Last term, our 2014 Year 12 students were farewelled at their last official school function. This week they took their final step, signing out. They are on the next stage of their educational journey, many will attend tertiary institutions to obtain higher qualifications, while others will go into the workforce. One of Marsden’s great strengths is preparing our students for their future pathways.

Every year, we have a high number of students enrolling in tertiary institutions. We wish them well in all their future endeavours.

This week Year 9 students met with a number of Business people who have volunteered to be their mentors, as part of our partnership with the organisation United Way. In 2015 the students will be attending a number of workplaces situated in Macquarie Park eg Fuji and Macquarie Hospital, with the ultimate goal of encouraging students to think “big” and realise that their career options are unlimited. This project is called “Big Dreaming” and the mentors will work with the students for the next three years.

This year a number of students achieved exceptional results in the Maths Competition. 2 High Distinctions, 10 Distinctions and 51 credits. Entering these competitions is another way we encourage our students to extend themselves.

Students have been asked to take home what our records show as their current details eg contact phone numbers and medical information. It is vital that parents/carers check this information and remind their children to return the form to their roll call teacher.

Margaret Paczkowski
Reliving Principal

Uniform Shop News

Last day the Uniform Shop is open for 2014 will be Thursday 11 December 2014. The Uniform Shop will be open every morning the first week of school 2015. Tuesday 27 January to Friday 20 Jan 2015 inclusive 8.30am - 10.30am

Help is required for Orientation Day on Wednesday 3rd December. Just a few hours of your time would be appreciated. If you can assist me, please contact me on 0407 698 453.

Credit card purchases will now carry a 2% surcharge

Deborah Blumenfeld

Seven members of the Social Justice Group recently had the opportunity to lend a hand at The Loaves and Fishes Restaurant which is coordinated by the Exodus Foundation in Ashfield. Every morning and lunchtime, the restaurant serves breakfast and lunch to those who are less fortunate and unable to provide for themselves. On the day the students helped with the food preparation, serving of the food and the cleaning up. It was extremely pleasing to see how friendly and helpful the Marsden students were and how they were able to bring many smiles to the faces of our community.

Mark Kelly
Teacher PDHPE
**From Careers**

Year 10 Work Experience dates have now been confirmed for the 24th to 28th of November. Students wishing to participate will need to get the forms from the Careers office. This is a great opportunity for students to experience a career in which they are interested and learn skills to assist them in the work place.

**Defence Force Information Sessions**

Parramatta Info Sessions are:
- Women in Defence - Wednesday 5th November 2014
- Army Reserve – Tuesday 11th November 2014
- Australian Defence Force Academy – Thursday 13th November
- Royal Military College – Monday 17th November
- Navy – Wednesday 19th November
- RAAF Aviation – Tuesday 25th November
- Combat Roles – Wednesday 26th November

The Information Sessions will be held at Defence Force Recruiting Parramatta – Level 4, 9 George Street, Parramatta – and start at 6.30pm

These information sessions will be attended by an ADF member who will give specific presentations on the night relating to the particular aspect of the Australian Defence Force.

Please come to the Careers Office if you are interested so that you can book in.

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**We’re In This Together**

On Thursday, 6th November 2014 Marsden students from Year 9 and 10 were involved in an Education Awareness Campaign aimed at raising money for the Malala Fund. Students in Year 9 created a short film clip highlighting the inequalities that girls face around the world and how education can significantly improve their lives.

Year 10 students staged a live performance demonstrating the difficulties faced by those in developing countries. The star of the afternoon was Jamila, one of our fabulous MHS students. Being a student from overseas, she provided insight into her own personal experiences and reinforced the theme of the day... Girls with an education are powerful!

In addition to the wonderful events put on by our students, we were also fortunate enough to have Dr Dean Dudley from Macquarie University as a guest speaker for the afternoon. He emphasised that the fight for education shouldn’t be one for overseas alone. It is essential we must concentrate on encouraging education here at home too, as this has benefits not only for the individual but for the community at large.

Congratulations to the students on an amazing afternoon, the feedback received was positive and a testament to the dedication to making the day so successful!

M. Nakhoul

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Congratulations to KITAE YOO - of Year 11 and SARAH AMIN - of Year 10, who were both successful in gaining auditions for the NSW STATE DRAMA ENSEMBLE. Their audition is on Tuesday 2nd December at the Performing Arts Unit at Lewisham with an extra hour for script interpretation. We wish them all the very best for their challenging three hour audition. It would be an honour to make it to the NSW State Ensemble with performance opportunities around the state and at major events with professional tutors and venues.

Ms. Paris
Sculptures by the Sea

On the 31st of October year 9, 10 and 11 students got the opportunity to go to visit the Sculptures by the Sea. We had great day filled with fun in the sun, laughter and excitement. We had so much enjoyment looking at all the different sculptures. We loved how all the sculptures were displayed near a beautiful ocean view. The ocean breeze was very cooling and the people in the area were nice, the sculptures were very different and unique, and they were interesting to look at.

Zefanja Kethel

The exhibition of Sea of the Sculptures from all over the world was a great experience. While the sun was blinding and the temperature quite high it was worth it. Many of the works reflected current events and issues like massive bags of plastic products, while others represented Australia’s cultural and natural beauty like a leaping Humpback whale made of wood. There were also the few quirky installations. The day was great and our break and lunch at Bondi Beach was definitely welcome after walking for hours. I think all the students who went are very grateful to Mr Simaitis and Ms Larsson for organising the trip.

Kieran Morris
Teamwork at the 2014 Student Leadership Camp

What better way to learn to work together as a team than whilst away together at a leadership training camp? On 6th and 7th November, 19 members of Marsden’s SRC (Student Representative Council) and PLT (Prefecture Leadership Team) joined together to improve their leadership skills, participate in team building activities, discuss future school events and learn the basics of event management and presentation techniques. All of these elements were jammed into the two-day leadership camp at Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre at Bobbin Head, nestled in the heart of the national park.

Highlights of the camp, which included members from all years 7 through to 11, were:
- dusk and dawn fishing with MHS’s own environmental guru Mr Ian Bulgin – some teenagers were up at 5.30am to fish (parents: can you believe that!!)
- canoeing races up and down the river
- GRIP leadership video excerpts
- bushwalking with our shoes off along the submerged boardwalk
- the Nutbush and the Macarena and Mr B’s groovy 70’s dancing
- washing up and kitchen prep as a team (that was definitely a highlight for the teachers)

Huge thanks to the Gibberagong staff, namely Brad, Dave and Julie; thanks to the enthusiastic Mr Bulgin for helping the event to run so smoothly; thanks to Ms Bernyk for putting so much effort into camp preparation; and a big thank you to all the students who participated, had fun, worked well together and improved their leadership skills.

Prefecture team special guests at Parliament House

Marsden’s Prefecture Leadership Team were invited to be guests of our Member for Ryde, the Honorary Mr Victor Dominello MP, at NSW Parliament on Wednesday 12th November. Along with Prefects and leaders from other local primary schools, students had a wonderful ‘leadership’-themed afternoon. Thank you to Mr Dominello and his staff for organising, and providing Marsden's Prefecture Leadership Team with this special opportunity. Congratulations to Josh, Sally, Jesse, Dawood, Adam, Susan and Zeena for being part of such a great leadership opportunity.

Ms Laryssa Bernyk and Mrs Trish Swinkels
SRC Coordinators

Community News

Upcoming free workshop for parents/supervisors of Learner drivers that may be of interest to your students and parents:
Date: Tuesday 25 November 2014
Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Location: Wallumetta Room, Ryde Library
Address: 1 Pope St, Ryde – at Top Ryde City shopping centre
(3 hours free parking available)
Cost: FREE
Bookings: 9952 8222

Free Cyber Safety Event. The Zenith Theatre - Chatswood, NSW. Monday 24th November 2014. 4pm - 6pm
Free event. Bookings essential. The event is appropriate for teachers, parents and students. The format includes a preview performance of CONNECTED and features cyber safety specialists and advocates as guest speakers and a Q&A panel.
3 Day Multi Sports Camp

DATES: Tues Jan 20 - Thurs Jan 22nd, 2015
TIMES: 9am - 4pm (extended care is available from 8am to 6pm for a small additional cost)
AGES: 8-15 year olds
LOCATION: Epping Boys High School
PROGRAM: Up to 14 different team sports and traditional summer camp activities
COST: $160

Visit www.bigfuncamps.com.au for more information or call Big Fun Headquarters on (02) 9686-8258
Students receive a 15% discount store wide if they show their student IDs at Peter Wynn Score