"MacHomer"

On Tuesday 9 February Year 10 along with Mrs Myers and Ms Uren-Randall went to Bathurst to watch a stage production of Macbeth titled ‘MacHomer’. It was a one man performance by a talented Rick Miller. He voiced the characters of “The Simpsons” portraying the characters from Macbeth. It was a contemporary take on the original production by Shakespeare. For some it was a first time experience of a theatrical production.

“It was good and easy to understand.”

“Rick Miller was very talented and explained the story in a very basic fashion - 3 stars.”

“It was good. I liked how he used language that the audience understood. Entertaining.”

These were a few comments voiced by some of the students.

By Emily McTaggart, Jade Workman and Ellen Blair

Lunchtime Touch Football

We began the annual suburb of origin competition in Term 4 last year but with the onset of some very hot weather postponed the remaining games until now. Well it’s been done and it’s been won!!

The almighty Gooloogong/Rivers Road team (alias team Zahra, Hughes, Whatman and Bennett with a Beaton thrown in for good measure) have come out victorious with a hard fought win in steamy, jungle like conditions over the almost mighty Murga /Toogong making their first appearance in the semis. The other two semi-finalists Cargowra and Suburbia had been unable to find the good form they had shown throughout the competition and others, though finishing strongly did not make such good starts. The two metropolitan sides though strong in individual games just didn’t have the consistency and Old Cargo looked fantastic on paper and on the field, but just couldn’t break through. Then there was Woodstock who, having convinced everyone they had given up all hope, turned around for a smashing victory in the last match!

A huge thanks to all team captains, referees, scorers (especially to the one, the only Chelsea!!) and to everyone who picked up markers for their efforts. A special thanks to Matt for refereeing the final. It is always a pleasure to be involved with this competition with students from all year groups playing in a positive and friendly manner and volunteering to help with jobs.

See you all for the next one!

Mrs Balcombe

"Winners are Grinners"
Principal’s News

Thank you to year seven parents who made the time last week to come to the school and review their child’s transition to high school. Meeting and talking with parents is an important part of our role as teachers as it ensures clear communication and support for the young people in our care. Reoccurring positive themes from parents and students were the introduction of homework diaries and the subject areas of mathematics, metalwork, art and sport. Especially pleasing was every parent indicating they would like to have ongoing three way meetings and were keen to be a part of learning activities with their children. Interviews with senior students will occur over the next couple of weeks to review progress and set achievement targets.

The 2010 Student Representative Council (SRC) was elected last week by students. Congratulations to the students pictured below who were successful. The elected SRC representatives will be student leaders for the next 12 months and will contribute to school planning, policies and directions over the coming months.

Year Seven Representatives
Regan Hughes and Hayley White

Year Eight Representatives
Jack Beath and Renee Chelo

Year Nine Representatives
Mataihau Ah Mat and Philippa Myers

Year Ten Representatives
Harry Myers and Emily McTaggart

Year Eleven Representatives
Teiya Thornberry, Katelin Small and Caitlin Walker

Year Twelve Representatives
Gabrielle Upton, Brydon Hughes, James Vitnell and Melissa Nash

Community Service is an important part of a student’s education. The willingness to help others out and contribute to society as a whole is a terrific attribute and we are lucky to have so many students who do so many things in various ways. Pictured below are senior students being presented with awards from the Red Cross Blood Bank for volunteering to give blood regularly. Congratulations to all!

The 2010 School Representative Council

Correct footwear is an important safety concern. Following a vote at the P&C last week, from the start of term two we will be enforcing our existing policy of ensuring all students are wearing black, fully enclosed leather shoes. Bob Scott will be speaking with students over coming days and weeks with an expectation that all students will be in fully covered leather shoes by the end of the term. For parents who will find this financially impossible, there are limited student assistance funds available to support families. Please speak with Bob Scott or myself for further information.

As part of the school’s self evaluation program we have invited a team to review our schools current welfare practises next month. A small team led by Peter Snowden, Western NSW School Development Officer will visit the school on Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 March 2010. To ensure all viewpoints are included, you are invited and encouraged to complete the attached survey and return anonymously to school for review by the team. We value your input as we seek to further develop and improve our school. All information reported to the team will be strictly confidential and protected by a code of conduct to ensure transparency.

Congratulations to Andrea Davis (former year 12 student) who won zone Miss Showgirl at Dubbo and will now represent our region at the Royal Easter Show. A terrific achievement and promotional boost for our community!

Good luck to our swim team who compete at the zone level in Cowra and our Lachlan Shield Cricketers who play this week.

David Lloyd
Principal
Student Assistance Forms

Could all Student Assistance forms be returned to the office as soon as possible so funds can be allocated. If you did not receive a form, please contact the office.

“Photographs in Local Media” Form

Just a reminder to all parents that the “Photographs in Local Media” form must be returned to school for all students. This enables the school to publish photographs taken for all school activities in the newsletter and the school’s website.

Thank You

THANK YOU...to REX Airlines for providing 2 return flights from Orange to Sydney for our captains. Gabrielle and Brydon are going to visit Government House on Friday 14th May to build their awareness of important aspects of leadership and governance in the NSW community. They will also meet with other captains from around the state.

What’s On

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Assessments Due

Year 12

Week 6

Biology | Music

Year 11

Week 6 | Week 7

Business Studies | Ancient History |
English | Biology |
Sport, Leisure & Recreation | Design & Technology |

“Faculty In Focus”

Mathematics

It’s been a great start to the year for students studying Mathematics at Canowindra High School.

Year 7 have kicked off the year in great style, learning about Algebra...the dreaded topic that all students fear, but which, is in reality, one of the best tools that we use in Maths.

Year 7 have been learning about patterns and their relationships, and discovering how patterns can actually be written as rules, and then using their new knowledge to write these rules as algebraic equations (formulae). As one of the year 7 teachers, I can only say how impressed I have been with their commitment, work ethic and the high level of citizenship that they display each and every day. Congratulations Year 7....keep the great work up!

World of Maths

On the 11th of March, Canowindra High School will be hosting the exciting and educational ‘WORLD OF MATHS’. WORLD OF MATHS is an enjoyable and attractive package which encourages the students to think about and acquire a variety of different skills and strategies needed for problem solving.

Years 7 and 8 will be attending the sessions, which, are geared towards meeting the new National Curriculum requirements coming in the future.

The instructions and questions in the displays make each session a guided discovery lesson, where the students solve a variety of problems, discover number patterns, identify geometric properties, think logically and apply mathematics to the physical world.
All students will greatly benefit from this experience as it caters for all for all ability levels and promises to be great fun. For more information you can go directly to their site at http://worldofmaths.com.au

Permission notes have been handed out to students, and need to be returned by Thursday, 4th March with the $6.50 cover charge.

Calculators
With the large emphasis on technology in our curriculum and the complexity of the work required, calculators are an essential tool for all of our students at Canowindra High School. With the exception of Term 1 for Year 7, all students must have a working and reasonably current calculator. The model which best supports the curriculum is the Casio fx-82 AU plus. They are available for purchase at our school office.

Most calculators last through a student’s high school career, although some students opt to update to a more current model in their senior years.
It is unfortunate when a student cannot participate fully in the lesson as they have not got the right equipment or a calculator, so please be thoughtful and ensure your child has their own calculator.

Metalanguage
Many students struggle with the language that we use in the Mathematics classroom. This can be due to a number of reasons including:

- A word that is new to them
- A word that has a different meaning in mathematics
- Words that are introduced within a new concept

For this reason, we will devote a small portion of our Faculty in Focus each term, to words and terms that our students are experiencing or likely to experience difficulties with. This week’s words are:

- **Algebraic expression** - In mathematics, an algebraic expression is only a phrase, not a whole sentence, so it cannot contain an equality sign (=) e.g. $\frac{2x}{3} + 7x$
- **Evaluate** - to find the numerical value of (a function, relation, algorithm etc.) e.g. Evaluate $y = \frac{2}{3}x^3$ if $x = 5$
- **Differentiate** - to obtain the differential or the derivative of a function or equation e.g.
  
  Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ of $y = x - 7$
  
  - **Index** - an exponent or power e.g. $x^2$
  - **Parallel** - 2 or more straight lines lying in the same plane but never meeting no matter how far they are extended.
  - **Quadrilateral** - a plane figure having four sides and four angles.

- **Substitution** - In **algebra**, letters such as $x$ or $y$ are used to represent values which are usually unknown. They can be used in equations or expressions. When using the method of **substitution in algebra**, a variable such as $x$ or $y$ is replaced with a given numeral to evaluate the equation or expression.
- **Tangent** - In **geometry**, a **tangent** to a **curve** at a given **point** is the **straight line** that "just touches" the curve at that point

Homework Centre
The Mathematics Homework Centre for HSC students, aspiring mathematicians or for students just wishing to improve their maths opened on Thursday of last week. The focus will be on ensuring that all students get the best available help and individual tutoring, and is open to all students of Canowindra High School. Year 12 students are particularly encouraged to attend. The centre runs from 3:30pm to 4:30pm every Thursday afternoon. If you are interested in attending, please see Mr Jones at recess or lunchtime to book a place.

Maths Challenge
Each time Mathematics is the Faculty in Focus, we will run a maths challenge for students of all levels. The first person to see Mr Jones with a correct solution will win a prize, which, is still yet to be determined.

The first challenge is as follows:

There is a pole in a lake. One-half of the pole is in the ground, another one-third of it is covered by water, and 9 ft is out of the water. What is the total length of the pole in ft?

The correct solution will be published in the next newsletter. Good luck! Till next time,

The Maths Team.
Adobe and Microsoft Software Available for Students

Parents can view this information in full at http://sigroup.com.au/ and click on the STUDENT LICENSES link.

YOU CAN BUY MICROSOFT and ADOBE SOFTWARE FOR HOME — AT SCHOOL PRICES!

Student Select is a program which allows Australian students to buy genuine Microsoft and Adobe software at school prices for their own use at home.

For students and their families, this represents an affordable and legitimate way to have the latest versions of Microsoft and Adobe software and benefit from the advanced features when completing homework, revision and assignments. And it’s all possible thanks to the “Student Select” agreement your school has with Microsoft and Adobe. Products include Office2007, Windows7, Adobe Creative Suite.

Bulb Drive Fundraiser

The GardenExpress catalogue is out now. You can buy new bulbs for your spring garden and help raise much-needed funds. Please return orders with payment by Tuesday 10 March. Cheques should be made out to Canowindra High School.

Receiving the Newsletter by Email

Thank you to all parents who have requested the school newsletter by email. This will be an ongoing project for 2010. For those who would like to receive the newsletter this way please complete the advice below and return to school.

Canowindra High School Newsletter Email Advice

I would like to receive the Canowindra High School Newsletter via email. My email address is as follows:

Name:..............................................................................

Email Address:........................................................

Signature:...............................................................

Date: .................................................................