LAKE MACQUARIE HIGH SCHOOL

Shoreline

It gives me great pleasure to be able to update the Lake Macquarie High School community on what has been happening over the last few weeks and what will be happening in the future. The newsletter has been absent from the school for some time, so I will be using it as a way to recognize student achievement and to also update the whole school community on the many positive aspects of Lake Macquarie High School.

As the new Principal at Lake Macquarie High School, I am excited about the future of education in the Lake Macquarie area, as we move ahead as a school to offer more avenues of learning for your children.

As a brief introduction, prior to teaching, I was a Metallurgist at BHP Newcastle, Rod and Bar. Once graduating as a Technology and Applied Science teacher in 2000, my first appointment was Brewarrina Central School, where I had my first experience in a central school in rural and remote NSW. It was also my first experience as the sole teacher in my learning area, allowing me to develop programs to engage students with various abilities.

In 2006, I moved to the Head Teacher Access role at Peak Hill Central School, where I led the Western Access Program, linking HSC students across 16 rural schools through video conference and online learning environments. While in this role, I developed several Trade Training Centres and raised expectations for HSC students, leading to students regularly achieving Band 6 results in their HSC. I have high expectations of students and staff, as education is critical for every community.

Prior to taking on the Principal role at Lake Macquarie High School, since 2012, I was the Principal at Coolah Central School, located in the Warrumbungle Ranges. As the Principal of a dynamic Central School I developed a sound understanding of the educational spectrum Kindergarten to Year 12, a skill set I will apply to reforming Lake Macquarie High School as we move to the next evolution of the school.

UPCOMING DATES

NOVEMBER 20
Year 6 Sports Gala day at LMHS

NOVEMBER 24
Youth Frontiers Graduation
Year 6 into Year 7 Information Evening (6pm)
P&C Meeting (5pm)

NOVEMBER 27
2016 HSC High Achievers Day – University of Newcastle

DECEMBER 11
Year 10 Interviews

DECEMBER 15
School Presentation Evening

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THE FUTURE OF LAKE MACQUARIE HIGH SCHOOL

To put it simply, Lake Macquarie High School will be changing in many ways, all to provide the best educational environment and opportunities for your children.

Lake Macquarie High School will be redeveloped into a **STEM Focus school**. STEM or Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, is a focus for linking syllabus outcomes to real world learning activities and applications. It will involve all Key Learning Areas, and is based on engaging students through technology. Another key aspect of STEM is developing stronger links with the local and wider community, developing students as globalized learners. As a school we will be giving your children the skills to enter tertiary education and careers as successful independent learners.

Another aspect of the changes at Lake Macquarie High School is the emphasis on the professional development of staff. Building teacher capacity is a major reform across the entire Department of Education, and we are fortunate to have involvement from the University of Newcastle in developing new ways the staff can engage all students.

Already there has been increased cooperation between our local Primary schools and LMHS with the development of the Lake Macquarie Area Collegiate, which is replacing the Pondee Konara Learning Community. The links between the schools will be strengthened further with all schools working on ways to build avenues for staff and students to work together, leading to the implementation of STEM learning from Year 3 to Year 6 in each school. The implementation of STEM across our schools Year 3 to Year 12 is a first for Public Education in NSW!

As the Principal of Lake Macquarie High School my expectations of students are very simple. **Students are expected to be in class, on task, in uniform, everyday**. Lake Macquarie High School is a uniform school, and I am pleased to see the majority of students adhering to this requirement. In 2016, we will be implementing student leadership programs to build the skills of our community’s future leaders.

The expectations I have of students are underpinned by the Department of Educations’ **Student Wellbeing Reform**. Students are expected to be involved in developing the positive culture of the school through Connecting, Succeeding and Thriving. More details can be found at [https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing](https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing)

There are many aspects of the school that will be changing in the coming months.

- We will be working on improving the learning environment with the installation of new technology in many of the classrooms.
- Upgrading the facilities, in the Technology and Applied Science area, with a new Trade Training Centre for Metals and Engineering and Electronics.
- We will also be working more closely with community agencies and businesses to develop more pathways for students to have success, in leadership, sport or business.

It is an exciting time for Public Education in Lake Macquarie.
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (WELFARE) JENNY MCEWAN

We are coming into the busy time of the year with our preparations of end of year activities such as PBL Assembly (3rd December), School Presentation Night (15th December), Year 6 Parent Information night (24th November) as well as recognition presentations and activities for our mentors, volunteers and PBL award recipients.

Our Year Advisers for 2016 are: Year 7 Mr Michael Johnston, Year 8 Mr Andrew Guy, Year 9 Mrs Carol Lewis, Year 10 Mrs Svihla, Year 11 Ms Laura McNeill, Year 12 Mr Michael Beecham.

Through the Department’s School Chaplaincy Program our school enjoys the access of a Welfare Worker, Mrs Roz Ewart every Monday and ½ day Wednesday each week. Roz operates small group programs as well as work with students individually and in consultation with external support agencies.

We have two school counsellors Mr Mark Rose on Monday’s and Mrs Karen Cathcart on Tuesday’s and Friday’s.

If you wish to contact any of the above please ring the school on 49 581544, I am sure they would be happy to arrange a meeting and assist you.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (REL) ANDREW HOCKING

I have been appointed Deputy Principal for 2016 and I am excited about the direction that the school is taking. A clear vision for the school has been established with achievable goals and I know that we have the staff expertise at LMHS to achieve these.

There are many wonderful opportunities for students at the school, whether it be academic, sporting or leadership. While education may start in the classroom, it certainly does not end there. Students must continually develop their skills both at school and at home. Successful students are often those who are organised in their life. They have routines for school, homework, study, sport, work and leisure time. They know when assignments are due, when tests are on and how to prepare for them. Young adults need continued support from both teachers and parents, so that they can achieve their potential and become an active and valuable member of society.

We have raised our standards in the school by insisting that full school uniform is worn at all times and that our students take pride in wearing it both at school and in the public eye. School uniform forms a basis on which good discipline can be built. Our school uniform shop opens from 8:30am to 2:30pm on Wednesdays and is located at the school’s front entrance.
CURRICULUM NEWS

HISTORY, SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

On the 11th of November, 45 students from years 9, 10 and 11 attended the Sydney Jewish museum. It was appropriate that our visit coincided with remembrance day as students not only had the opportunity to pay respects for our soldiers past and present but were also able to reflect on the horrors of the holocaust and remember the 6 million victims of the atrocity. It was a successful visit where students were treated to a guided tour through the museum and then had the opportunity to hear from a holocaust survivor and followed by a university lecturer about how the holocaust happened. Both talks were informative and listening to an actual survivor certainly gave us all a chilling reminder of the horrors of the holocaust on a very personal level. The students were praised by the staff at the museum for not only their excellent behaviour but also their attentive and engaging behaviour. Here is what some of our students had to say about the experience:

“The Sydney Jewish Museum is home to some heart-wrenching stories as well as some awe-inspiring exhibits. We heard from a holocaust survivor and were given an interesting presentation on propaganda and why the holocaust happened” Juiette Shelley

“A voluntary tour guide showed us around the museum while telling us about the horrors that Jewish people had to endure. We met with a holocaust survivor named Susan and she told us about her incredible journey during the holocaust. The museum told the stories of many survivors and of many more who didn’t survive. The experience was shocking and informative but enjoyable” Bailey Smith

MATHEMATICS

Our 2016 HSC students will have their first assessment task in Maths on Wednesday 2nd December (Week 9). Students need to refer to their Assessment Task notification (a copy of which can also be found on the noticeboard in the library) and their LMHS HSC Assessment booklet.

Two Year 12 students, Jessica Rea and Rory Jacques, recently competed in the Colin Doyle Mathematics competition run by the University of Newcastle and we look forward to receiving their results.

Earlier in the year, the following students took part in the annual Australian Mathematics competition (sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank):

Shannon Brown (Credit), James Rowsell, Riley Golian, Phebe Lunn-Mcnally, TeghanO’Beirne, Chloe Snowden, Millicent Sarginson, Monique Walsh, Michael Sweetman, Keira O’Mara, Natasha Behrens, Angelica Princena, Benjamin Sneddon, Bailey Smith, Tia Lunn-Mcnally, Liam Tanner, Kelsey Baker, Tyler Simmons, Jessica Rea (Credit), Rory Jacques (Credit), Karlie Vlaich, Suphattra Williams.

Each student will be receiving their results and certificate at our PBL assembly.

We congratulate these students and encourage others to participate in next year’s competition.
What a busy term of Sport it has been!

The Premiers Sporting Challenge Sports Leadership programs and Sports Gala Days have dominated the calendar.

From Netball to Touch and Soccer our school teams have shone brightly representing our school proudly at these events.

Our Sports Leaders have also worked very hard with the NSW School Sports Unit to film a “How to video guide” to run a successful Sports Coaching event. Tyler Simmons of Year 10 and Ebony Linsley of Year 9 also gained firsthand experience in the world of film. Both featured as special interview subjects discussing their roles in the Premiers Sporting Challenge Leadership program. When edited, this clip will be available on the official NSW Premiers Sporting Challenge website.

Our talented Sports coaches from years 9 and 10, travelled last Thursday, to Northlake’s High school alongside 5 other High School teams to work alongside 7 different Australian Sports Associations to learn how to coach their sports. From Dance, Rugby Union, Touch, Netball, Golf, Tennis and Gymnastics, these students gained vital knowledge in how to run, organise and teach these sports to students. They now have the skills and tactics to help host our annual Premiers Sporting Challenge Leading with Action workshop in March next year for our feeder Primary schools.

Six volunteer Soccer referees, Mitchell Brittain, Ethan Cooper, Oliver Bartlett, Nathaniel Hay, Bryce Beeston and Mitchell Blake travelled to Speers Point to assist in a Primary School Gala day event.

Ten selected year 10 students will be travelling to the Milsons Island Sport and Recreation Camp in December for three days to again focus on Sports Leadership in the Sports and Recreation Industry. These students will have the opportunity to mix with schools from the Hunter, Central Coast and Sydney in a broad range of adventure outdoor education programs.

Weekly sport continues to see the whole school participating in a variety of sports. This term 15 students from years 8-10 are also travelling each week to Boolaroo Public School to run a K-6 whole school sports program very successfully.

Shoreline is the new Lake Macquarie High School fortnightly newsletter that will highlight the many great programs and student achievements across our school. If you would like to receive Shoreline as an email please contact the Front Office on 49581544 or by email lakemacqua-h.school @det.nsw.edu.au

Don’t forget our school’s Facebook page at “Lake Macquarie High School – Official” Schools website http://www.lakemacqua-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/home
TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCE

2015 has once again been a busy one for the TAS faculty, with completion of the HSC projects, school projects and many practical components from all classes for year 7 to year 12.

Year 12 Industrial Technology

Kyle Barry Jewellery Box  Nathan Adams -Train  Saxon Shoobert- TV Cabinet

Yr12 Design and Technology

Monique Eve  Brittany Dixon Bartier  Laura Jane Palombini  Tara Becvarovska

Jamie Lyn Razon  Kirsten Tarnya Minter  Kaitlan Emma Irvine
**Yr9 Textiles class with a sample of their hand dyed shorts**

**VET:** 2015 has seen the start of the Trade Training Centre. This involves the complete re-construction of the lower section of C Block. $1000000 will insure that LMHS receives the state of the art- new equipment into this area for the future needs of those students completing the Metals and Engineering course. The facility is due to be opened for beginning of the 2016 school year.

**VET Construction** students have successfully completed projects around the school. New setting slabs and tables have been installed on the lake side of the school. Allowing senior students, their own area over-looking the view of the lake. Behind the library a covered BBQ area has been constructed. Fencing projects have been completed.

**Hospitality** Many functions have been carried out, allowing students to perfect their skills. Not only in the food preparation but whilst serving also.

Most students in all VET courses have successfully completed work-placement in a variety of industries and restaurants.

Wayne Cook, Head Teacher TAS.

**CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

Year 7 Arts students have been working on self-portraits this semester. Some of these photos will be making an appearance on the school’s Facebook page soon.

Recently around 50 students took part in an excursion to Sculpture by the Sea at Bondi Beach. Here are just a few enjoying the amazing artwork.

Year 8 students have been creating beautiful ceramic zoomorphic creatures. (Pictured below is the talented Flame working on her sculpture).
Congratulations to graduating Year 12 student Jamie Razon who has recently

- moved to the next round in the ‘Talent Development Program’.
- performed in ‘Star Struck 2015’ as a featured artist.
- been selected to appear in next weeks’ Department of Education Sydney School Spectacular as a featured artist.
- been chosen to perform in ‘Reprise’ held at the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music.
- been nominated for ‘Encore’ the best of HSC performances in NSW.

Congratulations to Keely Tanner who is also performing at the Sydney School Spectacular as a member of The Hunter Signing Choir, a great achievement to complete a year of hard work and commitment.

Our Artist of the Month for October was talented Year 11 student Cassandra Morris. Well done.

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**SCIENCE**

We are entering an exciting era at Lake Macquarie High School as we formulate our STEM-focussed (Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) future. The Science faculty is currently designing a cross-curricular Aquaculture project. Self-sustaining models are being researched which integrate a fish farm and hydroponic vegetable garden. This will create a symbiotic relationship. Nitrifying bacteria convert fish wastes into plant-available nutrients. The plants use these nutrients as their main nutrient supply. The fish also benefit from this process, as the water is filtered by the plants, giving the fish clean water to live in. Behind the obvious biological principles, there are the physical and mathematical concepts of pumping the water, chemical properties of the water and the commercial aspect of making the fish and produce available for purchase. This project will connect students with real life industry relevancy and increase student engagement in STEM education and career pathways.

Our goal in Science is to drive creativity through inquiry based learning. Project based learning is being further investigated with the TAS and Mathematics faculties incorporating the robotics and Arduino technologies in cross curricular programs. We will use these to drive problem solving and project based learning. This is an exciting era for Lake Macquarie High School as we forge ahead with STEM initiatives. Stay tuned for further information.

Pictured, Blayden Grew and Kaine Davis investigating the Heats of Combustion of Alkanols.
Lake Macquarie High School has its own Careers Website. Our aim is to provide students and parents with all the latest information that will help them make decisions about your future career and your life beyond school.

You can use this site [www.lakemacquariehighcareers.com.au](http://www.lakemacquariehighcareers.com.au) to locate University, TAFE and other courses across Australia, get regular newsletters, a Career Calendar of important events, search job vacancies and create a cover letter and resume. You can also find out what is happening at school and view photos on Facebook.

If you have any questions or require assistance in using this site contact Mrs Karen Spurr Careers Adviser (LMHS)
Sending your child to Lake Macquarie High School in 2016?
We invite you to come to our information evening!

**SCHOOL HALL**
24TH NOVEMBER 2015
6 TO 7 PM

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