achievement and the first time our school has won this award.

Many thanks go to our local Cessnock Rotary Club who sponsored our students and to Mr & Mrs Jackson for organising this sponsorship and for allowing our students to have this wonderful experience.

**Biggest Morning Tea**

The staff members of Mount View High School held a “Biggest Morning Tea” on Friday 29th May 2015. Each faculty prepared a cake representing their subject and each cake was then auctioned off. The cake that raised the most money was from our Learning and Support faculty, made by Rebecca Rounsley. She now takes over the gold cup from our last year’s winner, Julia McNeill. We are pleased to announced that a cheque for $531.50 was sent to the Cancer Council.

**Captains Visit To Parliament House**

On Thursday 4th June 2015, our two captains Alan Tull and Gabrielle Alexander left Cessnock at 4.30am to catch a train from Morisset Train Station to travel to Sydney. They were invited with other captains from NSW to attend a special day at Parliament House and to have a tour and afternoon tea with the Retired Governor General at Government House. They travelled with the two captains from Cessnock High and they were met by our own local member, Clayton Barr.

Our captains were great ambassadors for Mount View High and we thank them for representing our school with pride.

**Mount View Leo Club**

The Leos have been busy attending the Lions District 201N3 Training Day on Sunday 24th May 2015 at Raymond Terrace. Seven of our students completed 6 hours of training as part of the club development program for 2015/2016. They were applauded by the District General Lion for their involvement and fundraising activities in the community and they were
able to share ideas with the Hunter Valley Grammar Leo Club Members. Certificates were presented to:
Khadija Arain
Saadia Arain
Ainsley Flett
Conner Garred
Georgia Bailey
Marnie Bullen
Tahlia Hughes

Our Mount View Leo Club will be having its Change Over Dinner on Wednesday 5th August 2015 in the school hall at 6.30pm. We are excited that we have new members who will be inducted into our Leo Club and we are still encouraged by the involvement of our past students who have continued with their membership and are actively involved in all activities. The dinner will cost $20 per person and we encourage parents/family members to attend. Payments can be made on the night and RSVP to Mrs Blandon by 27/7/15.

The Leos are actively organising the following events and would like your support:
• Sunday 30th August 2015
  Parkinsons Unity Walk – Sydney Olympic Park
  Leave school bus bay at 8am and return by Rover Coaches by 5pm. Payment and details TBA.

The Leos also joined forces with the P&C Committee for a working bee the following Sunday morning to clean up the front gardens and the rose garden. We thank all parents and students for helping out on the day and look forward to doing more and improving our school environment.

Mount View Leos will be combining with Cessnock Lions on Sunday 26th July 2015 to help out at the Vineyard Fun Run at 6.30am. We will be thinking of them as they have this early start on a weekend.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Does Your Child Receive Regular, High Quality Dental Care?
Hunter New England Oral Health provides comprehensive dental care for children under 18 years of age, completely FREE of charge.

For more information, phone 1300 651 625

Experience The Magic Of Hosting
In July our exchange student, Tom, joined our family. And when you gate hePM he ready did fine. He was described as being shy. Our experience as a family has been amazing and unforgettable.

Tom is leaving this week and I feel like we have grown up and leaving home. There is nothing I can say about our time with Tom. Tom has been through all sorts of things with his family. Through those times, like the best of our family, and the best of our family, and the best of our family.

Tom’s father likes to talk to others. They have driven a wonderful job raising such a cool, nice person, and he is balanced and balanced in the same way. Those who have many fantastic stories with the exchange experiences. We have shared with people that are going to help others.

Thank you, Tom, for the chance to meet you. It would not have been possible without the WEP team. Only a quick week has shown some appreciation to meeting and in brief.

Request student profiles now to find out more! www.wep.org.au 1300 884 733 info@wep.org.au
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they’ll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:


The school leaving age:


Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities