



MARGARET RIVER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday August 13, 2014

Principal's Message

As third term moves along quickly, students are working hard to achieve the best results they possibly can, in particular our Year 12's. This is a vital period of time for Year 12 students, with our ATAR students preparing study schedules for exams and our Wholly School Assessed students finishing off all tasks to complete their COS and VET courses. The way in which students finish off the last weeks of a course can often determine their final grade. I encourage all Year 12 students to work hard for the final six weeks of the term and aim to achieve the best results they can.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 22nd August** - Yr 12 Leavers Seminar
 - State Surfing Titles
- 26 August** - Yr 12 Rotary Interviews
 - Yr 10 Winter Carnival
- 29th August** - Yr 12 Human Biology Perth Zoo Excursion
- Sept 1st - 12th** - Yr 10 Online Literacy and Numeracy Testing (OLNA)
- 2nd Sept** - Yr 11 Caving Excursion
- 3rd Sept** - Yr 12 Caving Excursion
- 4th Sept** - Yr 9 Roping Excursion
- 9th Sept** - PE Multimedia Presentation
- 10th Sept** - PE Studies Prac Exam
 - Yr 9 Engineering Excursion
 - Yr 10-12 Drama Performance night

During Week 2, students from the school presented the play "Little Shop of Horrors" over four nights. This musical displayed the talents of students from Year 8 through to Year 12 and encompassed our Drama students, Music students and our Home Economics students. I am constantly amazed at the skills that the students at Margaret River Senior High School demonstrate on such occasions. Audiences were thoroughly entertained during this production and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our Director Mr Ed Lacy and Musical Director Miss Priscilla Den Boer. A big thank you to all in the community who supported the play and attended the performances

The Margaret River Senior High School Surf Team has once again claimed the regional championship and will head up to Perth to defend our state title. I would like to congratulate all students who participated and represented our school and acknowledge the fantastic efforts of Mr Scott Cameron, Surf Academy Coordinator and Mr John McTaggart who have worked closely with our surf academy students this year. This is a tremendous effort by our students and demonstrates the level of excellence that the Margaret River Senior High School Surf Academy is providing.

Our Year 10 to 11 counselling team is currently meeting with parents and students in relation to their subject selections for 2015. I would like to thank all the parents for their support and attendance at interviews during this very important time for our students. I would like to congratulate Michelle Miller for her work in the Year 10 Career IT classes as students have come to their interviews extremely well prepared.

We are currently working on our timetable for 2015. Mr Craig Healy, Mr Chris Buckland, Mrs Leanne Hayes and myself have visited all feeder primary schools and presented enrolment packages to students who have indicated that in 2015 they will attend Margaret River SHS in Years 7 and 8. If there are any parents who are yet to enrol I would encourage them to do so as this will enable us to formalise offerings for the Year 7 and 8 groups for next year. I thank parents for their assistance in this area.

Our next P and C meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20th August at 6.00pm at the school**. All parents are invited to come and we would welcome your presence. At this meeting I will be discussing the new Schools Resourcing model and outlining the effects that this will have on the running of the school.

Regards

Andrew Host

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Email: MargaretRiver.SHS@education.wa.edu.au

Website: www.margaretrivershs.wa.edu.au

Mentoring Programme

Margaret River Senior High School has run a Mentoring Program for the benefit of students for the last 10 years.

Our volunteer Mentors are dedicated men and women, reaching across generations. Volunteers apply through the SVP and then have an orientation before they begin. The School Coordinator—Kathryn Seisun, then matches a mentor with a student according to their personal areas of skill and interest. Kathryn provides ongoing support, monitoring and feedback.

A Mentor meets with a student at the school during normal school hours for one hour a week during school terms.

Please contact Kathryn on **97570717** (Mondays and Tuesdays) or email **Kathryn.Seisun@education.wa.edu.au** if you have any queries regarding the Mentoring Program.

Currently we are in urgent need of MALE MENTORS!!!

School Bus Services

Is your child starting or changing schools in 2015 and are you are seeking Transport Assistance on an 'Orange' school bus? In 2015 all Year 7 students, will be attending high school as secondary students. This will have a substantial impact on the 'Orange' school bus network and will require significant planning. It is very important that Public Transport Authority establishes the number of eligible students requiring Transport Assistance.



The Public Transport Authority is requesting parents that have children starting or changing schools in 2015 and requiring bus travel, to complete an online application for Transport Assistance at www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au **no later than 31 August 2014** for travel in 2015. Please be aware; Transport Assistance is offered to eligible families in two forms, either by 'Orange' school bus or a Conveyance Allowance paid to parents to drive their children to and from school. The type of Transport Assistance provided to a family depends on many factors including, location and bus availability.

If your child is currently travelling on an 'Orange' school bus and they are not changing schools next year, there is no need to reapply or contact us as your transport arrangements as a rule will remain the same.

If you have any further questions please phone 9326 2625 or email schoolbus@pta.wa.gov.au.

For student absences please contact Student Services

PH: 9757 0795 E: MargaretRiver.SHS.StudentServices@education.wa.edu.au

Sydney Canberra 2014 Final Call

With most of the bookings now made for the Sydney Canberra excursion for 2014 we are well on the way to heading off on one of the most exciting opportunities offered at Margaret River SHS. Now is the final call for those wishing to join this great trip, due to illness and other factors beyond their control a small number of places have been made available for late comers. If you would like to participate, **let me know ASAP**, once final booking confirmations have been made we are will be unable to take anyone else.

DATES: 30/11/14 to 6/12/14 (Week 8 Term 4 for those on a school calendar)

ELIGIBILITY: Year 10 or 11 currently on good standing.

COST: \$1500 plus INSURANCE (\$70 if you don't have current travel insurance)

NOTE: we are again offering the Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb as an optional extra and have been quoted a great group price of \$164 per person for this. (\$270 is the usual price).

Martin Keen

Sydney-Canberra Excursion Co-ordinator



Priscilla Den Boer and Ed Lacy had a dream, to get a team of MRSHS musicians, actors and dancers (selected across all year groups) to dedicate extensive time, talent and energy to entertain our community with a large scale, musical theatre production. Earlier this term a core group of staff and students made this dream a reality when they performed in the “Little Shop of Horrors”.

Our packed audiences were thrilled by a man-eating plant, a sadistic dentist, a love struck hero and the choir, band, dancers, vocalists and the incredible art work on display. Supper was delicious thanks to our clever catering students and staff . The props, set, costumes, lighting and photography worked a treat – thanks to many staff and student volunteers.

We would like to pay tribute to the dedicated students who worked tirelessly to create this outstanding show. A heavy rehearsal schedule (driven by the goodwill and skills of Ed Lacy and Priscilla Den Boer) led our “Little Shop” cast and crew and resulted in a production which made our whole school community both appreciative and very, very proud.

Mem McCormack
Teacher in Charge of the Arts



Cows Create Careers

Five Year 8 students who were involved in the Cows Create Careers Programme at Margaret River High School attended the Dairy Australia presentation day at Abbey Beach Resort in Busselton on July 3rd.

The presentation day was a celebration of the work the students had completed while involved in this program.

Margaret River High School was awarded the most interesting photo taken with the calves that they had to look after.

On the day students participated in a variety of fun activities that promoted the use of dairy foods in our diet as well as the importance of the Dairy Industry in Australia.

Margaret River High school would like to thank Nicole May for 'lending' us two of her dairy calves for this project.

Nola Gregory

Home Economics Teacher



Year 10 Childcare

Twenty-five Year 10 girls have started Semester 2 with some added responsibility – they are the proud parent of an egg! The students are enrolled in the Year 10 Childcare course and are experiencing what it is like to care for something that is helpless and fragile. Already there is talk of getting mum to “egg sit” and what they are going to do with their egg on the weekend.

This course is designed to introduce students to parenting and the Childcare Industry. Students will also have the opportunity to care for a “virtual” baby – one that cries and demands that a “parent” work out whether it needs feeding, nappy changing or comforting.

Working with kindy kids over at Margaret River Primary school is also part of the program, enabling students to identify ways they can assist in a child's physical, social and emotional development.



Nola Gregory

Home Economics Teacher

'Working with Wood' Excursion

Four of our top senior school wood-workers attended the "Working with Wood" show at the Claremont showgrounds in Perth. A round trip to the city in one day is always a daunting prospect but well and truly worth it from the feedback of our top "woodies".

The annual "Out of The Woods" competition and exhibit was certainly the highlight of the show for our group as there was not only top end amateur entrants but also many school students exhibiting tables, boxes and a variety of turned and carved artistic pieces.

Our students felt quite comfortable with their own skill levels and projects constructed so far and I agreed with them that the work from our school would have certainly held a firm place amongst the offerings on show. We have not shown student work in this venue before due to the logistical problems associated with transporting work. We will try to develop some contacts in Perth schools to help in the receipt, delivery to showgrounds and re-packing to return work to Margaret River.

The Woodwork Olympics was also a highlight for our boys as they thrust forward Will Jackson as our representative. He did very well in the cross cutting and beat the top dogs from Saint Marks, but lost out in the long-sawing and planing with a time penalty dropping his score.

Our class is currently developing ideas for the "Confinement and Concealment" assignment and are all hoping to have a worthy box project completed for our faculty flagship, the Creating Identity exhibition in October.

Ian Thwaites

Wood Work Specialist



VET and Careers News



Our Year 11 Vocational students have recently completed their first two week placement within the southwest region. Several students have secured apprenticeships or part time work from this experience and all students are to be commended for the positive way they represented the school. Again we thank all employers involved in the program and the valuable time and effort they put into mentoring our students.

The Year 10 students have begun the process of selecting upper school subjects and participating in career counselling. We would like to thank the students and parents pro-active approach to this process as we had a fantastic turn out to both parent nights and lots of students visiting the Career Centre so they can make informed decisions. Students hoping to attend the South West Institute of Technology (SWIT) next year have completed their application forms and we hope all applicants are successful in getting into their desired courses.

Kara Beecham

VET and Careers Co-ordinator





Gingerbread Houses

Our Year 8's were able to extend their cooking knowledge at the end of Semester 1 through "The Gingerbread house Challenge".

It is quite a complicated process over four lessons. Students had to make and cut out the dough, trim them after cooking, ensuring that they had very straight edges – otherwise the sections will not stick together and the house will fall down. Then the fun bit – decorating. It was a great extension activity and a nice way to finish off the term.

Belinda Howse

Home Economics Teacher



Year 8 Farm

Year 8 students have settled into this semester's farm program, which consists of half farm and half cooking. The weather has been great these past couple of weeks, allowing the students to enjoy the outdoor farm work. The students have mowed and whipper-snipped around the vegie garden and farm classroom so it looks neat and tidy. They rounded up the ewes and lambs for vaccinations. The egg collecting and maintenance of the chook pen is always a favourite of students. Students hand feed the alpaca's to try and keep them tame. We are so lucky to have a farm facility at our school and its great to see the students having so much fun and learning some important values at the same time.

Belinda Howse

Home Economics Teacher



Year 8 Cheese Making

Year 8's have been involved in the Dairy Australia program – 'Camembert in the Classroom'. The students spent Friday August 8th making camembert cheese. Prior to this they learnt about the importance of dairy foods in their diet and have prepared recipes with a variety of dairy foods as the main ingredient.

Students will be competing against other schools in the region to produce the best camembert cheese as well as the most interesting advertisement promoting dairy foods. The Year 8 students will hopefully go one better than the Year 9's who competed last year and won the multi-media section of the competition. This year we are aiming to make the best cheese.

Nola Gregory

Home Economics Teacher



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