Faculty in Focus – Food Technology

On Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th of November. The students of Year 9 Food Technology had a practical assessment task - ‘Decorate a Birthday Cake’. Working in pairs, students decided on a person they would be making the cake for and designed how they wished to decorate the cake. This gave them the opportunity to express their creativity. As you can see by the photos the students embraced this task and produced some delectable decorated birthday cakes.
Term 4 Week 7

Monday, 18 November 2013

Library News

On Tuesday this week the library will open at recess for girls only. Girls can enjoy the comfort and peacefulness of the library and browse the collection. If it is successful, it will become a regular service for students. Library Café continues to operate on Thursdays at recess (see the photo of Regan with the giant coffee cup!)

The LIBRARIAN’S SELECTION for this week is *Unremembered* by Jessica Brody. It’s a story about a girl who has lost her memory. However, as the story unfolds, we discover that she is no ordinary girl and she possesses powers that put her in extreme danger. This book manages to combine the thriller and romance genres to produce a very exciting tale. Students who have already read this book highly recommend it.

See you in the library! Judy Reynolds

Principal’s News

Thank you to the parents, staff and students who attended the Year 6 to 7 transition family barbecue on Thursday evening. It was an enjoyable night and allowed for many parents who attended their first opportunity to see our school, meet the staff and discuss the opportunities available within our school. I look forward to sharing such opportunities again in the years ahead.

Congratulations to our Year 10 students who participated in the Mock Interview program last week. The feedback from the coordinator and interviewers was extremely positive and commended our students for their presentation, behaviour and positive representation of our school.

On Wednesday and Thursday last week our Year 8 students completed the national science ESSA test. I would like to thank these students for the positive way in which they conducted themselves during the test. The school and parents will receive written notification of their results before the end of the year.

At our next P&C meeting on the 26th November there will be a short presentation about the new funding system (RAM) that is being implemented in our school from the beginning of 2014. This presentation will highlight the premise behind the changes as well as a look at the specific funding for our school. Please come along and see how this new model will impact on our students and the opportunities we can provide them.

Last week the Minister for Education announced the release of the Rural and Remote Education blueprint. As our school falls within this category I have included below a short overview of what this entails. If anyone wishes to discuss this further or be provided with more information I am happy for you to contact me at the school.

Congratulations to Brandon Bourke the winner of last week’s canteen voucher.

Neryle Smurthwaite
Principal

A blueprint for rural and remote schools

The NSW Government has announced a detailed plan to improve student learning in rural and remote public schools across the state.

Rural and Remote Education: A blueprint for action is a four-year plan focused on improving education for students in rural and remote areas, from early childhood through to post-secondary career planning.

The rural and remote education blueprint will focus on:

- strengthening early childhood education
- giving students access to a broad range of curriculum opportunities, particularly for gifted and talented students
- providing new incentives for teachers and school leaders to teach in our school
- support from a one-stop-shop specialist centre that offers coordinated inter-agency health and wellbeing services, advice and technology support to help us meet our student needs.

This announcement builds on other education reforms that have been introduced over the past two years such as Local Schools, Local Decisions. These reforms recognise that students and school communities are not all the same; they have different needs and require different levels of support.
Murga Champions at last!!

It has been done and it has been won!! After several attempts over the last few years the Murga Mongrels have finally managed to throw off the ‘chokers’ label and claim the title.

The annual suburb of origin competition has been running over the last few weeks. Six teams fronted up to the challenge: Metro 1, Metro 2, Murga/Cudal/Toogong, Cargo/Eugowra, Woodstock/Moorbel and defending champions Rivers Rd/Gooloogong. In fact only Rivers and Metro have won the championship in its 10 year history. This year promised to rewrite the history books with record numbers of students involved.

With only detentions stopping keen participants from turning up the championship had many close games and upsets but at the end of the round robin the semi-finals were decided. Metro 1 would take on Murga and early favourites Metro 2 were up against the defending champs while Cargo/Eugowra and Woodstock/Moorbel would fight out the spoon final.

Semi-final One saw Murga smash the Metro team with absent captain Toole philosophical about his team’s lack of training opportunities and co-captain Gaffey bemused that no-one could read his moves. Semi-final Two was a much closer affair but team leaders Berroya and Hughes even with Whatman (MIA), showed why they are the top try scorers and made sure that neither Metro team would make it through. This set up a rematch of the last grand final.

The long anticipated day of the finals arrived. Everyone did their utmost to avoid the dreaded detention lest they face the wrath of their team mates. The spoon final was hotly contested with both teams keen to grab the chance of glory. The pressure was intense and lead to many uncharacteristic errors from some of the more experienced players. Cargo captains Mackenzie and Wilson tried to rally their groups but too many chances went begging. Woodstock, ably led by Price, Wensley and Elliott kept their cool and made sure their younger players didn’t lose their heads to come out victorious - winners of the silver spoon!!

It was an entertaining warm up but the main event was something special! The domination of Rivers Road was finally ended in a nail-biting game. Both teams tried many times to break the lines but time and time again were thwarted by magnificent defence - often by many of the smallest and youngest players. The game was at a stale-mate and all set to go to extra time but with 20 seconds being counted down on the clock, Tim Middleton took the initiative and ran from dummy-half just hoping that his team mates were there to support him - and they were!! Talby Upton scored the only try of the game with 10 seconds to spare! A sweet victory!

Thank you and congratulations to all the students who got involved and in particular to the Year 7’s who were there in force - its actually a bit ominous how many Year 7's Rivers Rd had on in the grand final – looking strong for next year. A huge thankyou to all the capable and entertaining referees from Year 9-11 for their expertise and witty commentaries. Thank you also to those who helped pack up after each game. It was a great season and see you all next year.

Mrs Balcombe

Winners are grinners!

Tim Middleton, Luke Wallace, Talby Upton (co- captains), Lucy Harrison, Maria Froyen, Maddie Troth, Lachie Balcombe, Matt Harrison, Becky Thornberry, Jo Balcombe, Amelia Holmes, Joe Coady, Breeze Knight
Youth Off The Streets Sleep Out

A reminder to students and parents that this Friday the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of November Canowindra High will be hosting a fully supervised sleep out to raise awareness and money towards the Youth off the Streets program. The sleep out will begin at 6pm on the Friday at the Jack Sherwin Memorial Hall and will commence at 9 am on the Saturday.

Permission notes and the $10 cost need to be returned to the office ASAP.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Curtis Hughes of Year 12 who has been successful in gaining a Newcrest Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Apprenticeship in the 2014 intake. These are very competitive and highly sought after positions at Cadia Valley Operations. Well Done Curtis!

P & C News

The Cookie Dough Fundraiser is underway and orders and money need to be returned to the front office by Monday 25\textsuperscript{th} November. There are more order forms available if required from the front office.

The next P & C Meeting is on Tuesday 26\textsuperscript{th} November at 5pm in the staff common room. All welcome!