2 April 2014

Principal’s Message

As we move towards the end of Term One it is an opportunity to look back over our achievements. Among the highlights are the student led initiatives such as the Shave for a Cure and the National Day Against Bullying. Another event with high levels of student participation was the school’s Swimming Carnival where again the students took on a strong leadership role.

As we look forward to Term Two there is a strong focus on assessment, examination, reporting and feedback to both students and parents. Term Two is when we take the time to gauge students’ progress and provide guidance and set priorities and goals for the second half of the year. An important event is our Parent Teacher Evening which is scheduled for Tuesday 6 May. This year we are going to online booking for this event. Information on how to book an interview time is included in the newsletter.

Phil Reece

Calendar Items

- Monday 31 March: ½ yearly Year 12 Examinations Commenced
- Wednesday 9 April: Year 11 and Year 12 Camp
- Wednesday 9 April: Interim reports mailed home
- Friday 11 April: Last Day of Term
- Friday 25 April: ANZAC Day March in Camden
- Monday 28 April: Staff Returns for Term Two
- Tuesday 29 April: Students Return for Term Two
- Tuesday 6 May: Parent Teacher Night
- 13 May, 14 May and 15 May: NAPLAN Tests
- 19-29 May: Year 7-10 Examination Period

Online Bookings for Parent Teacher Evening

Interviews: Tuesday 6 May 2014

The school now has an online booking system for the Parent-Teacher Evening to be held on 6 May. The attached letter contains the instructions on how to log on to the booking website and book your interview times. It is important that you enter the event code, which you will find in the instructions.

Interviews are scheduled 7 minutes apart. This allows 5 minutes for the interview and 2 minutes to move to your next appointment. If you have any questions about booking an interview time please ring the office and ask for Mrs Green. A copy of the instructions will also be mailed to you with the interim reports next week. Please note that bookings close on Monday 5 May at 9:00pm.

Deputy Principal Report

It has been wonderful walking around classrooms watching students engage in their learning over the past couple of weeks.

Year 12 should be busily preparing for their Half Yearly Exams which will take place at the end of this term. Mrs Kovac and I would like to wish Year 12 good luck in their exams.

Year 11 and Year 12 have been given an opportunity to attend a camp at the end of the term and I know that the students who are attending camp are looking forward to the activities that are on offer.

Ms Harris (Relieving Deputy Principal)

NAPLAN

Year 7 and Year 9 students will participate in NAPLAN from 13 May – 15 May inclusive. A letter with information in regards to NAPLAN has been sent home this week and it is also attached to the newsletter. Students will need a calculator for part of the numeracy exam and these can be purchased from the school office for $20. This calculator can be used from Year 7 – Year 12.

In 2014, as in previous years, the Writing task will be a single common task for all students. The 2014 Writing test will require students to respond to either a persuasive or narrative writing prompt. However, the genre of the prompt will not be disclosed prior to the test period.
2013 HSC High Achievers Recognition Evening

Last Wednesday I was proud to attend the HSC High Achievers Recognition Evening at Camden Civic Centre. 10 outstanding young people from Mount Annan High School Year 12 2013 cohort attended the evening. It was wonderful to see the students receive recognition for their achievements from the community. Many of our high achievers are now attending university and are busy with the rigours of university life. The Year 12 Advisers Ms Bos and Mr Garland also attended the evening and it was lovely for us to support these proud achievers.

Well done to all our 2013 High Achievers.

Rugby League

On Wednesday 19 March we travelled to Bowral to participate in the Country Cup for U13 and U15s. Although we were soundly beaten in most of our matches, the boys never gave up on the field and their behaviour on the day was outstanding. We are looking at competing in an U14 and U16 event next term and possibly a 9-a-side competition for Year 7 students. I will provide more details about Rugby League events as information arrives.

Mount Annan High Experiences The Taste of Sydney

On Friday 14 March we took 85 students to the Taste of Sydney Excursion in Sydney. Mrs Kovac, Mr Stubbs and I took 85 students ranging from year 7 to year 12 on a bus to Centennial Park. We had a great picnic in the park where the students bonded with each other, eating watermelon, lollies, mini muffins and juice. This was thoroughly enjoyed and a good break before we ventured into the Taste of Sydney with all the samples, cooking classes, demonstration and taste testing of an array of cuisines. Students were involved in cooking with past Master Chef contestans. Students also relaxed and enjoyed the sustainable area with a country garden and shaded area. The students represented the school wonderfully and members of the public praised our students. Overall this was a great experience for students to see and try gourmet food and develop knowledge of the Hospitality sector.

Gifted and Talented Program

During the January school holidays the School of Education at the University of Wollongong held the LEARNING LABS program. LEARNING LABS is a gifted and talented program for students in years 7 to 10 (during 2013). This was the largest program to date with 290 students from the Illawarra, South Coast, Sydney and Southern Highlands attending.

Students who attend the program must be academically performing within the top 10% of their area of interest. Workshops are led by university academics who are leaders in their field. The workshops are innovative and challenging with curriculum pitched at a flexible Year 11/12 level.

During this cycle of LEARNING LABS, five students from Mount Annan High School attended the program and are to be congratulated -

Allysha Poletti: Creative Writing for Beginners and Beyond
Calista Turner: Creative Writing for Beginners and Beyond
Matthew Trpkovski: DIY GMOS- Exploring Genetic Engineering
Cameron Biggs: Industrial Robotics
Jordyn Kelly: UOWTV – Taste Life as a Video Reporter

I would like to personally congratulate these students on successfully attending the program.

Mrs Villanueva
HT Science
Love your Lagoons

Year 7 Waterways Project

As you are aware, our Year 7 students are working in partnership with the University of Western Sydney in a project called Love your Lagoons. We would like to inform both students and parents of the safety hazards which have been identified and the measures taken to address and minimise these hazards.

Please be aware of the following safety concerns when travelling to the Wetlands and working in the Wetlands:

- The office staff (Head SAS if available) and the HT Science are to be informed of the exact time of departure and expected return EACH time a visit is made to the Wetlands.
- A first aid kit is to be obtained from the office and taken to the site.
- Supervising teacher has both CPR and First Aid training.
- Classroom teacher is to ensure that another “supervising adult” attends the excursion for additional supervision of students: ie at least two adults attending per visit.
- Students are instructed to walk on the footpath to the designated Wetlands area.
- Students are instructed not to walk in long grass, not to poke sticks into holes and not to pull bark from trees.
- Students are told not to venture into areas which are not cleared and hence fauna is visible.
- Students are requested to wear insect repellant if concerned.
- Staff are not to take students to the Wetlands if it is raining or looks like rain/bad weather.
- Students are to use the water collection devices only for sampling water (have a 1.2 m handle); therefore they do not need to enter the water.
- Staff are to select entry points to the waterway which are not slippery, sloping or pose a significant danger.
- Students are asked to wear sunscreen and a hat.

Thank you for taking the time to read this list. If you could please discuss each point with your Year 7 students it may reduce the risk of harm occurring during the visits and improve our overall experience.

Thanks

Mrs Villanueva
HT Science

Shave for a Cure

The World’s Greatest Shave was held on 14 March at Mount Annan High School. Seven of us shaved our hair and 2 of the girls donated their hair to charity.

On 13 March, I was involved in a radio interview with C91.3. After telling them a little bit about the cause, they decided to sponsor me, and boost my $534.00 up to $1000.00. In total, as a school we have raised over $5000.00, and we are still raising more! On the day, we also held a hair colouring stand which was a great success. More than 40 people coloured their hair and even one of the teachers joined in. All in all, it was a very successful day. We as a school are proud of everyone involved.

Matthew Gleave

Woolworths Earn and Learn 2013 Program

Thanks to the school community for the support and great response shopping and collecting stickers from Woolworths.

The Woolworths Earn and Learn program has assisted the Support classes with new educational equipment to help students with a ‘hands on’ approach to meet curriculum outcomes.

3D Magnetic Skeleton, Heart Anatomy Model, Eyeball Anatomy Model, Blood Circulation Model, Human Ear Model, Cross Section Tooth Model, Soft Foam Cross Section Human Brain, Blood Circulation Model, Cranial Nerve Model and a number of Electricity Kits. Learning will be fun!

Thanks to Woolworths and a supportive school community, students have benefited from this program once again.

Ms Wallace
## Assessment Schedule
### Term 2
#### Year 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>English, Mathematics, Science</th>
<th>HSIE, PDHPE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>PDHPE – Ongoing Athletics Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td><strong>English</strong> – Area of Study Examination</td>
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| Week 5  | **Maths Stage 5.1** – Half Yearly Exam  
**Maths Stage 5.2** – Half Yearly Exam  
**Maths Stage 5.3** – Half Yearly Exam  
**Science** – AT2 – Half Yearly Exam | **History** – Half Yearly Exam  
**Geography** – Half Yearly Exam  
**Commerce** – Half Yearly Exam |
| Week 6  |                               | PDHPE – Half Yearly Exam |
| Week 7  |                               |             |
| Week 8  |                               |             |
| Week 9  | **English** – Essay |             |

### Year 11

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Faculty</th>
<th>English, Mathematics, Science</th>
<th>HSIE, PDHPE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td><strong>SLR</strong> – Ongoing Practical Assessment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 2  | **Modern History** – Essay  
**Ancient History** – Essay |             |
| Week 3  |                               |             |
| Week 4  | **Maths Extension 1** – Half Yearly Exam  
**Advanced Maths** – Half Yearly Exam | **CAFS** – In Class Writing Task |

### Year 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
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<th>HSIE, PDHPE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td><strong>SLR</strong> – Ongoing Practical Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td><strong>CAFS</strong> – Groups in Context</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Week 4  | **Biology** – AT3 – Practical AT  
**Chemistry** – AT3 – Practical AT  
**Physics** – AT3 – Practical AT | **PDHPE** – Factors Affecting Performance |
| Week 5  | **English Extension 2** – Report |             |
### Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>English, Mathematics, Science</th>
<th>HSIE, PDHPE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>English Extension 1 – Writing Portfolio</td>
<td>Modern History – Essay – Albert Speer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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