

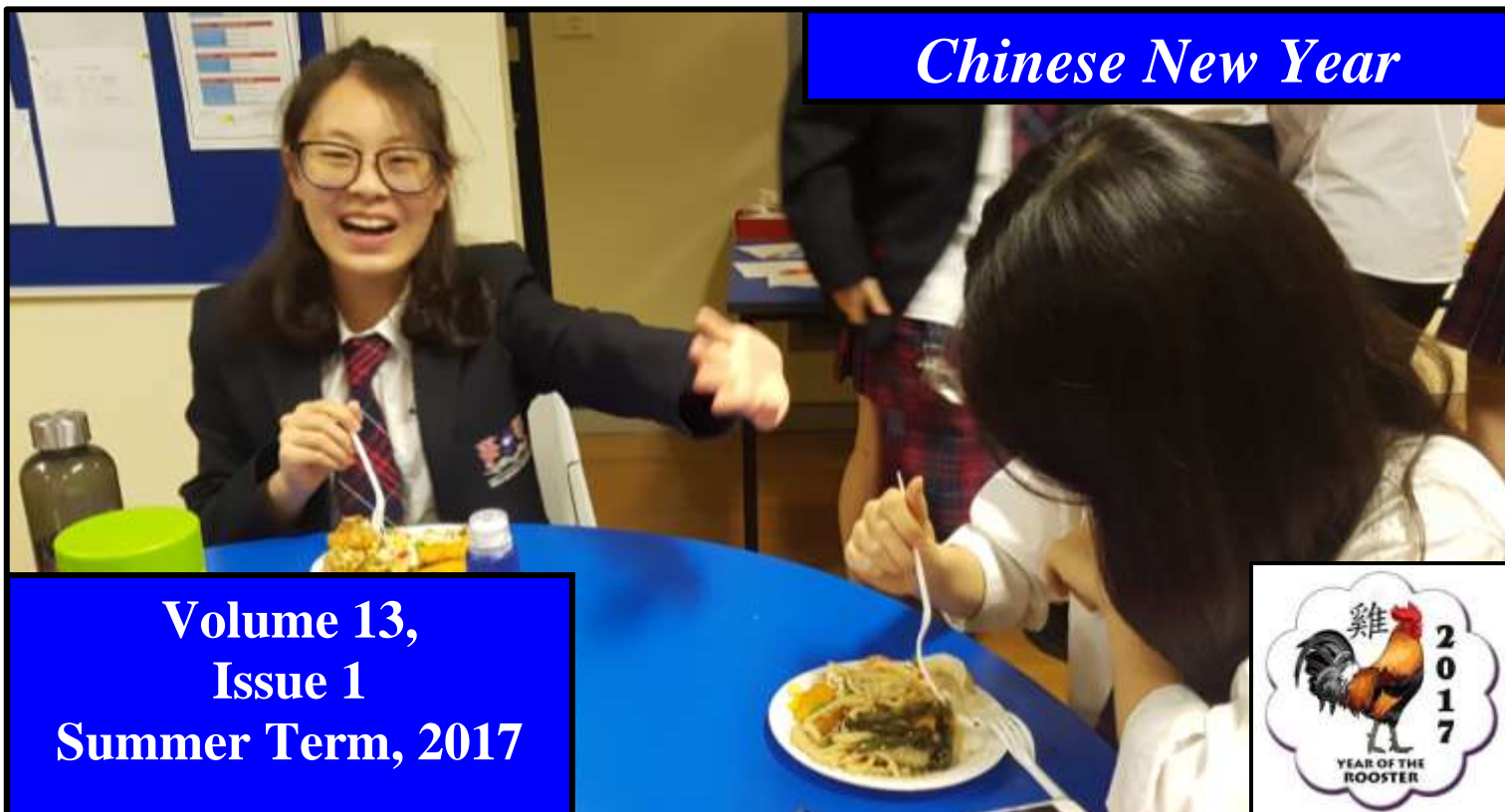


Macquarie Grammar School

February Bluey

'Truth and Virtue'

Chinese New Year



**Volume 13,
Issue 1
Summer Term, 2017**



Year of the Rooster



***Parent/Guardian
Information Evening***



Macquarie Grammar School

February Bluey Newsletter

'Truth and Virtue'

Volume 13 Edition 1

CRICOS No: 03330B

ABN: 67 796 481 099



Summer Term

New Student Orientation Day

Lessons commence

Yr 12 Art Express Visit 11:00am – 2:00pm

Yr 11 Biology Excursion, Centennial Pk

Basketball Inter-School Comp, 12:30pm

Year 7 Vaccination Day

Women on Human Rights, Pitt St City

Student Leadership Prog, Parliament House

Summer Term Examinations Yrs 11 & 12

Summer Term Examinations Yrs 7 to 10

Chinese Debating Seminar

Harmony Day Celebration

Summer Term Awards Assembly, 2:00pm

Lessons conclude for Years 7 to 12

Staff Professional Development Day, Visitations

Mon 30th Jan

Tues 31st Jan

Wed 15th Feb

Tues 21st Feb

Wed 22nd Feb

Thurs 23rd Feb

Thurs 2nd Mar

Wed 15th Mar

Fri 17th Mar

Mon 27th Mar

Sun 26th Mar

Wed 29th Mar

Thur 6th April

Thur 6th April

Fri 7th April

Autumn Term

Professional Development Day & Orientation

ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Lessons commence for Years 7 to 12

Parent/Guardian/Student Interviews

NAPLAN Language Convention & Writing

NAPLAN Reading

NAPLAN Numeracy

Lessons conclude for Yrs 7 – 12

Mon 24th April

Tues 25th April

Wed 26th April

Wed 3rd May

Tues 9th May

Wed 10th May

Thur 11th May

Fri 30th June

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
25	25	25	25



There is no elevator
to success.
You have to take
the stairs..

Motivational Quote

*"What we hope
ever to do with
ease, we must
first learn to do
with diligence."*

Samuel Johnson

Message from the Headmaster

Summer Term

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to Macquarie Grammar School for the new academic year. A special welcome to all the new families that have joined us and I am sure you will have a long association with the school. I am pleased to inform the community that the school enrolments have grown substantially and this is always a good indicator that the school is fulfilling the overall aspirations of our families, and in particular the students under our care.

This year a number of organisational changes will take place and some new initiatives will be implemented. In the area of curriculum a new course has commenced in Year 11, which is Information Processes and Technology. It involves the study of computer systems, utilisation of programmes and the understanding of processes. Years 11 and 12 academic progress and attendance will continue to be reported to both parents and students each term, but a formal examination will now take place during each term in preparation for the HSC Examinations. This initiative was introduced after receiving feedback from our senior students throughout last year. Sport will be expanded with greater involvement in the ISD and other independent school competitions.



Camp will take place in the second half of the academic year for all Years 7 to 12 and the co-curricular programme will be rotated each term. I wish everyone a wonderful year ahead and look forward to seeing our students excelling in whatever activity they are involved in and being rewarded for his/her effort.

HSC Results 2016

I am pleased to report that our Year 12 students performed magnificently in the 2016 HSC. Bao Vu became our first All Rounder and Dux with an ATAR of 89.95 and almost all our students matriculated to university in 2017. The school was ranked 9th on the English



Standard/ESL Merit list published in the SMH, 100% of our students that studied Japanese Beginners or Chinese Continuers were awarded a Band 6 and 100% of our Biology and Mathematics Extension 1 and 2 attained a Band E3 or E4.

Our students surpassed themselves with a performance that will be difficult to match in 2017. The school yet again was pleasantly surprised with its ranking within the top 100 schools, being placed 70th as published in the Better Schools website. I would like to congratulate all our Year 12 students on what is a phenomenal performance and I wish them well with their future tertiary studies.

Below is a list of some of our students who are moving on to tertiary studies:

Judy Liu	UTS	Agriculture
Deirdre Cheung	UNSW	Computer Science
Hermosa Chen	UMacq	Childcare/Early Child
Soolim Kim	USyd	Commerce/Law
Alex Chen	UWS	Business
Bao Vu	UWoll	Maths/Finance
James Elbanna	ICMS	Business

Former Principal Dr Gauld, Order of Australia Medal (OAM)

It is always nice to keep in touch with the achievements of our former staff and students as we collectively take pride in the accolades they receive, and we rejoice in their success. Recently on Australia Day, our Former Principal of our school, Dr Gauld, was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia: "*For service to education, and to social justice and human rights*". We congratulate him on receiving this auspicious award and we are proud of his achievements.

Farewell

Mr Sotiropoulos was farewelled at the end of last year and thanked for all the good work that he did with our students. He joined us midway through Winter Term and made an immediate impact in the classroom. On behalf of the school community I thank him for all his good work and wish him all the very best for the future.

New Staff

Over the Christmas break the school conducted a series of interviews to secure a quality English teacher to join our strong academic team. I was extremely impressed by Ms Tsohas who has a broad and concise range of skills and qualifications in the area of literacy development and teaching, this includes TESOL, ESL and the mainstream English Curriculum from Years 7 to 12. In the first couple of weeks that she has been at the school, the students have endeared themselves to her teaching style and level of knowledge. We are truly fortunate to have secured her tenure at the school. I whole-heartedly welcome Mrs Tsohas to the school and look forward to her building upon the good results that MGS has attained over the years.



School Office Bearers

At the 2016 Graduation Assembly I announced the Office Bearers for 2017. The School is so fortunate to have such mature, respectful and compassionate young men and

women who truly adore Macquarie Grammar School and all that it offers. I would like to introduce to you:

Office Bearers for 2017 School Captains



James Patterson



Tarin Tandulkar

Vice Captains



Farah Esse



Laura Rose

Prefects



Vicky Cheng



Daisy Chen



Eden Gorton



Raj Rohan Rana

Congratulations on their appointment and I am sure they will conduct their duties with great enthusiasm, commitment and personal integrity.

Parent-Teacher Information Evening

It was wonderful to see the large number of parents and guardians who attended the Parent/Guardian Information Evening. Parents/Guardians had an opportunity to hear what the students will be studying this year, what the expectations are from their teachers as well as meeting the teachers over a light supper. Also, the President of the Parents and Friends' Association was able to welcome all our new parents into the MGS family.



It was a lovely evening and I thank the parents/guardians, Mr Clift and the Staff who attended and I look forward to what I am sure will be another successful year.



Message from the Director of Curriculum NAPLAN 2017.

This year the NAPLAN will be held on the 9th, 10th and 11th May for Years 7 and 9. There will be three (3) English tests and two (2) Numeracy tests.

Language Conventions and Writing
Reading
Numeracy

9th May
10th May
11th May

As distinct from previous years the Numeracy test will be split into two sections; a calculator allowed component and a non-calculator component. The Years 7 and 9 Numeracy tests will **no** longer be administered in two test sessions. It will be one test with two parts, A and B.

Part A will contain the **calculator allowed** questions and take 50 minutes (40 questions).

Part B will contain the **non-calculator** questions and take 10 minutes (8 questions)

NAPLAN demands the highest levels of security and professionalism to maintain the validity of the tests. As such, all test materials are kept under the strictest security measures. We look forward to continued improvement in our NAPLAN performances.

If parents/guardians have any questions about the NAPLAN testing program please contact Mr Hagan as the Director of Curriculum on 82283022.

Message From Our School Dux for 2016 My Feelings While At MGS

You might remember me as the all-rounder student that does nothing but study, the girl who cried during her graduation speech or the person whose face appears on the school website for her 98+ ATAR or you will simply remember me as Bao.



As a recent graduate, I envy you a lot, because you still have the chance to enjoy your time at MGS. I feel

privileged to have been a part of MGS, all the more so now that I have graduated.

Learning at MGS gave me the freedom to do whatever subject I wanted -- hence my unusual subject combinations of ESL, Japanese, Visual Arts and Maths Extensions 1 and 2, and I think a big part of my success came from having that freedom of choice. I was struggling a lot with my subject selection during the start of Year 12. All of my teachers were indulgent enough of me to allow as much time as I needed to decide, and considerate enough not to influence my choice, for which I am immensely thankful.

I am also thankful for the unending support with which MGS teachers provided me throughout this process. There were teachers who were willing to stay behind for hours after school to help me with my subjects and organised extra lessons, who sought me out because they noticed I was having problems, who halted class to give me space because I was crying from the pressure. Fellow MGS students, you are under the guidance of the kindest and most wonderful people, and I hope you appreciate them.

Now that I have entered university and am experiencing first hand its early pressure, I find myself wishing I could go back to high school. A few days ago I did come back to MGS and was delighted to find myself welcomed by students and staff alike. For an international student who travelled to Australia alone, MGS is my home away from home.

Dear MGS students, I hope you have as wonderful an experience at MGS as I did. Work your hardest and enjoy your school life to the fullest. I wish you all the best with your upcoming exams, and remember: all things pass. So go pass your exams!

Good luck,
Bao Anh Vu

Message from the Director of Welfare and Operations

Welcome back for the 2017 school year. I hope everyone had a relaxing and refreshing break. I'd like to particularly welcome our students (along with their parents) and staff starting in our school for the first time. May the year ahead be engaging and rewarding – a wonderful year of teaching and learning.

We know the world is transforming profoundly and quickly, and it is our great responsibility to prepare our children and young people so that they can flourish through such change. When our children finish school and enter the evermore demanding world beyond, we will know of our success by their ability to live healthy, productive and fulfilling lives.

The challenge for Macquarie Grammar School is to ensure that every student is engaged in school and successfully learning – and this requires a shared responsibility of every person being committed to the improvement of every child, teacher, leader and support staff.

China's Lantern Festival Celebration at MGS





Teachers and students enjoyed the Traditional Chinese Food gathering and it was well attended. Everyone enjoyed the traditional Chinese food with a smattering of western food, and the wonderful performances from our students, that comprised of singing, paper lantern making, Chinese calligraphy and the annual shuttlecock kicking

competition.

The Lantern Festival is celebrated on the 15th day of the first Chinese lunar month, and traditionally ends the Chinese New Year period. This year it fell on February 11. According to China's various folk customs, people get together on the night of the Lantern Festival to celebrate with different activities.

As China is a vast country with a long history and diverse cultures, Lantern Festival **customs and activities vary regionally**, including lighting and enjoying (floating, fixed, held, and flying) lanterns, appreciating the bright full moon, setting off fireworks, guessing riddles written on lanterns, eating *tangyuan*, lion dances, dragon dances, and walking on stilts. Lighting lanterns is a way for people to pray that they will have smooth futures and express their best wishes for their families.



Festival Time Is For Rich Learning Experiences

The Lantern Festival provides the impetus for rich authentic learning beyond the classroom. The Lantern Festival is a great example of how the links between local and international students can be explored through an array of performing and visual arts experiences. Our students have a unique opportunity to increase their respect and understanding for Asian cultures while identifying with a diversity of perspectives and experiences.



The Lantern festival is an important traditional Chinese Festival. As part of the support that the school gives to our international students, cultural events like this make a great contribution to the enhancement of our international

students' experience and it is a celebration of the diversity within our school community.



Elvin Fu Year 11 Singing a Song

A student who attended the event said afterwards: "I enjoyed the celebration enormously; the opportunity to share diverse and rich cultures makes a big difference to my school experience!" An international student also commented: "The event makes me feel so proud of our Eastern culture, even though I'm not from China."



Jessica Dai Year 11 Calligraphic Writing Demonstration

The School Uniform is Enforced

Macquarie Grammar School is committed to students wearing their school uniform with pride. We believe the uniform is a vital part of developing and maintaining our high standards. Wearing the school uniform correctly is important because it represents the pride and respect we have for our school and more importantly ourselves. Attention to personal presentation develops habits of self-discipline and a responsibility, which are essential skills in the 21st Century.



Years 11 and 12 Examinations

The Summer Term Examinations will commence for Years 11 and 12 on Friday 17th March and we wish the students all the very best. If any student is unsure of their learning they should take the time to approach their teacher for assistance.

- Years 11 and 12 Examinations are held in rooms 4.1 and 4.2 on level 4. In your timetable, Reading and Working time is indicated.
- Students only need to be at school during their timetabled examinations.
- Students must arrive 15 minutes prior to an examination commencing.

Important Rules to Note

1. You must attend all the examinations.
2. In exceptional circumstances maybe a Doctor's Certificate will be accepted if absent.

3. You must obtain a Doctor's Certificate on and for that day if absent.
4. You must contact the school to advise reception that you will be absent. Phone 82283022
5. You must provide a medical certificate and complete an Application for Consideration of Illness/Misadventure.
6. Applications for Consideration of Illness/Misadventure must be submitted to the Director of Curriculum and Compliance, Mr Hagan immediately after a missed examination.
7. You will be advised if your application is granted or denied.

Detentions

Detentions are held for 40 minutes during lunch for reported misdemeanours. Students who fail to attend Lunch Detention are required to do a 1 hour Friday Reflection from 3 to 4pm.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that Mobile Phones are not used at school without the classroom teacher's permission and that the school takes no responsibility for their security if they are brought to school. Any student using a mobile phone without permission will have it confiscated for the rest of the day. The following consequences will apply:

- 1st offence:** Warning
2nd offence: Lunchtime Exclusion
3rd offence: After School Detention
4th and subsequent offences: 1 day Internal Suspension.

Mrs Sun

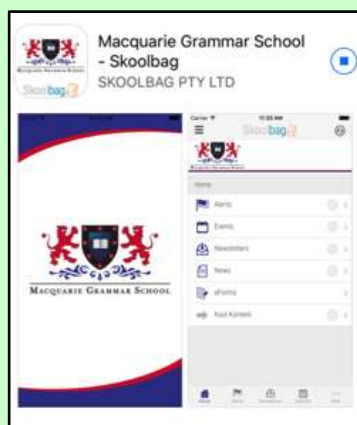
Director of Welfare and Operations

Mobile School Application

iPhone and Android

The school has its own mobile application that it uses as a portal to disseminate information such as Newsletters, permission notes, notifications and even forms. If you haven't downloaded the Macquarie Grammar School Application from the App Store or Google Play be do, so that you can be up-to-date with what's happening at Macquarie Grammar School.

Smartphone School Communication App – Skoolbag



Skoolbag is a mobile App for Macquarie Grammar School to communicate directly to parents, staff and students.

How to Install the Macquarie Grammar Skoolbag App on your smartphone:

iPhone Users

Simply search for "Macquarie Grammar School" in the App Store on your phone and install. After the App is installed on your phone, make sure that you select "OK" to allow push notifications.

Android Users

Simply search for "Macquarie Grammar School" in Google Play on your phone and install.



School Uniform

Parents/guardians please make sure that your child attends school in full school uniform or the correct uniform when attending school. It's suggested that students have two of every item of clothing except off course the blazer, jumper and tie. You order online through the Midford portal www.midford.com.au/Order-Online/. The item can be delivered to school for pick up once electronic payment is made. This is a wonderful system and it works brilliantly.

Please follow the Uniform Online Ordering steps provided below:

Uniform Online Ordering

Enjoy the convenience of online shopping. Save time and energy by ordering your uniforms online in 5 – 6 easy steps!

New User Instruction

1. Go to www.midford.com.au
2. Select Macquarie Grammar School from the Online School Shops tab
3. New users need to click the Register New Account button
4. Start the registration process by selecting Macquarie Grammar School from the drop down menu and add the unique school pass phrase [MGS2004]
5. Add your personal information, create a username and personal password
6. Order the items you need, choose to collect from the school or arrange for home delivery.



Further information

Tel : 1800 835 643

Email: Info@midford.com.au

Year 11 and 12 Exam Timetable Term 1 2017

Year 11 and 12 Exam Timetable Term 1 2017														
Exam Time	Year	Room	17 March		20 March		21 March		22 March		23 March		24 March	
			Friday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
9am~12noon (2 ~3hours)	Year 11 am	4.1	ESL	2 hours 10 mins	Maths	2 hours	CBS	2 hours	BS	2 hours	IPT	2 hours	VA	1.5hours
		4.2	Eng Stan/ Adv	2 hours 10 mins			CB	1.5hours	Chem	2 hours	BIO	2 hours	Physics	2 hours
	Year 12 am			Eng Stan/ Adv	2 hours 10 mins	Maths	3 hours	LS	3 hours	Chem	2 hours 30 mins	PDHPE	3 hours	Physics
			4.1	ESL	2 hours 10 mins	MathsEx2	3 hours	CBS	2 hours	BS	3 hours	Eco	3 hours	VA
Lunch time 12 noon to 1 pm (1 hour)														
1pm~3pm (2 hours)	Year 11 pm	4.1	Math Ex1	2 hours	No Exam	Eng Ex 1	2 hours 5 mins	No Exam		LS/ PDHPE	2 hours	No Exam		
		4.2								JB	1.5 hours			
	Year 12 pm									Drama	1 hour 5 mins			
			4.1	Math Ex1		2 hours	Eng Ex 1			2 hours 5 mins	JB			2 hours