

Macquarie Grammar School March Bluey Newsletter



'Truth and Virtue'

Volume 16

Edition 2

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Volume 16
Issue 2
Summer Term, 2020

Message to Wuhan



Science Excursion

Macquarie Grammar School



March Bluey

'Truth and Virtue'



Summer Term 1

Year 11/Year 12 Exam Week	23 rd -27 th Mar
Junior Assessment Week	30 th Mar-3 rd Apr
Swimming Carnival 1pm-3pm	Thur 2 nd Apr
Term 1 Concludes	Wed 8 th Apr
Homestay Visitation Day	Thur 9 th Apr

Autumn Term 2

New Students' Orientation & Staff PD Day	Mon 27 th Apr
Autumn Term 2 Lessons Commence	Tue 28 th Apr
Parent-Teacher Information Evening	Wed 6 th May
Athletics Carnival 9:30am-2:30 pm, ES Marks	Fri 8 th May
Cross Country Carnival (1:20pm-3:00pm)	Thur 14 th May
ISD Cross Country (9:30am-3:00pm)	Wed 27 th May
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	Mon 8 th June
Year 7-12 Exam Week	Mon 15 th -Fri 19 th June
Junior Assessment Week	Mon 22 nd -Fri 26 th June
Lesson Conclude, Awards Assembly	Fri 3 rd July

Winter Term 3

New Student's Orientation & Staff PD Day	Mon 27 th July
Winter Term 3 Lessons Commence	Tue 28 th July
Australian Mathematics Competition Online	Thur 30 th July

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 Administration Department:

Reminders to All Students

If you wish to return to your home country during the holiday break at the end of each term, please see the Student Services Officer for a Student Leave Request Form. Complete the form and return it to the Student Services Officer for the Headmaster's approval. Students are allowed to travel only to their home country, and they must have the approval of the Headmaster, before booking an air ticket. This also applies to students who wish to stay with their parents during visits. A letter of request from parents, their contact details in Sydney and copies of parents' visas, passports and flight tickets also need to be attached to the Student Leave Request Form.

Students who have changes in their contact details, guardians or homestay including address, email and phone numbers, please notify the SSO, complete the Student Contact Change Form and submit it back to the SSO.

Ms. Zheng
Guardianship/Homestay Officer

Message from the Headmaster

Assessments and Examinations

Our students have been working diligently with their teachers covering the content in each of their courses for the upcoming Summer Term Examinations. Both Years 11 and 12 students will be undertaking their up-coming examinations under the same conditions as the Higher School Certificate. Since this initiative has been introduced, the students' results have improved, and they have been less anxious in undertaking formal examinations. I wish the students well with their assessments and their first examinations for the new academic year.

Health and Hygiene Practices

The Coronavirus has been a major talking point amongst all of us, as things have been unfolding overseas over the past three (3) months, with the initial outbreak in China and now it has spread worldwide. The school has taken this current crisis seriously and I would like to assure parents, guardians, students and staff that we are in communication with NSW Health, the NSW Department of Education and the Federal and state Governments. As an announcement is made by these statutory bodies the school implements their recommendations. Currently the school has implemented the following strategies below to minimise the impact of the Coronavirus and up to now we have been free of the virus.

1. Students should keep their distance when speaking with other students and if possible, sit at separate desks in class or during their study periods.
2. Students must cover their mouth with a tissue when coughing and their nose when sneezing.
3. Wash their hands regularly with soap for up to 20 seconds.
4. Sanitiser dispensers are available for students and staff to access in the communal areas.
5. Avoid making contact with other students eg: shaking hands or sharing pens or stationery.

Signs have been placed around the school emphasising these procedures and it has been communicated to students to make sure they follow these practices.

Government Update and the School's Response

There has been a great deal of discussion if schools should close, but the Federal and State Governments have resisted taking this option for the following reasons, at least for now, but it is reviewing the situation daily.

1. If schools close, parents will be required to make arrangements to look after their children and this may require them to stay at home. Many parents are nurses, aged care workers, emergency services employees, etc and they are currently required to be at work to support those who are vulnerable to this insidious virus.
2. There will be a huge financial impost upon the national economy, and this will lead to many people being unemployed.
3. And the young seem to be far less affected by this virus, than other age groups.

In Singapore schools have remained open and they have managed to control the spread of the virus quite well and this has been closely monitored by governments around the world including our own. Hopefully, with good management the virus will be controlled, but if the situation escalates, then the authorities may consider closing schools. Macquarie Grammar School will then revert to using an online method of delivery for students to continue with their studies, in particular Years 11 and 12. This will be a combination of using Edmodo and Microsoft Teams. Further information will be provided by the school, if school closures eventuate.

I urge parents and guardians to be cautiously concerned about the current situation but please be assured that Macquarie Grammar School cares for your child, our staff and our families, and is constantly reviewing our practices and procedures. Therefore, MGS is open as usual, conducting classes for our students.

Cancellations

The Annual Swimming Carnival has been cancelled for this year.

Reports

The Summer Term Assembly which signals the end of Term 1 has been cancelled, but Reports will be issued on Wednesday the 8th of April.

Home Visitations

On Thursday the 9th of April the school will be undertaking home visitations for our international students. Please welcome the teachers during these visitations as it is a statutory requirement.

Mr Rekouniotis

Director of Curriculum and Compliance

UTS – Extension and enrichment Day 3rd March 2020

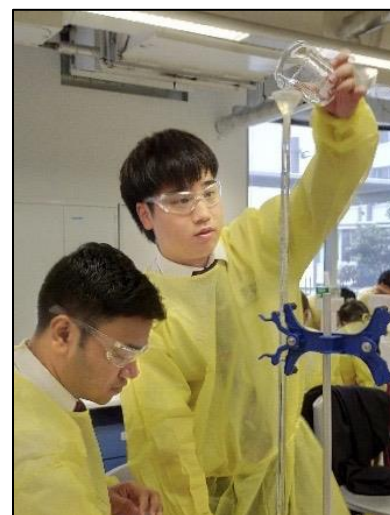
Science from Years 10 to 12 attended the UTS Science laboratories for an exercise in science experimentation and inquiry. The students and staff all displayed the highest order of application and scientific experimentation during the one-day visit.



The vision behind the enrichment day was to not only facilitate the harmonious relationship between UTS and Macquarie

Grammar School but to foster the scientific processes that lead to excellence within science exploration of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Students were engaged in a wide diversity of experiments requiring skill and scientific technique that are examinable and a requisite for exemplar scientific procedure and testing within the NSW Science Syllabuses.

The students were engaged by post-doctoral laureates whom demonstrated the correct procedure and methodology enabling students to perform the relevant experiments throughout the day. The Macquarie Grammar School students were impeccable with their behaviour exemplary attitude and reminiscent of the highest standards attainable within the laboratory environment.



The day was enjoyed by all and the relationship between MGS and UTS was engaging and beneficial for all.



Mr Hagan

Message from the Director of Welfare and Operations

Elevate Study skills Seminar for Year 12 Students

Year 12 students were guided through a study skills seminar delivered by the Elevate Group. Elevate access the top high schools in NSW with eight of the top ten utilising this examination preparation scheme.



The Year 12 Students' Exam Seminar covered the highest value exam preparation tasks, fixing mistakes to ensure constant improvement, time allocation during exam preparation and techniques for managing stress and time pressure in exams. I would

like to rate this seminar highly, as the students were interested to learn about how to study and what it is and how best to use the technique to study better and efficiently.



The presenter Caleb was fun, down to earth and made the two-hour presentation very meaningful, enjoyable and kept the group focused. It was very informative and especially well presented so students would greatly benefit from the process facilitating and empowering our students to succeed at their very best in upcoming assessments and HSC Examinations. I truly believe our Year 12 students have found strategies to relieve stress and stay healthy.

Building a Productive and Positive Learning Environment

Positive, productive learning environments are key to the students' academic, emotional and social success in school. Unfortunately, positive learning environments don't just happen on their own—they must be created. There are many components that go into making a positive learning environment for students.

The best time to start developing a positive learning environment for our students is in their classroom during the first term of the school year, but it's never too late to get

started. I want to explore positive action, and several simple tips, that teachers and even parents, can use for creating a positive, productive learning environment for students. By implementing these steps, we'll be able combine the need for positive learning environments that foster improved academic performance, with the ability to promote students' social and emotional wellbeing and progress inside and outside the classroom.

Help Students Develop Intrinsic Motivation



Feeling good about themselves is an intrinsic motivator to students and positive actions help students feel good about themselves. So, how do we help students consistently engage in positive actions? First, actions are always preceded by thoughts. Second, actions and behaviours are typically consistent with thoughts. Third, feelings, students experience about themselves, are based in large part by their actions. Helping students learn that by changing a negative thought to a positive they can produce positive actions, and that positive actions will help them feel good about themselves is a powerful intrinsic motivator.

Reinforce Positive Behaviours

Recognizing and reinforcing positive behaviours is one of the most effective ways to produce positive actions in students, strengthen intrinsic motivation, and create a productive and positive learning environment. Certificates and other reward systems are great ways to recognize students and reinforce positive behaviour and achievement in school. However, it's also important to help student make the connection between positive behaviour and the good feeling it produces. As students make that connection between positive behaviour and good feelings, and continue producing positive actions, they'll feel good about themselves, the intrinsic motivation is strengthened, and students will continue producing more positive actions and exhibiting positive behaviours.

Always Respond with Positivity

Positivity is a key component a positive learning environment. Interacting with students in a positive manner, exhibiting positive behaviours, and maintaining a positive attitude is one of the most important steps for creating a positive learning environment and producing successful students. Regardless of the situation or circumstance, there is always a way to respond to and interact with students in a positive way. As teachers we are teaching students how to communicate and interact with each other in a positive manner is also key to

fostering a positive learning environment in the classroom. Positivity is one of the most powerful agents of change for establishing and maintaining a positive learning environment at school and in the classroom.

Focus on the Positive

Each day we find something good in each student and point it out to them. Focusing on the positive in every student will enable us to create and maintain a truly positive learning environment for our students. And more importantly, we'll help each student build self-esteem and self-worth that will last a lifetime for them.



Year 11 Carlos Liu and HSP Kevin Liu



Linda Nguyen Year 12

Congratulations to Kevin Liu, Carlos Liu and Linda Nguyen for their credentials at Monday's Assembly to prove their positive behaviour and celebrate their achievements at school.

Mrs Sun

ISD BASKETBALL – 2020

On Wednesday 19th February 2020, Macquarie Grammar School competed in the Annual ISD Basketball Championships at the Bankstown Basketball Centre.

MGS fielded three teams on the day. Competition was high as we faced individuals / teams that play regularly, yet our students played with great determination and spirit.

Girls' Team:

Mia Brewis – Weston, Indya Farrington, Renee Hua, Mandy Lau, Kathy Li, Daisy Li and Cindy Zhang.

Our girls' team played four games and deserve special praise for their efforts throughout the day. Many of our team had little to no experience prior to pre-season training and this tournament. Their tenacity in fighting for the ball was evident in all games played. Special praise must be given to Mandy Lau and Indya Farrington. Both girls played outstanding basketball. Mandy displayed sound ball handling skills and Indya was strong across all areas of the court.

By the time we finished our last game, the girls were extremely tired and a bit bruised from the physical level of competition we faced. A great team effort – well done girls!

RESULTS:

Game 1 vs Al Sadiq: Loss 0 – 10

Game 2 vs MFIS: Loss 2 – 6

Game 3 vs AIA: Loss 2 – 8

Game 4 vs Reddam House: Loss 0 - 20

Junior Boys' Team

Ryan Jiang, Gleb Kozlov, Eric Li, Kevin Liu, Zac Ma, Dave Nguyen, Omar Sutisno, Randolph Wikarsa and William Zhang.

This team proved to be our most successful team on the day by winning three games out of five. As was the case with each game the girls' team played, the boys faced strong physical opponents every time they took the court.

Eric Li and Omar Sutisno were standouts of the team. Both boys demonstrated excellent ball transition up the court. Omar, in particular, was not afraid to 'mix it' with some bigger opponents – regularly putting teams under pressure with strong drives to the basket.

Winning three games was an incredible achievement – well done to the entire team.

RESULTS:

Game 1 vs Al Sadiq: Won 8 – 2

Game 2 vs MFIS: Loss 1 – 9

Game 3 vs AIA: Won 9 – 7

Game 4 vs Amity: Won 10 – 4

Game 5 vs Unity: Loss 4 – 8

Senior Boys' Team

Riaz Khan, Venn Lin, Carlos Liu, Joshua Pantea, Javier Pita, Owen Siphandone, Bruce Wang, Alfred Wong, Bruce Yang and Dylan Zhou

Our Senior Boys' Team should feel proud of their efforts. Although the scoreline never favoured MGS in the division, our boys battled hard each game and were committed as a team right up to the final whistle, against Reddam House.

Two players that stood out were Carlos Liu and Bruce Wang. At no stage was Carlos shy to take on the bigger opponents in both offence and defence. Bruce also played each game with high skill and sound shooting.

RESULTS:

Game 1 vs Al Sadiq: Loss 10 – 13

Game 2 vs MFIS: Loss 8 – 16

Game 3 vs Glenaeon: Loss 7 – 12

Game 4 vs Reddam House: Loss 11 – 21

Well done to all students who represented our school so admirably on the day. The level of fair play and consistent effort was most pleasing. Special thanks to Mr Tovar for his coaching and assistance.

Mr Slavin
Sports Master

Careers News

COURSE & INSTITUTION INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

Sydney Flight College Course Information Session - Saturday 18th April 2020 The world needs 220,000 new pilots over 20 years; could you be one of them? Join Sydney Flight College for a course information session, Q&A and campus tour where you will learn all you need to know about training to become a fully-qualified commercial pilot in around a year. Visit bit.ly/SFCEventApril2020 for more information and to register. Students, parents and careers advisers welcome.

Info Night | Sydney Campus | April 30 2020 We're opening the doors of our Sydney campus on Thursday, 30 April, from 6pm-8pm as an opportunity for you to check out the facilities and equipment, meet with lecturers and students. If you're considering studying (Animation, Audio, Design, Film, Games or Web) come along to SAE's Info Night and learn how you can pursue your passion. Register on the link: <http://bit.ly/SAEINSyd1>.

COURSE CHANGES, UPDATES AND NEW COURSES/PROVIDERS

Speech Pathology Coming to Southern Cross Uni's Coffs Harbour Campus in 2021 Expanding on the popular Gold Coast offering, Southern Cross University is proud to announce that students will be able to study speech pathology in Coffs Harbour from 2021 in the brand-new Health Sciences Building. Work with people across the lifespan and help change lives in the growing field of allied health. For more [information contact studentrecruitment@scu.edu.au](mailto:studentrecruitment@scu.edu.au).

COURSES, WORKSHOPS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS

Online US & UK Expo The US & UK Expo is now available online. Students, parents and educators can hear from Harvard grads and Oxford students and receive free US/UK uni resources by registering at the Eventbrite link. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-online-us-uk-university-expo-tickets-99332772998>.

Financial Literacy and Money Management Workshop Real World Education Group is an industry leader in financial literacy and money management education for young Australians. We are running a full day financial literacy workshop during the upcoming Easter School Holidays in Sydney CBD. We are running free information evenings on the workshop for students and parents over the coming weeks. To find out more, contact us at info@rweg.com.au.

Short Courses at TAFE NSW Be upskilled in weeks, or even days with our range of short courses, including online options. Offering practical skills and experiences across all industries, you'll gain the confidence to immediately apply new skills in your career faster. Discover hundreds of TAFE NSW short courses and get the skills you need to be whatever you want to be. <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/short-courses>.

Practice PSAT US Uni Admission Test. Internationally Educated will be hosting an online practice PSAT test on 16 May. Open to all students from Year 9, the test will provide insight and practice for the official SAT required for admission to US uni's. The online practice test will be invigilated by Internationally Educated and scores immediately available. Registration <https://www.internationallyeducated.com.au/news>.

Love Interiors? Sydney Design School Info Session Thursday 16 April 2020 1pm Creativity is calling. Study interior design! Join us for a free Information Session on campus. Study day, evening or online and become an accredited Interior Designer. Explore our creative St Leonard studios, meet our Educators and be inspired by our recent student work. Register online to join us <https://bit.ly/2A3wROg> Now enrolling for our July 2020 intake. RTO 91446.

CADETSHIPS, APPRENTICESHIPS, TRAINEESHIPS

Applications Now Open for Business Cadetships Applications are now open for the Business Cadetships Program. Applications close on 13 May 2020, by which time both the student Application Form and School Assessment are due. Cadets are placed at UBS in a range of business areas, including Group Technology. Given the public health situation, Year 12 students are encouraged to apply NOW. Applications at <http://www.businesscadetships.com.au>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, EARLY ENTRY AND ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS

UTS Bachelor of Accounting Co-op Scholarship Information Evening: 13 May 2020. Register at www.bachelorofaccounting.com Closing date for online applications: 29 May 2020. For more information, email carin.alberts@uts.edu.au.

Get the Early Entry Guide. It covers every Early Entry Program offered by an Australian University, so you have all the details in the one place including dates and eligibility criteria. The Guide is free for Study Work Grow members at <https://studyworkgrow.com.au/early-entry/>.

ADOPT a Koala



SRC Fundraiser

MGS SRC is raising funds to adopt a Koala/s from Port Macquarie Koala Hospital. All money raised will help to save our koalas.



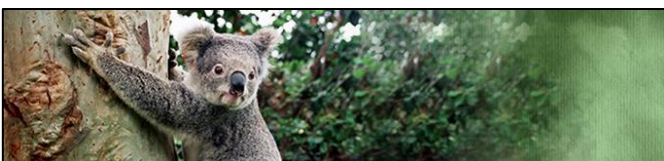
As a response to the devastation that the recent bushfires have caused, particularly focussing on the impact on our wildlife, the SRC decided to raise funds to help Australian koalas. All MGS students donated money and helped to raise more funds through a cake sale. The SRC is proud to

announce that we have raised enough money to adopt 9 koalas from the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital. We thank all students and staff for their support to make this possible.



We adopted Paul, Anwen, Leo, Mini, Jimmy, Twinkles, Jones, Allen and Mary.

Paul and Anwen, are burn victims rescued from the firegrounds at Lake Innes Nature Reserve. Lion Leo is being treated for lacerations to his foot and has amazing blue eyes, which is a rare genetic phenomenon. Balmoral Mini and Crescent Head Jimmy are rescued joeys whose mothers died from extensive injuries. Oxley Twinkles was rescued with her mother. Byabarra Jones does not have enough vision to allow



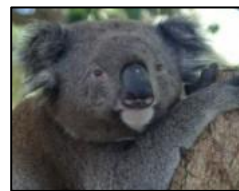
him to survive in the wild. Guyra Allen and Emerald Downs Mary are completely blind and will stay at the hospital as teaching animals to show veterinarians, wildlife carers and researchers.

The adoption of these koalas helps with the rescue and treatment of sick and injured koalas and with the release back to their home range where possible. The adoption also assists with the conservation and expansion of habitat, collection of information for research relating to habitat, disease, nutrition and habits of wild koalas.

What is happening at Port Macquarie Hospital?



- Caring for sick and injured koalas
- Wild koala breeding program
- Providing drinking stations
- Helping burn victims
- Koala conservation and preservation
- Koala habitat rehabilitation
- Releasing and studying wild koalas



**Ms Cawood
Career Advisor**

SRC news:



The SRC has joined National Day of Action Against Bullying to raise awareness about this issue and to engage students in conversation about bullying. The aim was

to give students a voice to talk about their experiences and to find strategies to combat bullying. SRC members organised small group and homeroom activities and Dave gave a presentation to each homeroom about current issues.

**“You have a voice
Speak out
You have a choice
Choose kindness
Stand united against
Bullying”**
MGS students

The message is clear: our students and staff will not tolerate bullying. We will continue to promote a safe and happy learning environment, in line with this year’s theme: Take Action Together.

Mrs Cawood, SRC

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

Mobile School App for phone 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. 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



