UNE OPEN DAY

Beau Hellyer, Shaylah Taufa and Amelia Washbrook, Year 12, attended the University of New England Open day last Friday at Armidale. It was very informative and enjoyable. The students were able to gain first-hand knowledge and experiences about life on campus and the courses available. They were able to speak to university students, ambassadors, mentors, Deans of colleges and lecturers from various courses. It was a very valuable experience to stay in the student accommodation, attend presentations in lecture theatres and visit faculties across the university.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008. On Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th May, students will take the 2014 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives. An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year when they are made available. Parents and teachers can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern.

Horse Sports Day
Preparations and planning have been under way for quite a while for our annual Horse Sports Day on Tuesday 20th May. Whilst our organising committee have done a wonderful job in preparing for the day, we will be requiring additional assistance on the day. If you are able to help out please contact Dianne McCormack at the school.

Term 2 Academics
Whilst Term 1 seemed to draw out for many, Term 2 is shorter with a lot to fit in with assessments, exams and reporting, to say nothing of the NAPLAN testing. I urge all older students to ensure that you apply your best time management skills so that you achieve your best results. So often students achieve disappointing results, not because of their ability to learn the curriculum, but simply due to a lack in their organisational skills and they fail to complete all of their work or to the best of their ability.

Michael Spora
Principal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTANT DATES!!!</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
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As part of our unit on Local Places we went on a walk, in the school grounds, to observe and discover natural and built environments where people, plants and animals (such as ants, lizards) may live. Our news topic for this week is on natural environments so the students may bring along a picture or any news on this topic.

In Maths we have been identifying, naming and discovering how many sides and corners two-dimensional shapes have such as triangles, rectangles, circles and squares (for Kindergarten) and for Year One hexagon, pentagon, octagon, rhombus and trapezium. We have also been locating these in our classroom and will look for these shapes in our environment.

In our Social Skills program we made COOL, WEAK and AGGRO hand signs to help us to stop and think about the best way to respond when faced with a problem situation.

Notes have gone home with the Kindergarten students inviting them to attend a performance at the Pre-school on Thursday 15th May at 11am. The cost of the show will be $5.00 each. This needs to be returned to school along with the permission note by Wednesday 14th May. Year 1 will remain at school and have lessons as normal.

L Peter

KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 1 NEWS

Great start!

We have had a great start back to Term 2! Students need to ensure that they continue to wear the correct uniform each day, however, if this is not possible for some reason a note should be supplied. If the regular school jumper is not available students should come in a black or dark coloured jumper.

2014 Selection Procedures for Year 5 Opportunity Class Placements in 2015

Online applications are now open for any parents who wish to apply for a Year 5 Opportunity Class placement for their student in 2015 at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. Paper applications are available on request from the school.

Premier’s Reading Challenge

All primary students have received PRC Log sheets (stored in the Library). Please encourage your child to participate in this very worthwhile challenge.

L Peter
2014 SYDNEY MAJOR EXCURSION

The Major Excursion is coming in Term 3 and it’s time to get excited! It’s going to be an amazing trip filled with activities that are both fun and educational. We are going to see some of the coolest sights of Sydney including Sydney Wildlife, Sydney Aquarium, Madam Tussauds, a Harbour Cruise, the Powerhouse Museum, a tour of the ANZ Stadium and much more. So get your permission forms from the office and get in quick and secure your seat. A $50 deposit at the front office is all you need to ensure you have a seat. Seats are limited to the first 40 students so don’t miss out.

T Newberry

SECONDARY NEWS GENERAL

Amelia, Beau and Shaylah (from Year 12) and I attended the University of New England Open day last Friday at Armidale. The students were able to gain first-hand knowledge and experiences about life on campus and the courses available. They were able to speak to university students, ambassadors, mentors, Deans of colleges and lecturers from various courses. It was a very valuable experience to stay in the student accommodation, attend presentations in lecture theatres and visit faculties across the university. The students really enjoyed the experience and gained valuable knowledge. We would like to thank Mrs Staniforth from Coolah for transporting us by bus from Coolah to Armidale and back.

This Wednesday one Year 12 and two Year 11 students will attend the Tertiary information day at the Dubbo Senior campus. The students have the opportunity to find out first-hand knowledge about further education providers and representatives. They will be also visiting a Hospitality outlet for lunch as part of their Hospitality course.

J Waters
SCHOOL FUN RUN
Mendooran Central School will be having a School Fun Run in conjunction with the annual Cross Country. This will be held on Friday 16th May Week 3 of Term 2. All students should have received sponsorship forms which will need to be filled out and returned to the office by Friday 23rd May. All students will receive a participation certificate and if your child raises $10 your family will go into a draw to win a holiday to Disneyland. So please could you all help your children raise money for the school to buy new sports equipment.
I need parent helpers on the day, if you could spare the afternoon to help could you please contact me at the school on 68861149. Thank you. K Norwood

P&C NEWS
Welcome to Sally Thompson! Sally has kindly agreed to take on the secretary's position.

We recently held our AGM and unfortunately there was a very small turnout. We are currently running without a Treasurer. If anyone is interested in becoming part of a team that raises funds for our school and also having a say in important decisions that are made on behalf of our school, please come along to our next meeting on Tuesday 6th May at 3.10pm in the school library.

Last year we ran a battery drive fundraiser. Total Money raised was $1,250.00. Thankyou to all parents and members of the community that kindly donated batteries. Thankyou also to Scott and Fred Sciberras who were kind enough to collect batteries and store them at Central Motors.

Things to remember:
Mothers Day Stall - Wednesday 7th May and Thursday 8th May at lunch time.
Mendooran Central School Horse Sports Day - Tuesday 20th May. The P&C are catering for this event. We would appreciate any cakes, slices, biscuit donations to sell on the day. Please send to the school office on Monday 19th May.

Parent helpers are required on the day for the BBQ and canteen.
A Fundraising meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th May at 3.10pm in the school library. Thankyou.

P&C Committee

“YOUNG SNAPPERS” WINNER!
Warrumbungle Shire Council announced Kaitlyn Thomson, Year 11, as the winner of this year’s “Young Snappers” National Youth Week Photo Competition. Congratulations Kaitlyn!
Pictured here is the winning photo of Brianna Swan, Year 1.
Thanks must also go to Mr Newberry for starting the Mendooran Central School Photo Club and for being such an enthusiastic teacher who is very proud of Kaitlyn’s win.
2014 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

ICAS is a highly regarded assessment program for schools offered in the key subject areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing, which enables schools to identify students’ levels of academic performance and also offers recognition and reward for school students. Schools receive comprehensive hard-copy and online reports on their students’ performances in each subject. Each participating student also receives individual diagnostic reports in both hard-copy and online, as well as a certificate to recognise their achievement. More information on the benefits of ICAS is available at: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about

HELPING YOUR STUDENTS PREPARE FOR ICAS

Go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation for resources to help students prepare for ICAS, including:

- Hints and tips
- Past papers for purchase
- Sample questions, both online and for download
- Practice Online - English, Maths and Science.

PRACTICE ONLINE

Practice Online is a series of interactive online tests designed to help students prepare for ICAS and other skill based assessments. It is currently available for English, Maths and Science. Each time a student takes a test they receive a comprehensive individual report detailing their results both overall and by area assessed. Their performance is also compared to students who have previously done the tests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Cost (incl GST)</th>
<th>Closing Date for Entries</th>
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<td>Tuesday 20th May 2014</td>
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<td>Wednesday 7th May 2014</td>
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<td>Spelling Years 3-7</td>
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COMMUNITY NEWS

ANGLICAN CHURCH CONFIRMATION
St Chad’s Anglican Church will be commencing Confirmation classes for all children (turning 12 and older in 2014) and adults.
First meeting for all wanting to be Confirmed, adults, parents and children
3.30pm at Mendooran Central School Library
Tuesday 20th May, 2014
(If you are unable to make this meeting please ring Fr Robert 63751246 as soon as possible.)
Regards,
Robert
Rev’d Robert Bowman
55 Cobborah Street,
Dunedoo NSW 2844
02 6375 1246
0417 258 097
robert@bowman.id.au

MENDOORAN PONY CLUB NEWS
What a pity we had to cancel the second day of our showjumping weekend – nice to get some rain – but unfortunately it did make it too dangerous to be showjumping. Thank you to all the riders who braved the incredible cold and wet conditions. Thank you to all the hard working members of our club who organised a great weekend.
Next weekend Trangie Pony Club are holding their two day showjumping and gymkhana – it would be great if as many members of our club as possible could attend this as Trangie did kindly swap their weekend with ours so our showjumping could go ahead.
The following week we will need to have working bee for the school horse sports – I will advise you of the date.

J Smith

Anna Ward showjumping at last years Mendooran Central School Horse Sports.
This year’s Horse Sports Day is on Tuesday 20th May and is a great day out.
**SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS - 2014**

Voluntary Infants/Primary Contributions: $25.00 per child  
Voluntary Secondary Contributions: $50.00 per child  
Voluntary FAMILY MAXIMUM: $80.00 (not including electives)

*Both Voluntary contributions and Elective fees may be paid by instalment.*

**COMPULSORY ELECTIVES COST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7/8 Electives:</th>
<th>Technology Mandatory</th>
<th>$20.00 (enables students to take work home)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 9/10 Electives:</td>
<td>Industrial Technology</td>
<td>$40.00 first project ($30 per project thereafter)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Food Technology</td>
<td>$15.00 per term ($60.00 per year)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Design &amp; Tech (Textiles)</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11/12 Electives:</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>$15 per term ($60.00 per year)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D&amp;T Mixed Media</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Metals &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>$40 first project (2nd project dependent on cost)</td>
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Please tear off the following section and fill in details accordingly to the number of students you have attending Mendooran Central School to calculate the amount owing

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**FAMILY NAME:**

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION**

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<tr>
<th>No Primary Students</th>
<th>No. Secondary Students</th>
<th>TOTAL SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Maximum $80.00)</td>
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**COMPULSORY COSTS SECONDARY ELECTIVES**

<table>
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<th>Year 7/8 Electives:</th>
<th>Technology Mandatory</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 9/10 Electives:</td>
<td>Industrial Technology</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>$60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Metals &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL ELECTIVE FEES**

$ __________________________

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE**

$ __________________________