

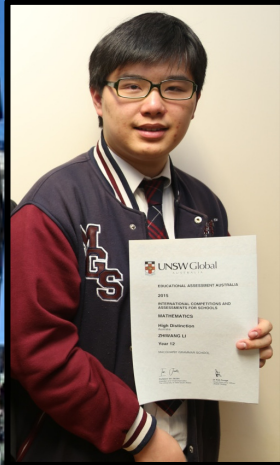
Macquarie Grammar School



Bluey Monthly

'Truth and Virtue'

Volume 12, Issue 1
Summer Term, 2016



Dux 99.25
Zhiwang Li
100% in Mathematics Ext 1



Dragon Dance

Chinese New Year
Monday February 8

Year of the Monkey!

Chinese Wishing
Tree

Macquarie Grammar School

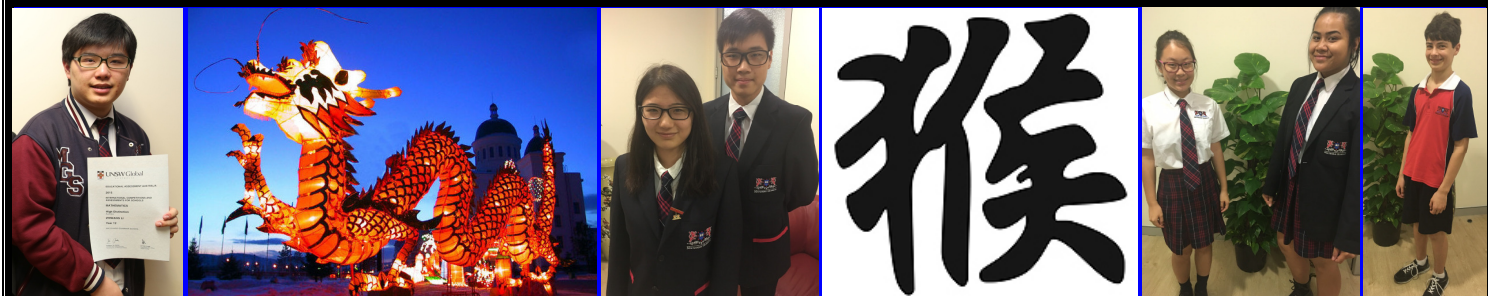
Bluey Monthly Newsletter

'Truth and Virtue'

Volume 12 Edition 1

CRICOS No: 03330B

ABN: 67 796 481 099



Summer Term 2016

Lessons commence for Years 1 to 12
 Parent-Guardian Orientation Evening, 6:00pm
 ISD Basketball U15's, Sen. Boys & Girls Bankst. Vaccinations 7 & 9
 ARTEExpress Exhibition opens at AGNSW
 Year 12 Visual Arts to ArtExpress Excursion
 ISD Touch Rugby fixture Centennial Park
 Year 11 Visual Arts, ArtExpress Excursion
 Good Friday Public Holiday School Closed
 Easter Monday Public Holiday School Closed
 Summer Term concludes for Years 7 to 12
 Professional Development Day
 Autumn Term Begins for Years 7 to 12
 Autumn Term concludes for Years 7 to 12
 Professional Development Day
 Winter Term commences for Years 7 to 12
 Winter Term concludes for Years 7 to 12

Thurs 28th Jan
 Thurs 11th Feb
 Wed 17th Feb
 Mon 14th March
 Wed 16th March
 Fri 18th March
 Wed 23rd March
 Tues 29th March
 Fri 25th March
 Mon 28th March
 Fri 8th April
 Tues 26th April
 Wed 27th April
 Friday 1st July
 Mon 25th July
 Tues 26th July
 Fri 23rd Sept

School Office Hours (During Term) 8:30am-5:00pm
School Office Hours (During Term Breaks) 9:00am-5:00pm
Uniform Ordering Hours 9.00am-5:00pm

House Points

BRADMAN	FRASER	FREEMAN	THORPE

Watch this space for a monthly points total!

Motivational Quote

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in getting up every time we do."(Confucius)

We all will fail at some point in time. But true failure is only when we fail to get up.

Parent-Guardian Orientation Evening

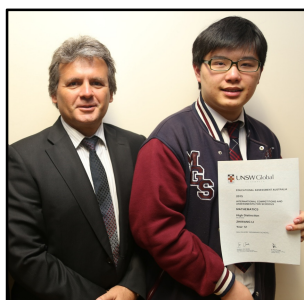
On Thursday 11th February at 6:00pm the school welcomes all parents and Guardians to an Orientation Evening. At this session you will be informed of the school's exceptional HSC results, staff will outline their expectations and I will outline the future direction of the school and its organisational structure.

Message from the Headmaster

I would like to welcome everyone back to school for the commencement of the new academic year and it is wonderful to see our students so happy and keen to start on their studies. Since my appointment I have had the pleasure of meeting a number of the students and have made it my priority to interview all the students over the coming weeks. Hopefully I'll get this opportunity to introduce myself and to get to know each student and work closely on achieving their goals.

I thank the staff, students and Mr Clift, the Parents and Friends' President for the warm welcome I have received and I look forward to continuing the good work that has been done over the years by all within the school community. I will be working closely with Dr Lee as the Chairman of the School Board to implement the school's strategic plan. This plan will provide ongoing benefits, growth in enrolments and facilities that will maintain our academic excellence, and ongoing strong welfare programmes. May 2016 be a fruitful, productive and successful year for all.

HSC Results 2015



The School congratulates our 2015 HSC cohort for their magnificent performance and what brilliant results they were. The HSC School Dux is Zhiwang Lee (also known as Lancelot) with an ATAR of 99.25. This is a remarkable achievement by him and he has set a wonderful

foundation for our future Year 12 students to surpass. I wish all the students well for the future and may they prosper with their tertiary studies.

Zhiwang Li's specific achievements were a Band 6 in ESL, Chemistry, Mathematics Ext 1 & 2, and Japanese Beginners.

Congratulations to Mr Alexandru on the phenomenal Mathematics results. We are truly fortunate to have a teacher of Mr Alexandru's calibre.

Below are some further notable statistics:

1. School Ranked 77th in the state
 (Daily Telegraph 16 December 2016)

2. Ranked 10th on the Maths Merit List for Ext 1 & 2
3. 8% of students attained an ATAR over 95
4. 33% of students attained an ATAR over 90
5. 100% of Mathematics Ext1 students received an E4, equivalent to a Band 6.
6. English ESL had almost four times the number of Band 6's compared to the state.
7. Chinese Background Speakers and Japanese Beginners had almost three times the number of Band 6's compared to the state.
8. Tang Thao Nguyen (Naomi) was ranked 2nd in Chinese Beginners.
9. 45% of courses were above the state mean: *Chemistry, English, (ESL & Standard), Legal Studies, Maths (Ex1), PDHPE, Physics, Chinese Background Speakers and Japanese Beginners.*
10. Macquarie Grammar School was ranked higher than: St Andrew's Cathedral School, Trinity Grammar School, Newington College, The International Grammar School, St Vincent's College, Waverley College, St Luke's Grammar School, Macquarie Fields Selective School, St Patrick's College Strathfield and Inaburra School, to name a few.

Another outstanding achievement is Tang Thao Nguyen (Naomi) was awarded a Scholarship to study at the University of Technology Sydney. In the next edition of Bluey, there will be an article on where our students have articulated to tertiary studies in 2016.

Congratulations to the parents/guardians and teachers for working in partnership with the students to attain these exceptional results. It highlights the encouraging and well-supported environment that exists at Macquarie Grammar School and in the home. The school is fortunate to have such a unique school culture that brings out the very best in our students.

School Uniform

The school has moved its uniform shop off site to Midford's. This has enabled us to maintain regular volumes of stock, provided flexible options of ordering items for parents/guardians. The school holds sample sizes of all uniform items so students can be sized up to their appropriate size. Currently our Administration Staff Ms Cherry Pham is responsible for uniform and students may approach her to place an online order with payment and it will be delivered at the school within two weeks.



Currently the supplier is short of some stock items like the school tie and socks.

Student Appearance

Every student is an ambassador of the school and is a major contributor to setting the tone, culture and overall atmosphere. Therefore, it's important that every student attends school in full school uniform including their blazer with black leather laced shoes. On Thursdays the full sports uniform is required



to be worn for Years 7 to 10, but Years 11 and 12 attend in their normal full school uniform. I ask all parents/guardians to please check that their child has the full school uniform with black leather lace up shoes. If not, please place an order through the Administration Office.

Congratulations



Last week Mr Green and his lovely wife Natasha welcomed the birth of their first child a boy, named Noah London Green. On behalf of all of us at Macquarie Grammar School, congratulations! Over the next two weeks Mr Green will be on Leave and his PDHPE lessons will be covered by Mr Nigro who has been at the

School, in 2015.

Farewell

On behalf of the school community I would like to thank Dr Kelly for all her professional diligence, commitment and dedication for her students. She is a fine teacher and is well rewarded by her excellent HSC Physics results. We wish her well for the future and she will be greatly missed by all of us at the School.

Study Leave

In the month of February ESL teacher Mr Valenti will be attending a specialist TESOL Programme as part of the compulsory NSW Teachers' Professional Development. He will be temporarily replaced by Mr Nugent who specialises in the study of English. On behalf of the School I wish Mr Valenti the very best with his studies and welcome Mr Nugent to our staff.

Sport

This a part of the School's overall curriculum and it assists in the development of every child. It enhances the child's academic performance by preparing her/him both mentally and physically for the challenges that will be faced at school. This week our students will have the opportunity to compete in the Independent Schools' Basketball Competition which will be held at the Bankstown Basketball Stadium. Our U/15 and Senior Teams will be opposing a number of independent schools and our students have been training on Friday afternoons in preparation for this major sporting event. We look forward to our teams being competitive and in meeting other students on the day.

Chinese New Year 2016

Happy New Year!!

As quite a number of our international students are from China I would like wish them a wonderful, safe and prosperous New Year. It is The Year of the Monkey and it commences on Monday February 8 and concludes on Jan 27th, 2017.



In the northern hemisphere the Spring Festival, marks the new year and the festivities start the day before the New Year and

culminates with the Lantern Festival, held on the 15th day.

The Chinese New Year is characterised by one of 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. The zodiac is divided into 12 sections each of length one year and one month.

猴

The Monkey Symbol

The personality of the Monkey

The character of a person under this sign is: lively, quick-witted, curious, intelligent, innovative and mischievous, and is known to be one of the most unlucky years in the Chinese calendar.

Although they were born with enviable skills, they still have several shortcomings, such as an impetuous temper and a tendency to look down upon others.

Strengths: sociable, innovative, enthusiastic, self-assured
Weaknesses: suspicious, cunning, selfish, arrogant, jealous

Lucky Signs for the Monkey

- **Lucky numbers:** 1, 7, 8
- **Lucky colours:** white, gold, blue
- **Lucky flowers:** chrysanthemum, alliums

Lucky directions: north, northwest, west

Famous people born under the monkey sign

Julius Caesar, Leonardo da Vinci, Charles Dickens, Lord Byron, Elizabeth Taylor, Diana Ross, Michael Douglas, Alice Walker, Celine Dion, Tom Hanks, Will Smith, Halle Berry, Christina Aguilera, Owen Wilson, Daniel Craig, Mick Jagger, Bette Davis, Annie Oakley, Eleanor Roosevelt, Cuba Gooding Jr., Gisele Bundchen, Kim Cattrall, Nick Carter, Patricia Arquette, Alyson Stoner, Christina Ricci, Demi Lovato, Miley Cyrus, Nick Jonas, Selena Gomez.

Which Chinese Zodiac sign are you?

If you were born in January or February it may be slightly different as the New Year moves between 21 January and February 20.



Below is a list of characteristics for each sign.

- **Rat:** Intelligent, adaptable, quick-witted, charming, artistic, sociable.
- **Ox:** Loyal, reliable, thorough, strong, reasonable, steady, determined.
- **Tiger:** Enthusiastic, courageous, ambitious, leadership, confidence, charismatic.
- **Rabbit:** Trustworthy, empathic, modest, diplomatic, sincere, sociable, caretakers.
- **Dragon:** Lucky, flexible, eccentric, imaginative, artistic, spiritual, charismatic.
- **Snake:** Philosophical, organized, intelligent, intuitive, elegant, attentive, decisive.
- **Horse:** Adaptable, loyal, courageous, ambitious, intelligent, adventurous, strong.
- **Sheep:** Tasteful, crafty, warm, elegant, charming, intuitive, sensitive, calm.
- **Monkey:** Quick-witted, charming, lucky, adaptable, bright, versatile, lively, smart.
- **Rooster:** Honest, energetic, intelligent, flamboyant, flexible, diverse, confident.
- **Dog:** Loyal, sociable, courageous, diligent, steady, lively, adaptable, smart.
- **Pig:** Honorable, philanthropic, determined, optimistic, sincere, sociable.

Popular Chinese New Year Greetings

1. 新年好 / 新年好 (Xīnnián hǎo)

'New Year goodness!'

In Mandarin: /sshin-nyen haoww/

In Cantonese: /sen-nin haow/

2. 恭喜发财 / 恭喜發財 (Gōngxǐ fācái)

'Happiness and prosperity!'

In Mandarin: /gong-sshee faa-tseye/

In Cantonese: Kunghei fatchoy /gong-hey faa-chwhy/

3. 步步高升 / 步步高陞 (Bùbù gāoshēng)

A steady rise to high places! — "on the up and up"

In Mandarin: /boo-boo gaoww-shnng /

In Cantonese: /boh-boh goh-sshin /

Information acquired from the UK Telegraph Sat 6 Feb, 2016

Curriculum Matters

Brilliant 2015 Academic Results

The class of 2015 produced a brilliant set of Higher School Certificate results, continuing MGS's tradition of academic excellence. Once again the School has entered into the top 100 HSC Schools' list and was ranked 71. MGS is proud of this phenomenal achievement and congratulates the cohort where many have successfully gained entry to a tertiary course of their choosing.

These brilliant results were achieved by a magical combination of student effort and staff guidance and support. Within the culture of academic excellence at MGS our Year 12 students of 2015 set themselves up for success by working hard in their early years, setting goals and striving to achieve these goals. As they approached the finish line in their senior years their eyes were firmly on the prize. Throughout their time at MGS's the students were supported by staff who ensured that they had access to the resources and expert help required to allow them to achieve their potential.

Mrs Sun

Director of Welfare and Operations

Pride In Our Students' Achievements

It is well recognised that a school's worth can be measured by the performance of its members. Not only does this mean academic results but of course the general attitude and conduct of our students.

2015 saw our best HSC results in the history of the school. Notably our Dux Lancelot who scored an impressive result obtaining 4 band sixes and a score of 100 in extension 1 Mathematics, other excellent performers were Naomi, Jack and Vincent who all received at least one band six in their subjects. These students epitomise the excellence within the school not only the students themselves but the teachers and general school tone that contributed to these excellent results. Congratulations Year 12 of 2015, we are very proud of you.

Because of this MGS has been placed as Number 1 coeducational independent school in the Sydney CBD a position we have worked hard to achieve and we are very delighted to hold this mantle for the 2016 year.

Of course there are so many students we are proud of at MGS as we have a very high proportion of students whom conduct themselves everyday in a manner that is exemplary. The core vision and values of the School are upheld by every student as they demonstrate a maturity and understanding that is so valued in young people as they grow toward their adulthood. This is an aspect of our school that is a result of all of its members who role model and is something that is not easy to create and maintain. However, I feel at Macquarie that we have been able to do this and maintain this for many years now. This flows on to our students after school life. For example, I was lucky enough to meet with a former student Sharin Khondukar who is now accepted into honours in economics at Sydney University. Sharin has indeed embodied and adopted the core values of MGS and is going from strength to strength. She indeed stated that MGS had a lot to do with her current success. I invited her to return as a guest speaker and she was delighted. This is just one example of our students succeeding in life after school. We have many such examples.

2016 presents as a new year full of excitement notably with our new Headmaster. As Macquarie Grammar grows as a result of its successes and reputation there will be many new challenges ahead. I am confident that we can meet these and continue to improve the school as we work with a common goal and with a focus on producing the very best people we can. To all my colleagues at Macquarie I say thank you for 2015 and I look forward to working with you in 2016.

Put love in your heart.

Mr Hagan
Director of Curriculum and Compliance

My Chinese Experience

Welcome back to school and to another fantastic year at MGS. I hope everyone had an action packed and adventure filled holiday. I enjoyed a lot of travel- spending Christmas in Perth, touring Thailand, working in New Zealand and had an amazing teaching adventure in China.

I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to travel to Shangqiu in the Henan province in China to teach at their Number 1 High School. This experience was on behalf of MGS and I had the wonderful opportunity to connect with

staff, students and parents of a high school that has 10,000 students and 500 staff members! My days were full of snow, beautiful Chinese food, teaching students about our school and Australia, and experiencing the Chinese culture. I loved gaining an insight into China and I look forward to discussing my experience with all our Chinese students.

Teaching in China is very different to what we experience at MGS. Classes in Shangqiu can have up to 80 students in it, taught by a teacher who needs to use a head piece microphone. Students were very well-behaved and they were fascinated to learn about our country, Australia. Many of them wanting to come to our school to learn.

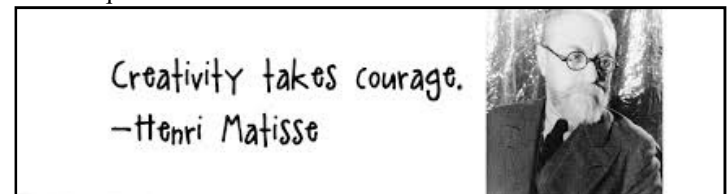
I'd like to thank Mr. Hagan, Dr. Lee and the Board of Governors for giving me this fantastic experience that I will never forget. Thank you also to Tony Zhang for organising my trip and for being a wonderful guide in China.

Mr Keene
Drama

Welcome back all MGS students.

A very special welcome to our new year 7 students. Hope that you will be very happy with us and enjoy your learning journey. I am looking forward to a creative year!

Artist's quote for the month:



Mrs Cawood
Visual Arts

Office Bearers for 2016

Meet Our School Captains



Yifeng (Judy) Lyu Xiaorui (Alex) Chen

Congratulations
to our
Senior School Office Bearers