March 2014 Newsletter

Contact Details

Relieving Principal  Mrs T Baghurst
Deputy Principal    Ms E Marinis
Relieving Deputy Principal Mrs L Pares
P&C President       Mrs C McMillan
Address             Keyworth Drive Blacktown 2148
Telephone           9622 9944 / 9622 8926
Fax                  9831 2805
Email                mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website              www.mitchell-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
SMS Absences         0427 463 129

Dates to Remember March/April

The Mitchell High School Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) meets on the second Wednesday evening each month at 7.00pm in the Mitchell High School Common Room. All parents/carers and friends are welcome to attend.

P&C Meeting
Wednesday 12 March
Wednesday 9 April

Year 6 into Year 7 (2015) Information Evening
Tuesday 11 March
6.30pm – 8.30pm in the school hall

Cross Country
Thursday 3 April

Half Yearly Exams
Year 11
Year 12
31 March to 11 April

Last Day Term 1 2014
Friday 11 April

First Day Term 2 2014 (Students)
Tuesday 29 April

Relieving Principal’s Report

Dear Parents and students

Happy Birthday Mitchell High School! Our curriculum day for our 50th Anniversary on Friday the 7th of March was a great success and I would like to thank all of the teachers and students for their commitment to quality teaching on the day. Students were highly engaged in the activities.

We have implemented a process to spend our increase in equity funding this year. Consultation will occur with the school executive, parents thought the P&C and with our student leaders in the SRC as well as our Prefects and Captains. Our spending will reflect our targets in our strategic plan in 2014 and 2015.

We are getting quite a lot of interest from the community in regards to our 50th Anniversary dinner on the 24th of May. You are able to book a seat at a table or a whole table of 8. Please let the office staff know the year that you graduated and we will attempt to put you on a table with those from your graduation year at Mitchell High School.

This week we start the process of enrolment for year 6 into year 7 2015. Our information evening was on the 11th of March. Students who do not live in our area and wish to attend need to apply from their primary schools. This expression of interest form will be forwarded to Mitchell High school. Students who are out of area should also submit a portfolio directly to Mitchell High School by the end of Term 1 for consideration by a selection panel consisting of the Year Adviser, , Principal and a member of the P&C who does not have a child in year 7 2015. If the child is attending from a private school and they are out of area the expression of interest and the portfolio should be forwarded directly to the school by the end of term 1.

Students in year 11 will be involved in a study skills day on Wednesday the 12 of March. Mrs Starink and Mr Campbell
have put together a comprehensive day that incorporate question interpretation, stress management, how assessment relates to the final HSC mark and time management amongst other concepts.

Recently at the Blacktown show students from Mitchell High School entered a number of art categories and have been awarded five First Place certificates, four Second Place certificates and three Third Place certificates and three Encouragement Awards in the areas of photography, sculpture and painting. Kahlia Grace from year 10 won the Best Art Exhibit for her sculpture and painted works of art.

Mitchell High School links with the business community are continuing to develop through our partnership with the Australian Business Community Network and we are currently working with the University of Western Sydney on the Steps program. We are investigating a further link with a group called BEACON which integrates curriculum and real life business experiences. Our transition to work programs are up and running and many students are engaged in TVET courses, VET courses, work based apprenticeships as well as being involved in a wide variety of work placements.

Our implementation of the National Curriculum is on track and our school will be organising an event on the school development day in Term 2 ie the 28th of April. We will host teachers from others schools from the curriculum areas of TAS and Industrial Arts. Our other staff will attend a number of locations to meet with professionals in the same field to discuss emerging educational issues and programs.

Our Annual school report is currently being compiled and this should be available early in April on our school website.

**Relieving Principal**

**Deputy Principal’s Report**

**Working together to reduce cyber bullying**

**Background**

After recently attending a workshop on cyber bullying it was made very clear that many Mitchell High School students

- Do not see chat on social networking sites as threatening.
- Believe that they are anonymous when chatting to people from outside their friendship group.
- Believe they know everyone in their chat/friendship group.
- Believe that the number of friends they have in their social network is a status symbol and at times may take risks to expand their friendship group or increase the number of people they admit as friends.

**What is Cyber Bullying?**

Bullying which is carried out through an Internet service such as email, chat room, discussion group or instant messaging, posting items on U-tube and other video broadcasting sites.

It can also include bullying through mobile phone technologies such as short messaging service (SMS), using digital cameras and phone cameras to send images of students.

**Examples of cyber bullying**

- Teasing and being made fun of
- Spreading of rumours online
- Sending unwanted messages
- Defamation

Anyone can be bullied online and the bully can act anonymously if he or she desires. People can also be bullied online by groups of people such as class groups or collective members of an online community e.g. Bebo, MSN, Facebook.

**What are the signs a child is being cyber bullied?**

Common signals for children being bullied online include:

- spending a lot of time on the computer
- having trouble sleeping or having nightmares
- feeling depressed or crying without reason
- mood swings
- feeling unwell
- becoming anti-social and losing friends
- falling behind in homework

As well as these signs, any unusual behaviour that your child is exhibiting may indicate that they are a victim of cyber bullying. It is important you communicate with your
children about their online well-being. Often problems which exist in the real world can transfer to the Internet. By being aware of typical cyber bullying signals, you will be able to provide help and support at an early stage.

Remember cyber bullying is very powerful as the bully often thinks they are anonymous and cannot be caught, therefore can be more aggressive as it is not face to face.

Cyber bullying can take place 24 hours a day as messages are accessible all the time and even if you turn it off or don’t go to the sites - the victim may continue to worry and think of what may be happening.

How to Protect Children from Cyber Bullies?

Each family should form a unique strategy with their children on how to deal with bullies, both on and offline.

Strategies for Parents

- Remember images of children under the age of 16 that are sexually explicit or that show violence towards or between minors is illegal (this includes possession of images on mobile phones, MP3 players, USB drives, computers and the sending of such images using this technology).
- Locate your laptop or PC in an area where your child can be supervised.
- Talk to your child about what programs they are using, ask about what sites they are accessing. Be interested in what your child is doing.
- Give strict rules about internet use, be prepared to:
  1. Ban them from using the computer or internet
  2. Restrict their access or have strict supervision
  3. Have time restraints.
  4. Ask for access to friends lists and if your child cannot identify each friend and or if you have not met the friend personally then they need to remove them.
  5. Monitor computer use using a software program such as Web Watcher (can monitor every button pushed, conversations, sites visited etc.
  6. Have penalties if the rules of the house have not been followed.

- Clear Communication: Discuss cyber bullying with children including any problems they have.
- Research: Find out the anti-bullying policies at your children's school. Determine if these apply online as well.
- Investigate: Know what children are talking about if they come to you for help. Investigate what they do online.
- Observe: Watch out for any behavior changes especially related to online activity.
- Contacts: Know who to contact if your child is being cyber bullied and what the procedure is for removing distressing information off the Internet.
- Some interesting new technologies are voice morphing so predators actually sound like teenagers and New Google applications that can track a person’s location via their mobile phone very handy for stalkers and predators.

Strategies for Students

- Never keep cyber bullying to yourself especially if you are the victim
- Avoid problem sites and messages – some sites can be dial an abuse.
- Talk to parents, teachers or a trusted adult if you encounter any strange or uncomfortable situations or abuse.
- Block users that cause problems.
- Change your user name if you have encountered problems.
- Save all information that is derogatory.
- Remember you are not alone.

What is Cyber Stalking?

Cyber stalking is where a person is stalked or harassed by another person using a service of the Internet such as email, instant messaging or via a posting in a discussion group.

Stalking behaviours can include threats, cryptic messages and sexual innuendo that occur in a frequent and intrusive manner.

The usual goal for stalking is to create a sense of fear in the recipient and the motivation is based on control and intimidation.

What Cyber Stalking Activities can I Report?

There are numerous cyber stalking activities that can be reported in Australia including:

- Personal threats
- Death threats
- Cryptic messages
- Sexual harassment

If you think you are a victim of cyber stalking, discuss the issues with the relevant organisations who will be able to help.

More information on cyber stalking in Australia can be found at the

Australian Institute of Criminology (www.aic.gov.au) - Cyberstalking

How can I protect myself against cyber stalking?

- Find out what is published about you already on the Internet. Type your name into one of the Google services (web, images, groups, directory or news) and discover if anything is already online.
- Stay anonymous yourself. Only use your ISP email for official communication and create other email accounts for public postings online.
What is Stranger Danger?

Stranger danger is a phrase which describes the potential dangers in meeting a stranger online. In some situations people pretend to be somebody else when online - they take on a different persona.

Adults can pretend to be children in many online places such as chat rooms or discussion groups. Because of this, it is important for children to realise they might be talking online to somebody different to whom they think.

What is Online Grooming?

Online grooming is defined by Home Office in the UK as:

- “A course of conduct enacted by a suspected paedophile, which would give a reasonable person cause for concern that any meeting with a child arising from the conduct would be for unlawful purposes.”

and in Australia by the Australian Institute of Criminology (www.aic.gov.au) A typology of online child pornography offending as:

- “The online groomer is a person who has initiated online contact with a child with the intention of establishing a sexual relationship involving cyber sex or physical sex.”

Why do Paedophiles Find the Internet Attractive?

- Paedophiles find the Internet attractive because they can remain virtually anonymous whilst participating in a range of paedophilic activity.
- They can socialize together, trawl for inappropriate content (such as child pornography) and easily make collections of this and distribute to others.
- They can pretend to be people other than themselves and they find a sense of security by operating from the confines of their own homes.
- Grooming children online with the intention to meet them in real life is an activity many undertake.
- They often set up bogus email accounts and handles which protect their identity online.
- Paedophiles may also erase the history of what they have done online from their personal computers, making it a lengthy task for authorities to charge them with an offence.

What do Paedophiles do on the Internet?

Paedophiles conduct numerous activities online.

- Use Social Media like Facebook to make contact with young people, often you do not know who you are talking to and these sexual predators imitate teens to gain trust and friendship. Once the predator has gained trust they can click on the person’s name and have a private conversation. Once a private conversation is taking place they can start to profile and gather information gain photos, video clips and further access to your computer can be gained by the predator through a variety of phishing software.
- Predators / paedophiles who gain access to a chat group / friendship group within a social network can often gain access to everyone in that chat groups blog / page. They can then copy photos, gain information and develop contacts.
- Swapping child porn pictures in chat rooms or through email or networks
- Swapping personal information of children that they have collected
- Participating in online communities with the intention to groom children for personal sexual gratification or to meet them in person
- Forming networks
- Trading techniques on how to avoid the authorities

What Type of Inappropriate Content is Available on the Internet for Children?

There is both illegal and inappropriate material available on the Internet.

- Pornography - is widespread on the Internet and can be viewed through websites, shared in P2P networks, or sent as spam via emails. Legal and illegal pornography is available, ranging from easily accessible softcore pictures to harder to locate child pornography.
- Hate Groups - racial hatred, anti gay and anti-Semitic groups may have websites that reflect their views.
- Violence - includes instructional websites (such as bomb or weapon making), vigilante or violent groups’ websites, and websites displaying explicit violent behaviour (such as domestic bashings or rape).
- Illegal Activity - content promoting illegal activity (e.g. copyright infringement on music), security breaches (e.g. unauthorised access to computers) or fraudulent online schemes.
- Extremist Groups and Cults – extremist organisations and cults can offer information about their mission or activities. These groups can use the Internet to recruit new members.
- Online Advertising - some online advertising can be inappropriate for children. The Internet provides
an inexpensive delivery channel for advertisers making online advertising well spread.

How Accessible to Children is Unsuitable Material?

Children can view inappropriate content on computers which are not set up to block it. Exposure to inappropriate content can be reduced however, when Internet content filters are used.

Virtually anybody can make inappropriate content available online, as the Internet is generally an unregulated publishing media. In certain situations, however, some countries (such as Australia) can order this content to be removed.

Education systems and individual schools can use filtering products to help protect students. School based products can include security and time management as well as filtering capabilities.

Families can also use filtering products to reduce the accessibility to inappropriate materials for children. Internet content filters for the home are available through computer shops, as downloads off the Internet as through Internet Service Providers.

As children have Internet access away from protected environments (such as the school or home) they may still be exposed to inappropriate content.

Education strategies need to be used so that children are empowered to make the correct decisions if this happens.

How can I Protect My Children Against Viewing Unsuitable Material?

Your children can be protected from exposure to inappropriate materials on the Internet in various ways including:

- **Discussing the Issues** - Talk about the expected behaviour from your children when they roam the Internet.
- **Configuring Browsers** - Configure the content advisor on your Internet browser to prevent your children accessing sites labelled inappropriate.
- **Installing Filters** - Filters enable you to manage the content you can view on the Internet. Different levels of access can be configured for different aged children.
- **Installing Security Software** - Programs such as virus removers, pop up stoppers and personal firewalls will limit the chances of inappropriate content being viewed.
- **Monitoring Online Activity** - Installing parental control software can help in discovering future problems.

Who do I Contact for Help?

If you feel your child is being bullied online, there are a number ways you can get help.

| Online Help |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| NetAlert Helpline: 1800 880 176 |
| Kids Help Line: 1800 55 1800 |
| Australian High Tech Crime Centre (www.ahtcc.gov.au) |
| Australian Institute of Criminology (www.aic.gov.au) - Cyberstalking |
| Crimestoppers (www.crimestoppers.com.au) |

If you believe the problem is of a serious enough matter to call the police, you need to contact your local Federal Police Department in your state.

If the cyber stalking eventuates into a situation where physical contact is made or attempted, then immediately contact your local police.

Students have attended Police Talks this term to address cyber bullying issues. Research indicates that the best way to reduce cyber bullying is through education and awareness.

Ms E Marinis
Deputy Principal

Relieving Deputy Principal’s Report

Happy Birthday Mitchell High

Last Friday we had a great day with staff and students getting into the spirit of life in the 60’s. Many teachers dressed up in past uniforms and clothing from the 60’s and students got to experience some of the teaching strategies that were used way back then..... rote learning of times tables, dictation and spelling lists and tests, boys and girls segregated in the classroom and on assembly and the polite and respectful “good morning miss/sir” before being allowed to take their seats.

A very big thank-you to the organisers of the day and everyone who took the time and put effort into making it such a fun day. Students also got to enjoy a slice of birthday cake that was distributed to all classes. I will be
happy if I do not have to wear a wig again for a very long time!!!!!!

School Uniform

This is just a general reminder that ALL students need to be in full school uniform ALL of the time. With the colder weather approaching it is important to check that you have either the school jumper or jacket and appropriate tights/socks to be worn each day. Students are not allowed to wear any other jumper/jacket to school and as it does get colder remember only white skivvy’s/t-shirts to be worn underneath the school shirt.

A school uniform teaches students to dress smartly and take pride in their appearance. “Uniforms help students to prepare for when they leave school and may have to dress smartly or wear a uniform.” This is part of the general education that is provided by schools and it is important that all students conform with parental support. If you have any difficulties in providing the necessary uniform please make an appointment to speak with one of the Deputies.

Any student persistently out of uniform without a note from home explaining their situation may be:

- Issued with correct uniform from the clothing pool for the day. (These are washed and clean and then need to be returned)
- Given a letter to parents explaining the school’s position.
- Given a sanction according to the discipline code.
- Asked to go home and change after parents have been notified and agree.

Any donations of school uniform, which is no longer of any use to your children, can be taken to the front office to be added to our uniform pool.

Welfare

If your child experiences difficulties throughout the year, of either a personal or an educational nature, please do not hesitate to contact the most appropriate person/s to discuss the matter. Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers successfully deal with many of the issues which affect the students in their care. Sometimes Year Advisers are unable to respond on the same day.

Other staff include the Head Teachers, Deputy Principals, our School Counsellors, Head Teacher, Teaching & Learning — Ms Starink, and our Learning Support teachers.

General communications

The school has a newsletter once a month and will also send home notes on any important issues that arise or excursions and changes to routine that occur. The school website is also regularly updated with items of interest and upcoming events. Please contact the school if you have any questions about what is going on rather than just relying on what your children are telling you.

N-Awards and letters of concern

I have noticed that a few of these letters are starting to go home now. Basically what it means is that there are some students who are not completing homework tasks, class work or even assessment tasks. It is really important that students complete all the necessary work to ensure these do not have to be sent. For students in years 9 -12 it means that they are putting their RoSA, Prelim and HSC at risk. All students have been given an assessment booklet and each teacher gives out assignment/assessment sheets to tell you exactly what to do. The school has a Learning Centre and excellent support staff only too willing to help support students who need some extra assistance to complete their work.

Mrs L Pares
Relieving Deputy Principal
Electronic Gates

The school have recently installed Electronic Gates. Parents who need to pick up students early from school can use either the driveway gates or the walkway gates. Parents and students who wish to gain entry to the school will need to alert the staff by pressing the button on the keypad for the gate.

Anyone who gains vehicle access through the driveway will need to ensure that the gates are open all of the way before they drive through. Failure to do this may result in damage to your vehicle.

Mathematics

The Maths Report March 2014

In the Mathematics faculty we are looking forward to a busy year of learning. At present the MyMath website is being processed for all students to access revision and maths activities from school and at home and we are also providing MathsOnline to senior students to help them revise course content. We are offering free after school tutoring available for HSC students on Wednesday 3:15pm to 4:15pm and for all years on Thursday 3:15pm to 4:15pm. Later in the year Luna Park excursions and Mathematics Olympiad will also be held.

Upcoming assessment tasks Term 1

Year 7 – week 8
Year 8 – week 7
Year 9 – week 8
Year 10 – week 8
Year 11 half yearly – week 10-11
Year 12 half yearly – week 10-11

Australian Mathematics Competition 2014

The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) is internationally renowned and has been held annually since 1978. There is an emphasis on problem solving, a valuable life skill, and the questions are designed to be fun. The competition aims to be accessible to all students, not just the mathematically gifted. Although it is aimed at the average student, the AMC also identifies gifted students.

Participants can qualify to receive prizes including Certificate of High Distinction, Distinction or Credit. All students are also provided with a detailed report showing how they performed on each problem with wider statistical rankings.

Positions in Mathematics classes at Mitchell High School are competitive. As part of enriching gifted students’ learning the following classes will be participating in the competition in 2014.

7 Self-select 8M1 8M2 9M1 10M1

The AMC is open to all Mitchell High School to participate and any interested students from another class should ask their teacher for more information.

To assist both students and parents, there are selected practice problems available for download from the AMT website: http://www.amt.edu.au/wuamc.html

Entry fee is $6.00 (includes GST), payable through the front office.

Payment must be made by Thursday the 8th May 2014.

Ms. Burness-Cowan
Head Teacher, Mathematics

Labscene

Schools Clean Up Australia Day

On Friday 28/2/14 was “Schools Clean Up Australia Day”. “Clean Up Australia Day” is recognised as a world leading environmental community event. “Schools Clean Up Australia Day” allowed our school to demonstrate care for its local environment. It also allowed our students to participate in this community activity and contribute to a better Australian environment.

By participating in this activity, students learnt:

- how to apply practical knowledge about recycling and waste.
- how waste contributes to climate control.
- positive environmental values and leadership through their participation.

Due to poor weather – only one class was able to participate - 10SG. We collected rubbish around our school grounds during Science with Mr Debrincat. The students wore gloves at all times.

All students that participated received 2 certificates – one from the school and the other from the organisers of
“Clean Up Australia Day”, 10 VIVO points and a refreshment.

Students were asked to bring a hat, bottled water and sunscreen (SPF 30+) on the day.

We collected 6 bags of rubbish.

Science Assessment Dates – Term 1 2014:

Yr7-10 Assessment - Term 1:
- **Year 7:** Throughout Week 9 – Graphing Assessment Task (in-class task).
- **Year 8:** Throughout Week 7 – Practical Exam - Using Microscopes – “Cells” topic (in-class task).
- **Year 9:** Throughout Week 10 – Practical Exam – Electrical Circuits (in-class task).
- **Year 10:** Were handed out their “Student Individual Research Project” in Week 6 and is due on Monday Week 11 (take home task).

Yr11 Assessment - Term 1:
- **Biology:** First task is due in Wk7 (Field Work-Excursion) 20% + Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 20%.
- **Chemistry:** First task is due in Wk8 (Experimental Design and Implementation) 20% + Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 20%.
- **Physics:** Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 10%.
- **Senior Science:** First task is due in Wk7 (Field Work-Excursion) 20% + Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 20%.

Yr12 Assessment - Term 1:
- **Biology:** Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 20%.
- **Chemistry:** Research Task in Wk3 20% + Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 15%.
- **Earth and Environmental Science:** Research Task in Wk1 20% + Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 10%.
- **Physics:** Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 10%.

- **Senior Science:** First task is due in Wk7 (Bionics) 20% + Half Yearly Exam in Wk10 &11 15%.

NB: the Half Yearly Exam will be 2 hrs.

**Good luck to all Science Students doing Assessment Tasks in the upcoming weeks.**

From the Science Faculty

**Measuring the Speed of Sound**

On the 26/2/2014 Mr Debrincat’s Year 10 Science class (10SG) did an experiment to calculate the speed of sound. The topic that we were studying at the time was called *Car Crashes*. The topic is broken down into two sections:

In Section 1, we study the **Physics of Motion** – for example:

- We learn about:
  - Newton’s 3 laws of motion.
  - the meaning and differences between distance and displacement.
  - the meaning and differences between speed and velocity
  - the meaning of acceleration.
  - how to calculate speed, velocity, acceleration, force and momentum.
  - how to graph motion etc.

In Section 2, we look at *Car Safety Features* and the meaning behind being a **Responsible Driver**.

Theoretically, the ‘speed of sound’ is approximately 345m/s (in air). We performed an experiment to measure the speed of sound using a cap (starters) gun on the school oval. When the gun was fired, simultaneously a brightly coloured piece of cardboard was dropped. 10 timekeepers were approximately 200m (measured using a trundle wheel) away from the gun and started their stop watches when they saw the sheet of cardboard drop and stopped their stop watches when they heard the sound.

We performed the experiment 6 times to get “reliable” results. The rest of the students recorded the data into a result table in their Science books.

When we returned to the lab we crossed out any anomalies from our data and calculated the average time. Due to the timekeepers only being approximately 200m away from the cap-gun, we expected that the time difference would be below 1 second. We averaged out our times and found it to be approximately 0.7 seconds. The speed of sound was then calculated using the formula:
**Speed = distance / time**

This lesson had a huge numeracy component but was enjoyed by all – it’s not too often that we perform Science experiments outdoors.

*Mr. Debrincat*
*Head Teacher, Science*

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**Tuesday Early Leavers and Sickness**

Students who require an early leaver’s pass on Tuesday are to bring a note with a parent/caregiver contactable phone number on it. Students bring this note to the print room at Recess. The Parent/Caregiver will be contacted by Mrs Maguire to verify the reasons for the early leavers identified in the note.

Students who are sick or injured are to bring a note to be signed by Mrs Maguire in the PE staffroom by the end of Recess. These students will then go to the Library during sport time.

**2014 MHS Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Mitchell HS Swimming Carnival the age champions are below:

**Mitchell High School Swimming Champions 2014**

**Boys**
12  Bevan Peschke
13  Anthony Barbari
14  Gavin Bloomfield
15  Guistino Annechino
16  Benjamin Pennycook
17  Samuel Chappius

**Girls**
12  Tara Johnston
13  Kasey Crampton
14  Tatiana Nguyen
15  Aisling Davidson
16  Denise Clemente
17  Reagan Mitchell

**Blacktown Zone Sport Trial Gala Day**

Congratulations to all the students who tried out for a Blacktown Zone Sporting team on Monday 17th February 2014. Many students were selected into a team.

**Knockout Competitions**

Knockout competitions for 2014 have started. The Boys cricket team won Round 1 and now progress to Round 2.

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**Sports Report**

**Term 1 2014 Sport Selections**

Term 1 sports have been finalised- Students need to check the sport notice board for their sport.

**Sport Uniform on Tuesdays**

Could you please ensure that your child has their sport uniform ready for Tuesday. If the uniform is misplaced, lost or in the wash they will still be allowed to participate if they bring a note and alternate sports gear. Students will be allowed to participate if they have running shoes but will be issued with a uniform note for the incorrect uniform. Students who do not bring their full PE uniform will be sent to Sport detention for the afternoon.
Blacktown Zone Swimming

Congratulations to the following students who represented Mitchell HS at the Blacktown Zone Swimming Championships on Friday 7th March 2014

Guistino
Anthony
Gavin
Denise
Kasey
Sinead
Aisling
Isaac
Matt
Samantha
Nathan
Tara
Alana
Tatiana
Daniel
Ben
Bevan
Kurt
Melanie
Brandon
Sophie
Annecchino
Barbari
Bloomfield
Clemente
Crampton
Davidson
Davidson
Dolan
Dudgeon
Faller
Hamilton
Johnston
Mijic
Nguyen
Pennycook
Pennycook
Peschke
Peschke
Philpott
Shong
Smith

Sydney West Results

Congratulations to Matthew Schultz who won the Sydney West Lawn Bowls Singles championships.

Congratulations to Siar Ata who was selected into the Sydney West Tennis team.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

There are currently openings in the Duke of Ed program for any student in Yr 9 or above to join. The Award involves students learning a new skill, doing volunteer work and participating in physical activity as well as going on an overnight hike. For more information please see Mrs Maguire in the PE Staffroom.

Mrs. Maguire
Sports Co-ordinator

Vaccination Program for 2014

Vaccination information packs and forms for Year 7 students and Year 9 boys will go out in the coming week. The vaccinations are provided free of charge at school by the NSW Department of Health. They will take place in three phases across the school year. Forms must be returned to Ms Cate for students to receive their vaccinations.

Phase One – Wednesday 2nd April, Term 1
- dTpa (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis) for Year 7
- First dose HPV for Year 7 and Year 9 boys
- Catch up dose HPV for students in Year 8 who missed a dose in 2013

Phase Two – Monday 16th June, Term 2
- Second dose HPV for Year 7 and Year 9 boys
- Varicella for Year 7

Phase Three – Monday 20th October, Term 4
Final dose HPV for Year 7 and Year 9 boys

Peer Support

All Year 7 students had their first session of Peer Support with REAL as the focus. Students learnt what it means to be a Respectful, Engaged and Active Learner and about the Vivo reward system. Congratulations to the Year 10 Peer Support Leaders for your delivery of the session. There was a lot of positive feedback from the supervising teachers about how well you taught the values of REAL. The next session will have team building as the focus.

The Year 10 Peer Support team will be going to Shelley Public School to train their leaders on Tuesday 18th March.

Young Women’s Leadership Day

On Friday 7th March, Eden Carter and Amy McMillan from Year 11, attended the Young Women’s Leadership Day at Parliament House, Sydney. They had the opportunity to meet with influential female leaders and with young women leaders representing other high schools. The girls heard about the issues that might affect women in leadership roles and discussed the concepts and definitions of leadership.

Ms Cate
Supervisor of Girls
English Faculty News

Competitions

DEC Writing Competition

Towards the end of 2013, Angelica Lugtu received second place in the inaugural NSW Department of Education and Communities ‘Mission Impossible’ Writing Competition. Angelica’s prize winning entry can be found on the following website – http://competitions.nsrlearning21.com/

Write 4 Fun

This competition calls for creativity in writing either a short story that is no longer than 500 words or a poem, no longer than 16 lines. Students can choose their own focus. This competition is open to all students. Entries need to be typed on A4 paper. All entries must be to Ms Cate or the students’ classroom teacher by Tuesday 25th March. This competition is open to all students.

What Matters to You?

Students are invited to submit an opinion piece, 400 – 600 words, on what matters to them and why. Entries must be typed on A4 paper and include a word count. All entries must be to Ms Cate or the students’ classroom teacher by Thursday 1st May. This competition is open to all students.

Upcoming competitions include the ICAS English Test on 29th July and the Dorothea McKellar Poetry Competition. Details will be given to English classes closer to the event dates.

The English Faculty
### Term 1

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DONE ✔</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technology: Research Task - Impact of Designers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Science: Graphing Skills Task</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English: Written Composition (Draft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mathematics: Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geography: In Class Skills Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PDHPE: Pictures of Me</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>English: Written Composition (Final)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>History: Family Tree Research</td>
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### Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DONE ✔</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Geography: World Heritage Site Assignment and Speech</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technology: Project 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Visual Arts: BOW &amp; VAPD and Case Study</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Languages: Language “One” Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>HALF-YEARLY EXAM—English, Mathematics, Science, PDHPE,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>History, Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technology: Research Task—Emerging Technologies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music: Task 1</td>
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# Year 8 Assessment 2014 Calendar

## Term 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Science:</strong> Invisible World Skills Task</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Technology:</strong> Research Task Impact of Designers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Maths:</strong> Assignment</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td><strong>English:</strong> Analysis of Visual Material</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>PDHPE:</strong> Live it up</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><strong>Languages:</strong> About Myself</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>History:</strong> Bayeux Tapestry Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Geography:</strong> Global Inequalities Report</td>
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## Term 2

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Languages:</strong> Topic Test this term: date to be advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Visual Arts:</strong> BOW and VAPD / Case Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Technology:</strong> Project 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>PDHPE:</strong> Practical Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>PDHPE:</strong> Practical Assessment</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td><strong>HALF YEARLY EXAMS:</strong> English, Maths, Science, Geography</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td><strong>History:</strong> Skills Exam</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Music:</strong> Task 1: Performance/ Musicology</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Technology:</strong> Research Task Emerging Technologies</td>
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# Year 9 ASSESSMENT 2014 CALENDAR
(core subjects)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>WEEK</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
|        | 8    | Geography: In Class Skills Exam  
*History*: Heritage Research Task (Weeks 3-8)  
*Mathematics*: Strand Test 1  
*Science*: Ray Boxes & Lenses In Class Prac Exam  |        |
|        | 9    | *English*: Viewing & Response (weeks 9-10) |        |
|        | 10   |      |        |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DONE ✓</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|        | 1-2  | HALF-YEARLY EXAM (Weeks 2-3): English, Geography, Mathematics,  
PDHPE, Science.  
*Geography*: Australia’s Population Assignment  
*History*: In Class Source Task |        |
|        | 3    |      |        |
|        | 4    | PDHPE: Portfolio |        |
|        | 5    |      |        |
|        | 6    |      |        |
|        | 7    |      |        |
|        | 8    |      |        |
|        | 9    |      |        |
|        | 10   |      |        |
## Year 10 ASSESSMENT 2014 CALENDAR

(core subjects)

### Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DONE ✓</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Science:</strong> Part A Independent Research Task</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>PDHPE:</strong> Components of Fitness</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Science:</strong> Part B Independent Research Task</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Mathematics:</strong> Strand Test</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>History:</strong> Between the Wars Research and Essay Task</td>
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<td>(Weeks 3-8)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td><strong>English:</strong> Folio Task: Spoken &amp; Written</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Geography:</strong> Research Action Plan and Report</td>
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### Term 2

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DONE ✓</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATIONS:</strong> English, Mathematics, Science, Geography</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>PDHPE:</strong> Portfolio</td>
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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Children being children accidents do happen and parents are too often surprised to learn just how little cover, if any, their children have when they suffer injuries either in or outside school hours.

Unfortunately severe injuries can place parents and guardians under severe financial pressure.

StudentCover accident insurance was developed to give parents and guardians a helping hand when they need it the most, at a very affordable price.

The annual cost of a StudentCover policy is just $29.00.

The cover provides protection for your children 24 hours a day, seven days a week, anywhere in the world whether they are at school at the time of the accident or not, and includes almost every sport. (*some conditions apply)

Some of the features include (for more detail refer the Schedule of Benefits on reverse):

- Compensation of $500,000 for major injuries such as paraplegia and quadriplegia;
- Compensation for other major injuries such as loss of sight or loss of use of a limb and death;
- Compensation for common injuries included such as broken bones, fractures, dislocations or loss of teeth;
- Fee relief following the death of a parent or guardian; and
- Help with student tutoring expenses as a result of total disablement, to ensure a child’s education suffers the least possible disruption.

How to apply

StudentCover is only available online – making it quick and easy to protect your child or children. Payment can be made by credit card at the time of application, or by BPAY once you receive your invoice.

To apply online simply go to www.studentcover.com.au and click APPLY NOW.

With a new school year now upon us, we trust you will see the value in taking up this offer and in doing so enjoy just a little more peace of mind when protecting your children.

Kind regards

Jeff Adams
Managing Director

General Advice Notice - Our advice is provided for your general information and does not take into account your individual needs. StudentCover is underwritten by AIG Australia Limited (AIG) ABN 93 064 727 753 AFS License No 381686.
Mitchell High School is celebrating 50 Years of Education (1964-2014)

Take a trip down memory lane and join us in celebrating our Jubilee

When: Saturday 24th May 2014
Where: Mitchell High School
       Keyworth Drive Blacktown
Cost: $55.00 (non refundable)
Canapes: 6.00pm-7.00pm
Dinner: 7.00pm
RSVP: Friday 9th May 2014
Payment: Cash/EFTPOS/Cheque
         (Payable to Mitchell High School)
Bookings: Contact the school to secure your table
Memorabilia: Glass with school logo (included in price)
             Other memorabilia will be available
School Tours: 4.00pm, 4.30pm, 5.00pm

For more information contact the school on 9622 9944