



# Macquarie Grammar School

## August Bluey Newsletter

*'Truth and Virtue'*

Volume 16

Edition 4

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Volume 16  
Issue 4  
Winter Term 2020



Science Experiment



# Macquarie Grammar School



## August Bluey

'Truth and Virtue'



### Message from the Headmaster

#### An Extraordinary Year

Welcome everyone to Winter Term 3. The first two terms have been quite extraordinary due to the COVID - 19 pandemic. This has led to a number of government restrictions being imposed on the people of New South Wales and indeed across Australia. People being tested and traced, daily announcements and updates on the situation taking place, online learning for students introduced and then returning to onsite learning, restrictions on social etiquette while at home or in public, restaurants closed and only takeaway available and then, restrictions eased and people being encouraged to wear masks on public transport. Now we have seen a second wave in Victoria of the pandemic, and New South Wales with the other states are trying to hold on to the good work that's been achieved so far, in controlling the virus. In amongst all this, our staff and students have continued with the task at hand, and doing a very good job under these challenging circumstances.

The vast majority of our students have continued to maintain a high level of attendance and this has assisted them with their learning, as consistency is important when covering each unit of work. On the other hand, a small number of students have had difficulty maintaining a consistency with their learning, even though they tried to work from home and utilised Edmodo. Their absences in the classroom have created some obstacles for these students and are playing catch up. The teachers over the past two term breaks have conducted extra lessons and most students attended, but again, those students who needed the assistance most, didn't attend. This is most disappointing as the teachers are offering their time to assist students and it was turned down. It's important that students attend school every day especially in Years 11 and 12, as this provides the consistency that students require to progress with their learning. Also, at the conclusion of this term, another round of extra lessons will be offered by the teachers of Year 12 and it is imperative that the students attend.

Parents and guardians are welcome to contact teachers by phone to discuss the progress of their child. Please make a booking prior so that, the teachers are available. The staff are well-prepared for the challenges that we will face this term and we look forward to our students continuing with their progress.

#### Winter Term 3

ICAS Science Writing Years 7-12

Year 12 Semester 2 Exam Week

School Photography Day

ICAS English Year 7- 12

ISD Athletics ES Marks Field 9:30am-3:00pm

ICAS Mathematics Years 7- 12

Year 11 Assessment/Exam Week

Junior Assessment Week, Year 7-10

Awards Assembly, 11:30

Year 12 Graduation Assembly, 1:30pm

Lessons Conclude at 3:00pm

#### Spring Term 4

New Students' Orientation & Staff PD Day

Spring Term 4 Lessons Commence, 8:30am

HSC Examinations commence Week 1

Parent-Teacher Information Evening

HSC Continue Week 2

HSC Continue Week 3

School Camp, Waterslea (HSP-Year11)

HSC Conclude Week 4

Junior Assessment Week

Lessons Conclude, Graduation Assembly

Staff Professional Development Day

School Office Closed

School Re-Opens

HSC results released & Inquiry Centre Opens

School office hours (During Term)

School office hours (During Term Breaks)

Uniform Ordering Hours

#### 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

Mon 17<sup>th</sup>-Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Aug

Mon 24<sup>th</sup>-Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep

Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Aug

Mon 24<sup>th</sup>-Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Aug

Cancelled

Mon 31<sup>st</sup>-Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Sep

Mon 7<sup>th</sup>-Thur 10<sup>th</sup> Sep

Mon 14<sup>th</sup>-Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Sep

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Sep

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Sep (TBA)

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Sep

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Oct

Tue 13<sup>th</sup> Oct

Thur 15<sup>th</sup>-Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Oct

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Oct

Mon 19<sup>th</sup>-Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct

Mon 26<sup>th</sup>-Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct

Wed 28<sup>th</sup>-Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Nov

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>-Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Nov

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec, 9-11:30am

Thur 3<sup>rd</sup>-Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Dec

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Dec

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Jan

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

8:30am-5:00pm

9:00am-5:00pm

9:00am- 500pm



## New Facilities

Even with all the challenges that we have faced and will continue to face this term, the school renovated its facilities over the break. The Visual Arts Workshop has been relocated on Level 8 and completely refurbished with state of the art facilities and a new STEM Laboratory has been established on Level 8 as well, which will accommodate Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Electronics and Robotics lessons. Both of these designated spaces will allow the students to explore their learning and develop their interest in the Arts, Science, Mathematics, Technology and Engineering.

## Social Distancing Restrictions and Operational Changes

Due to social distancing restrictions and in maintaining high levels of safety at the school, sport and assemblies will continue to be suspended for this term. At the end of this term the school will review its position and make an announcement about Spring Term 4 activities. This unfortunately will have an impact on the Year 12 Graduation and possibly the end of the year Graduation Assembly and Camp. More information will be provided at a later date.

## Transport Restrictions

Students are required to follow the seating arrangements on all modes of public transport and must sit on the green labelled seats that have been designed to maintain safe social distancing.

**Mr Rekouniotis**

## Photography Day

School photoday will be taken on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2020, all students must wear full school uniform and be at school at 8:30am.

SSOs have given out order envelopes for all students to order school photo, they must return the order envelopes before Photoday.

Also, SSOs have emailed to all parents and guardians the letter with order code to guide them to how make an order online.

**SSOs**

## Director of Welfare and Operations



I hope you're all doing well, and you had an enjoyable school holiday break.

With Winter Term 3 kicking off, a great way to get students back on track and to rewire for resilience is through regularly practising self-awareness, the cornerstone of emotional intelligence and building resilience. I recently delivered a short

presentation to my Year 12 group during the holiday lessons covering this very topic, which I hope can be used as a tool and resource in building self-awareness in students.



During the school holiday break, Year 12 students attended various HSC Study Skill Day through remote learning, online tools. All presenters were outstanding at keeping students engaged right throughout their presentations on resilience. They delved deep into content that was relatable, inspiring, and tailored to both teachers and students. Not only did the presentations provide students with the much-needed motivation leading into their final HSC exams, but also assisted in unpacking alternative pathways available and the actions required to take up now to set up their future.

It was exactly what they needed to hear, and I was delighted to see several students approach me afterwards to share their positive feedback. I was delighted that I could share these presentations to support students in engaging, empowering and equipping themselves during this critical time of need.



Macquarie Grammar School took part in this year's *Jeans for Genes Day* on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> of August 2020. 1 in 25 children have a genetic disorder that makes their life very difficult. To put that into perspective, it's almost one child in every class. We thank everyone for supporting this cause, with their donations to the Children's Medical Research Institute to help scientists find a cure.

**Keep well and stay safe**

**Mrs Sun**

## Director of Curriculum and Compliance

A small school in the city, with teachers of a high calibre and students with aspirations of success and many options, it never ceases to amaze me at the quality outcomes achieved and maintained at MGS. Across the KLAS we see the

delivery of diverse teaching and learning activities that are interesting and foster individual growth and development along the lines of valid and enriching sociological and affectual standards that procure the best an individual can be. Role modelling through the structure of the school ensures that Macquarie maintains its reputation as a school that produces the very finest citizens. People that are committed to the improvement of themselves and indeed the environment and the individuals that they interact with. MGS has always advantaged our students with ethical moral and social education that facilitates the same as they leave and go to greener pastures. The commitment from the staff in all areas of school life is exceptional and carries the banner for continued growth within our school.

I am very proud of the members that make up the community of Macquarie Grammar school and in the role, they play in the school's development. With the HSC commencing after the conclusion of Term 3 I wish our Year 12 the very best, some of whom the school has seen grow from young learners to mature intelligent and productive members of society.

Good luck Year 12 you have our very best wishes. What a year COVID-19 and all the associated events that have contributed to the passing of the terms to date.

To all of the younger cohorts my advice is as usual continue to be the very best you can be for as often as you can as frequently as you can.... This will see you to a habituated pattern of successful behavior that will in turn ensure your life is successful. Enjoy the remaining terms weeks days and seconds as you continue to grow and learn at Macquarie Grammar School.

**Mr Hagan**

### School Captain

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of August, Macquarie Grammar School celebrated our annual Jeans for Genes Day. In order to raise money and awareness, students were able to wear jeans to school for the day and give a donation. Macquarie Grammar School raised \$300, an



incredible amount for our small school. The money raised, and the participation on the day, illustrates the compassionate and generous nature of our student body. Jeans for Genes is the fundraising arm of the Children's Medical Research Institute. The money we raised will go to help finding cures for Children's genetic diseases. I thank all students, teachers and the SRC for planning and participating in a wonderful event.

**Annelise Ryan**



### Career Advisor

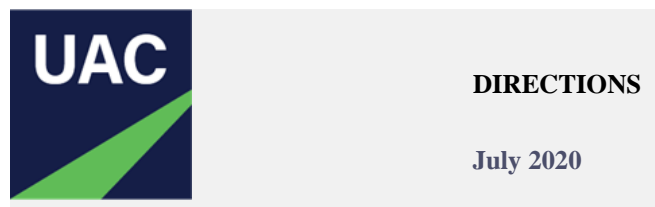


#### Feeling worried or overwhelmed: GET YOUR HEAD RIGHT

Skillsroad offers a "Ready to Reset" campaign with a range of resources aimed at guiding young people to create a plan for their future where they're in control: from improving their mental and physical wellbeing and setting goals for the future to dusting off rusty job-seeking skills and thriving on their first days in a new job. Follow the link to get started:

<https://www.skillsroad.com.au/get-your-head-right>

#### UAC news:



#### APPLY FOR UNI



#### ALL 2021 COURSES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN AUGUST

If you're planning to study an undergraduate course in 2021, all courses from participating institutions will be listed on UAC's website from early August. If you've already applied and put in courses as placeholders make sure you log back in to your application and update your preferences at this time.

If you haven't applied yet, early bird applications close at midnight on Wednesday 30 September so don't leave it too long to get your application in before the processing charge increases.





## 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](http://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. school or arrange for home delivery.



MACQUARIE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

#### Further information

Tel : 1800 835 643

Email: [Info@midford.com.au](mailto: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

