



Macquarie Grammar School

March Bluey Newsletter

'Truth and Virtue'

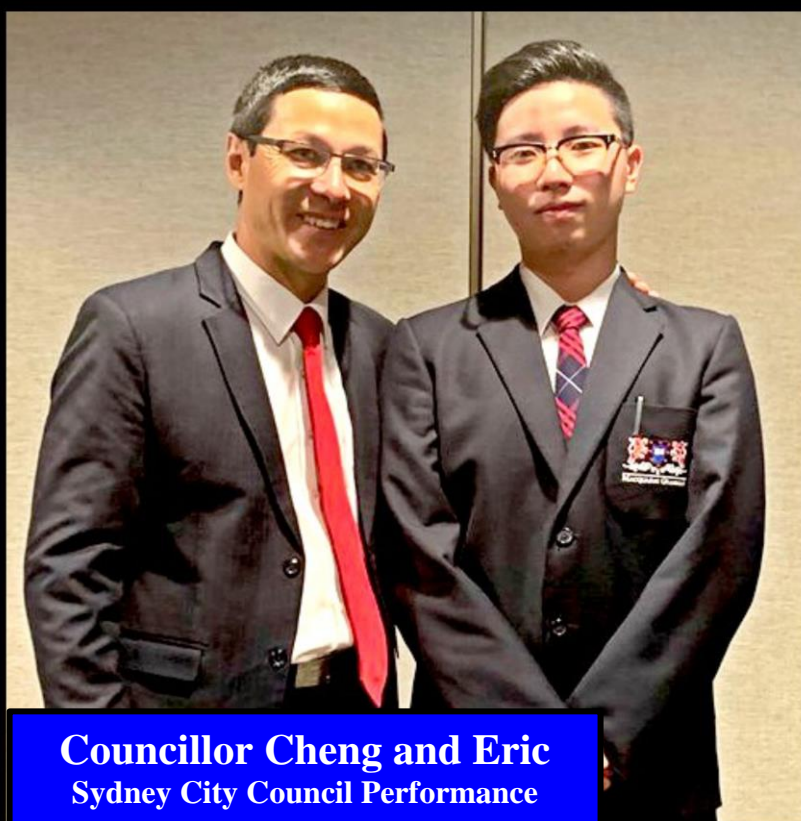
Volume 14 Edition 1

CRICOS No: 03330B

ABN: 67 796 481 099



**Volume 14,
Issue 1
Summer Term, 2019**



**Councillor Cheng and Eric
Sydney City Council Performance**



Macquarie Grammar School



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Summer Term

Parent, Guardian and Teacher Meeting

Examination Week Years 11 and 12

Examination Week Years 7 to 10

Summer Term Awards Assembly, 2:00pm

Lessons conclude for Yrs 7 – 12

Wed 6th Feb

25th–29th Mar

1st – 5th April

Thur 11th April

Thur 11th April

Autumn Term

New Student Orientation Day

Lessons commence for Yrs 7 to 12

Parent, Guardian, Teacher Infor. Evening, 5:00pm

MGS Athletics Carnival Years 7 to 12, ES Marks

School Photo Day

Parents and Friends' Presentation, 6:00pm

Winter Term Awards Assembly, 2:00pm

Lessons conclude for Years 7 to 12

Mon 29th April

Tue 30th April

Wed 8th May

Fri 10th May

Tue 21st May

Wed 22nd May

Fri 28th June

Fri 28th 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- 500pm

Notifications from the Administration Office:

Reminders for International students

If you wish to return to your home country during the holiday break at the end of each term, please see the Students Services Officer for a Student Leave Request Form. Complete the form and return it to the Student Service Officer for the Headmaster's approval. Students are allowed to travel only to their home country and they must have the approval from the Headmaster, before booking the air ticket.

Ms. Zheng

Guardianship/Homestay Officer

Lockers

If you would like to have access to a locker, contact Ms. Chen in the Administration Office. A \$10 deposit is required and you must return your locker key at the end of Spring Term 4.

Ms. Chen

International Marketing Officer

Message from the Headmaster

I welcome everyone to the school, both new families and existing ones, students and teachers, after returning from a relaxing summer holiday break. Our students have returned with a determination to do their best across all areas of the curriculum.



Already, we have seen our students participate in the ISD Basketball and our overall performance was very competitive. Excursions to the UTS Science Laboratories for Years 11 and 12, Years 11 and 12 visited the NSW Art Gallery to view the 2018 HSC Major Works, Year 12 PDHPE students attended the Anatomy Exhibition and two professors of note visited the school and presented an address to the Years 11 and 12 Biology classes.

We also celebrated the Lunar Festival, the Year of the Pig. This is a typical term that a student experiences at MGS where excursions and activities are parts and parcels of the learning process at the school. I wish everyone a rewarding year ahead.



Inspirational Quote

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

Confucius

Higher School Certificate 2018

Our students excelled themselves and performed well in the 2018 Higher School Certificate Examinations. Congratulations to our Year 12 cohort and our HSC Dux Fangni (Frances) Li with an outstanding ATAR in the 90s and was placed in the list of distinguished achievers where she was awarded a Band 6 in Chinese and Literature and Mathematics 2U. This is a wonderful achievement and well-deserved, as she has worked diligently throughout the year.



Our students maintained the high academic standards set at the school and in Mathematics 2U and Mathematics Extension 1, English EALD, Advanced and Extension 1 and



Languages. The results in languages were exceptional with Chinese and Literature being the outstanding performer, but it was pleasing to see other courses like Biology, Physics and Chemistry attaining good results. A number of our courses performed above the state mean, which is a phenomenal achievement and supports our commitment to quality teaching taking place in the classroom.

Our School was not published in the Top 200 Schools List by the Sydney Morning Herald, but our percentage performance of Band 6's would equate to being amongst them. That's a phenomenal outcome from a school which takes great pride in being fully comprehensive, has a substantial number of international students and offers no acceleration. I am proud of our students' performance and thank the teachers for their good work and commitment. I wish the students all the very best for their future tertiary studies and sincerely thank the parents and guardians for their ongoing support for the school, and for contributing to these outstanding results.



Farewell

After almost two and a half years of service to the school Mr. Gates managed in that short time to transform the interest in English literature to such levels that our students were disappointed when they missed a lesson. He introduced M.U.N.A and Public Speaking to the school and extended the students' interest in writing and in developing their vocabulary. He was a teacher with an innate ability to inspire

students to learn. He has been appointed to a school in Tasmania and we wish him all the very best in his new professional challenge. He will be greatly missed, and I thank him for the wonderful contribution he has made to the school.

Welcome



Ms. Rose joins us as an experienced English Teacher from St Scholastica's College with an impressive and extensive resume, teaching English at the highest level. She has been an English Coordinator in a number of schools and in the short time that she has joined the school she has made a positive impact upon the learning of our students. We are very fortunate to have

her at the school and we wish her an enjoyable long tenure.

Parent-Guardian Information Evening

In Week 2 of Summer Term the school held the first of four (4) Parent-Guardian Information Evenings and it was well attended by parents, guardians and homestay hosts. All the teachers presented a short outline on the requirements of their courses and what the expectations are for students undertaking their studies. I ask parents and guardians to please keep in touch with the teachers on the progress of your child. It was an informative night as the teachers detailed the course structure and outlined the assessment tasks that will be given throughout the year.

The President of the Parents and Friends' Association, Mr. Clift welcomed everyone to the school and highlighted the importance of attending the Parents and Friends' Presentations held in Week 4 of each term. I thank everyone for attending and I wish you a wonderful year ahead.

Sydney City Council Performance

Councillor Cheng invited Eric Cai from Year 11 to perform at the Sydney City Council after being a special guest at our Awards Ceremony late last year. Councillor Cheng was so impressed by Eric's talent that he invited him to perform to an audience of some of Sydney's most notable business people. Eric was an outstanding ambassador and he marvelled the audience with his singing. Well done Eric!



Message from the School Captain

As we settle into a new school year, I welcome back all our returning students, and extend a warm welcome to our new students who have decided to join our MGS community. The year ahead will undoubtedly bring challenges synonymous with the demands of high school life. However, it is important to aim high, persevere through the difficult times and make the most of the support and resources available to you.

To manage the pressures and responsibilities of schooling, keeping a balanced approach is very important. Consider the opportunities available to connect with new friends, learn new skills through **Friday Clubs**, and challenge yourself through sports and other out of school activities. Keeping active physically, mentally and socially all play an important role in our overall wellbeing as we navigate our way through the high school years.

We are very fortunate at MGS to be guided by wonderful teachers who take a genuine interest in the learning of each and every student. We also have a close-knit student group where all students are welcomed and recognised as a valued member of our MGS community.

May the year ahead bring you new adventures and opportunities to extend your learning and be a wonderfully positive school experience, as we all embark on 2019 together.

*Hayden Clift
School Captain*

Message from Director of Welfare and Operations

“Welcome to a new year at the Macquarie Grammar School”



A new year brings with it a sense of excitement and anticipation. There are new opportunities to be explored and new challenges to encourage growth. I warmly welcome all families to this New Year at Macquarie Grammar School. I trust that families have enjoyed their holiday experiences, the opportunity to rest, rejuvenate and catch up with family members and friends.

Student Attendance

An important legal requirement of all schools is to maintain accurate attendance records. The recording system and processes at Macquarie Grammar School allow us to know whether students are at the school or not and assist us in ensuring the safety of all students. The School records the **daily attendance** of all students at the start of every day and is completed by their Homeroom teachers **at 8:45 am**. To

ensure we are able to account for every student, we require the **parents or guardians of a child who will be absent, to call the Student Services Officer (02 82283022) by 8:30 am**. If the School has not been notified by 8.45am, the Student Services Officer will begin contacting parents or guardians of any student who is absent. If a **student is sick**, then they must bring a **medical certificate** to the **Student Services Officer** on their **first day** of returning to the school. **All absences of two or more days requires a formal written explanation as well**. This should be provided to the **Tutor Group/Roll Call Teacher** or to the **Student Services Officer**. Reasons for absences are recorded on the database system to monitor student absences.



Late Arrival Procedure

The School maintains records on late arrivals. If a student arrives late **after 8:45am** for their Tutor Group/ Roll Call class, s/he must report to the **Student Services Officer**, where their name and reason for lateness is registered on the database. *Arriving at school on time is extremely important!* However, when a pattern of late arrivals is set, it is extremely disruptive for the teachers and the other students. Teachers must retrace their steps regarding instructions, students are distracted by the interruptions, and administrative staff are unnecessarily diverted from other important tasks. Constant lateness can also be stressful for the student and does not set a good example of being reliable. It is important for the students to arrive at school early before Tutor Group or Roll Call at 8:45 am. The school will send out a **reminder letter to parents/guardians of students who consistently arrive late, after 8:45 am**. **If lateness persists on a regular basis, a meeting will be arranged with the Headmaster and Mrs Sun to explain the absence and to find a solution.**

Requests for leave

Requests for leave, other than daily appointments, need to be made in writing, preferably by **email, to the Student Services Officer (sso@mgs.edu.au or office@mgs.edu.au)**. All requests should be made early to allow time for a response. Please **do not make travel arrangements outside of the school holiday breaks and until the Leave Request has been granted**. The Homeroom teacher needs to receive advanced notice, in writing, of students who will miss part of a day due to an appointment. On departing the School **for a part-day appointment, students must report to the Student Service Officer** where details of s/he's departure time will be recorded in the database. The students and parents must **report to the**

Student Service Officer upon their return from a part-day appointment which is then recorded again in the database.

Change of Routine

I would like to remind parents/guardians that they are *not to email messages to the teachers about changes of routine for the same day*. As teachers are not at their desk for most of the day and are unable to guarantee that teachers will see the email until before school concludes. Therefore, it is important that any changes to routine **are directed to the Student Service Officers**. This also needs to be done with enough time to allow the Office Staff to deliver the message. Please be aware that the Office is very busy, and we are not able to guarantee that your message will be delivered before classes conclude.

School Uniform

Uniform is extremely important for the **students' safety** as it is recognized by the local community. It teaches students how to dress appropriately and take pride in their appearances. Parents/guardians please ensure that your child attends school in **full school uniform, to and from school**. All students, whether **travelling** by public transport or being driven in private cars, **must wear their blazers and tie**. Students from Years 7 to 11 wear their **sporting tracksuit for Thursday Sport or for a double PDHPE lesson** as guided by their teacher on the day. It is suggested that students have two of every item of clothing excluding blazer, jumper and tie. Students are sent home if they are not in school uniform.



When ordering, **new students** please contact **Ms. Jeon (at Reception)** by **3:15pm on the day of arrival** for uniform measurements. Other students please kindly make your order online through the **Midford portal** www.midford.com.au/Order-Online/ and follow the steps as outlined in this article. Items can be delivered to school for pick up once the electronic payment is made. It is important for students to **keep their purchase order**

number for refunds, allocating missing items and exchanging items (tags must not be removed). This system is in fact convenient for all parents/ guardians, students and the school.

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

Mrs Sun

Director of Welfare and Operations

Message from the Director of Curriculum

Curriculum Update Summer Term 1, 2019



MITOCHONDRIA by **MIRAJ RAHMAN 11BR**

The return to School from the holiday break has seen a happy and healthy student and staff atmosphere. The school's curriculum gained approval from NESA after its inspection in 2018 and I am looking forward to seeing our students

succeed with their studies. Students and Teachers are expected to produce and demonstrate the highest of educational standards attainable for the curriculum as it currently exists. As part of exemplary standards, teachers are required to constantly update and adjust the curriculum for maintenance of excellence in teaching and learning that addresses the student needs within the high school. The HSC results have reflected this through a very solid performance in all subject areas and some



GOLGI APPARATUS by **GLEB DMITRIEVICH 11**

impressive results in others. Notably the number of students who achieved a Band three results or lower were significantly reduced meaning that quality teaching and learning resulted in the improvement in this area.

The differentiated nature of the curriculum is an aspect that I am very pleased with, in that there is a wide diversity of teaching and learning experiences that are delivered to the students at MGS. For instance, the **Japanese Beginner**



CELLULAR COMPONENTS by ZARA CAMPBELL 11FE

students visited a specialist **Japanese Tea Room** and learnt how to make and serve tea the Japanese way, **Model Making and Virtual Reality** experiences, **excursions in HSP to The Rocks and City**

Museums facilitate excellence in curriculum implementation. I look forward to a continuation of these standards throughout the year and very positive outcomes in 2019.

“Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of intelligent effort.”

The Two Professors

University Professors Lecture to Year 12 Biology students

The students of Year 12 Biology have been treated to two lectures by pre-eminent **Associate Professors from the University of Sydney**. The students were enthralled by the level of sophistication and ground-breaking scientific research presented to the students within the constructs of the Biology syllabus.

Associate Professor Mr. Bill Phillips entertained the students with scientific research based on muscular dystrophy and its characteristics and inheritance. The students’ responded well to questions and provided interesting insight into the relevancy of the research at Sydney University.



Associate Professor Mr. Guy Lyons



Lyons gave a fascinating insight into the workings of cancer and its cure. The students who were exposed to these tremendous scientists of note within the scientific community were amazed and enthralled with the presentations.

It is anticipated that such enrichment of the Biology cohort may well result in excellent results in the 2019 HSC. It is also intended that a continuation of lectures will be undertaken next year in 2020.

“Life is not only a journey of delight and chance, but one that always contains the Opportunity to Learn.”

Anonymous

Mr. Hagan

Director of Curriculum and Compliance

School Events

Year 12 Art Express

Year 12 Visual Art students visited the Art Gallery of NSW to view a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the art-making component of the HSC examination for 2018. The exhibition included a broad range of approaches and expressive forms, including ceramics, collection of works, documented forms, drawing, graphic design, painting, photo-media, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and fibre, and time-based forms. It was an excellent opportunity for students to appreciate works by their peers and find new inspiration to further develop their own art-making practices.



*Ms. Cawood
Visual Arts Teacher*

SPORT

ISD Basketball

On Wednesday 20th February, Macquarie Grammar School competed in the Annual ISD Basketball Championships at Bankstown Basketball Centre. MGS fielded three teams and once again our students performed admirably.

Girls Team

Jenny Luo 12TH, Linda Nguyen 11FE, Annelise Ryan 11BR and Dina Tian 12TH

Our girls played two great games and deserve special praise considering we had a limited number of players. Annelise Ryan was outstanding in defence and regularly blocked the shots of opponents and took many rebounds. Jenny Luo and Linda Nguyen always gave their best and Dina Tian played with her usual determination. The first game we played without matching up numbers against Green Valley Islamic School. With one player short for the duration of the game, we won in a heart stopper, 4 – 2! An overall win / loss ratio of 50% for the day- well done girls!

Junior Boys Team

Elijah Bristow 9FA, Ryan Jiang 9TH, Arda Lok 9FA, Omar Sutisno 9FE, Jackson Wei 10TH, Randolph Wikarsa 10FE

The Junior Boys’ Team came across tough competition throughout the tournament, yet they demonstrated excellent teamwork and a great sense of enjoyment with each game played.

Ryan Jiang proved to be a versatile player in both offence and defence and never stopped giving his best. Omar Sutisno displayed sound dribbling skills and worked hard each game setting up attacking opportunities for his teammates.

Our best performance was against Al Zahra. The scoreline remained close throughout the duration of the match as Randolph Wikarsa seemed to be everywhere on the court. The weight of possession by our opponents in the last few minutes of the game was the difference between both teams, as we lost 8 – 6. A great effort by the team throughout the day – congratulations!



Ryan Jiang 9TH working hard to secure a rebound.

Senior Boys Team

Hewitt Freshwater 12FA, Riaz Khan 11TH, Gleb Kozlov 11, Carlos Liu HSP1 BR, Joshua Pantea 10FE, Javier Pita 11BR, Owen Siphandone 10TH, Alfred Wong 11BR, Bruce Yang 10FA

As per last year, the Senior Boys Team were the most successful team for our school. We played four games, winning three overall – a tremendous effort.

The day started nicely for us with a solid win over Green Valley International School, 23 – 4. Carlos Liu and Alfred Wong were menacing in offence and regularly kept the scoreboard ticking over. Hewitt Freshwater played a strong game and proved too strong in defence.

Our next match was against MFIS, proving to be a close battle the whole game. We ended up winning by one point (14-13), with Gleb Kozlov securing the ball in the dying seconds to repel any further attacks.

The third match was against Al Sadiq College. Teamwork was quite noticeable as everyone contributed. Special mention to Javier Pita, Bruce Wang and Joshua Pantea for their efforts in defence.

Finally, we came across the might of Amity College. Although our boys gave their best, it was evident that our opponents play on a regular basis as a team. This did not take away from the effort of our boys. As a result of losing this match, we did not progress into the final, yet finished third overall on the day– outstanding!



Macquarie Grammar School Squad



Gleb Kozlov 11 and Hewitt Freshwater 12FA on the bench in anticipation of more court time.

Special thanks to Mr Tovar for his committed approach and training schedule for many weeks leading up to the tournament. His enthusiasm and coaching on the day were greatly appreciated by the staff and students alike.

*Mr. Slavin
Sport Teacher*

A Summary on ISD Basketball

*On the 20th February, Macquarie Grammar School sent three (3) teams; 1 open boys, 1 U15 girls and 1 U15 boys to the ISD Basketball Competition. Every team played well and had an enjoyable day of not just playing but supporting their fellow teams. The U15 girls unfortunately had to retire before their second match due to injuries but did win their first-round vs GVIS 4-2 with only 4 players. The U15 boys played well and had some amazing games against very strong opposition, as a collective we were very proud of their dedication and spirit. The open boys finished 3rd in their competition with a record of 4-1 winning against GVIS, MFIS, Al Sadiq and a win due to the bye, their only loss was a close game to Amity. A **big thanks goes out to Mr. Slavin for organising the day and Mr. Tovar for coaching and training the teams.***

Hewitt Freshwater 12FA

Message from a New Student

*This is my second week at Macquarie Grammar School. I feel very comfortable and happy at the moment because everyone including the students and the staff seem to be very **friendly and inclusive**. MGS is slowly becoming my **second home** because everyone is very friendly and the academic standard at the school is also very high, which makes it one of the best schools I have studied in, so far. At MGS, students are allowed to **study** their subjects **outdoors**, for example we are allowed to go out of the school for PE lessons and in commerce (a study of law), we are going to the actual Supreme Court which is very interesting, because I rarely study my subjects outdoors back in my home country, as it is usually very unsafe. I feel very grateful to be a part of the MGS family and I hope that I can be successful in the future.*

Dave NGUYEN 10

CAREER NEWS

Careers Advisors' Association

Courses, Workshops and Information Sessions for students.

Barista, First aid and RSA courses

GET IN QUICK for Barista, First aid and RSA courses.

For registration and more info, visit:

https://kenvale.jobreadyto.com.au/apply_to_course/1888533.

Any questions, please contact us at enquiries@kenvale.edu.au / 02 9314 6213 (9am – 5pm AEDT)

Languages at Sydney: Go Global 2019

An initiative by the University of Sydney's School of Languages and Cultures, Languages at Sydney GO Global includes two language-specific immersion sessions (catering for beginners to advanced) and an introduction to languages at the SLC.

All students and teachers need to submit individual registrations:

<http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/languages-at-sydney-go-global-2019-registration-51183100030>.

The International Science School 7th – 20th July 2019, Year 11 and 12 Science Students

This is a two-week residential program for 130 top science students from across Australia and eight overseas countries. It consists of an inspiring lecture, tours of cutting-edge research labs, engaging hands-on experiments, mind-expanding workshops, and many other activities. The ISS is free and scholarships are available.

Application deadline: 3rd March 2019.

To apply:

<https://bit.ly/2BRa6NP>.

AIE Introductory Courses in Games 3D animation and programming

Courses are available for high school students who are interested in learning 3D Animation, Game Design or Game Programming. With convenient study options either in the evenings, school holidays or online.

More info

<https://aie.edu.au/intro> OR 02 8514 8800.

AIE also offers Work Experience for year 10 students, spots going fast!

APPLY NOW!

<https://aide.edu.au/student-information/work-experience-sydney/>

Medicine/ Dentistry or Clinical Sciences

Are you interested in studying medicine, dentistry or clinical sciences?

The UMAT Admissions Test is changing in 2019.

If you are interested studying any of the above courses, you will have to sit the UCAT test.

Registration for the UCAT will open in **March 2019 and close in mid-May**. Details of the test, including how to register are available on the UCAT website:

www.ucatofficial.com.

For further information see Mrs Cawood.

Year 10 SUBJECT SELECTION information sessions

The University of Sydney Year 10 Information Evenings 2019: Registrations Are Now Open

The University of Sydney is hosting a series of evenings for Year 10 students: **learn about making the most out of HSC subject choices, scaling and ATARs**. This is a great opportunity for parents and students hear from our academics and current students to help make informed choices about their future study.

All sessions **are free and book out fast, register now:**

www.sydney.edu.au/yr10-info-evening

Ms. Cawood
Career Adviser

Mobile School App for phone and Android SKOOLBAG

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 please do, as you can be up-to-date with what's happening at Macquarie Grammar School. Skoolbag is a mobile App for Macquarie Grammar School to communicate directly to parents, guardian,s 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.

