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PHOTOS:

Front cover: Grace Murphy and Lucy Diffey, Year 7 01: Cayley Finne, Year 8, Millie Reid, Year 4 and Mr Craig Mansour (Headmaster)

Back cover: Piper Hoper, Sadie Lappa, Nina McMahon, Annabelle Dunkley, Stella Robertson and Leila Bowen,

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- t 02 6841 6222 e contact@mags.nsw.edu.au w www.mags.nsw.edu.au
- a 11 Currawong Road Dubbo NSW 2830
- **p** PO Box 873 Dubbo NSW 2830

A SCHOOL WITHIN THE ANGLICAN SCHOOLS CORPORATION

ABN 63 544 529 806

- Macquarie Agricultural
- Science
- Year 12 Retreat
- Partnering with the Future
- English Excursion
- Boarding

21 Co-curricular

- Livestock Show Team
- Soccer
- Netball
- Cricket
- Junior Representative Sport
- Senior Representative Sport



Mr Mansour has been an inspirational Christian leader who has progressed the school into the thriving community it is today.



From the Acting Principal

At Macquarie, we offer rich learning experiences within and beyond the classroom. Our Teaching and Learning Framework, Building Learning Power, now embedded into programs and the school's daily life, together with our Christ-centred education, is the foundation of Macquarie's high-expectations learning culture.

ur culture is reflected in this edition of Garru, where we see children thriving in their academic endeavours and our extensive and diverse Co-curricular program through the domains of Sports, Arts, Agriculture, Academics, and Service Learning.

One principle of a high-expectations learning culture is the emphasis on the development of the whole child and, alongside this, general wellbeing. Participating in Co-curricular activities supports our belief in a holistic education. By encouraging students to challenge themselves through grit, determination, and commitment, we believe they will flourish and perform at their best in every aspect of their lives.

Some highlights of this edition include The Year 7 Production, *The School* of Magic, inspired by the ideas of Year 7 student Lucy Diffey; the Class of 2023 HSC results and successes; NAIDOC Day celebrations; progressing the Teaching and Learning Framework under the expert guidance of Mrs Marina Simcox and her team; the myriad of sporting opportunities available for students to excel; a new Junior School Electives program and Minis at Macquarie; our spectacular Outdoor Education program for students in Years 1 to 12, which challenges our students and offers them diverse experiences in God's world beyond the school gates; the Macquarie Agricultural Pathways Program, which allows students to participate in experiential, real-world learning opportunities to combine fieldwork with bookwork.

At the conclusion of 2023, the Macquarie community farewelled longserving Headmaster, Mr Craig Mansour. Mr Mansour has been an inspirational Christian leader who has progressed the school into the thriving community it is today. I am honoured and privileged to continue his excellent work as Acting Principal in 2024.

I commend this summer edition of the Garru to you. We celebrate the broad range of offerings we have at Macquarie to nurture each student's academic, creative, physical, and social abilities.

Mrs Alison Mitchell

Acting Principal

In December last year, we had the opportunity to farewell Mr Craig Mansour, our Headmaster at Macquarie Anglican Grammar School for the past nine years. We all greatly appreciated the way in which Mr Mansour has enriched and nurtured the school, evidenced by Macquarie's growth and development through this time.

Mr Martyn Mitchell, School Council Chair

NEWS

Student Leaders for 2024

Congratulations to our student leaders for 2024!

Captains

Airlie Smith and Ethan Moody

Vice Captains

Annabelle Stephens and Thomas Williamson

Prefects

Tharushi Marapana, Nicola Millar, Eve Porch. Kathryn Rice, Isabelle Russell and Tozula Yamba

This group of exceptional young adults has in team-building activities and learned about effective meeting management, stage etiquette and public speaking techniques.

Mrs Alison Mitchell





Congratulations to the Class of 2023

The 2023 Higher School Certificate (HSC) results were a credit to all of our students, their families and our wonderful staff.

In 2023, in addition to completing the HSC course, four students gained qualifications in Vocational Education and Training in the following courses:

- Real Estate Practice (Cert III)
- Automotive Vocational Preparation
- Animal Studies (Cert II)
- Sport and Recreation (Cert II).

Special mention must be made of Nicholas Anderson, Dux of the Class of 2023, who achieved an ATAR of 92.10. Nicholas has accepted an offer to study Engineering at the University of NSW, and we wish him every success.



Nicholas Anderson, Year 12

All students who applied for early entry to university received offers across a range of courses. Fields of study include Engineering, Business and Design, Communications and International Studies, Speech Pathology, Psychology and Biomedical Science. Universities include University of Wollongong, University of Newcastle, University of Technology Sydney and University of Canberra.

- Biology
- Business Studies
- English Advanced
- English Extension
- English Standard
- Investigating Science
- Mathematics Advanced
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Mathematics Extension 2
- Mrs Alison Mitchell

• Music 1

Physics

Personal Development.

• Primary Industries

Society and Culture

• Studies of Religion.

Health and Physical Education

• Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation

The class of 2023 studied a wide range of subjects including:

- Chemistry
- Design and Technology

- Modern History

STAFFING NEWS

Welcoming New Staff

We welcome Ms Penny Chilton who joins Macquarie as our new Head of Senior School for 2024. She has been fortunate to have gained experience working in academic and wellbeing leadership roles throughout her career, including as Director of Wellbeing, Head of Pastoral Care, and Director of Creative and Performing Arts at Roseville College; Service Learning Co-ordinator at Ravenswood School for Girls; and Head of House and Missions Coordinator at William Clarke College. She holds a BA(Hons)/ BEd from UNSW and an AMEB AMusA, and has taught English, Drama, History and Christian Studies in Australia and the Solomon Islands.

Miss Brianna Carlow is originally from Dubbo and joins us in the HSIE faculty. Brianna's life journey so far led her to Canberra, where she completed her undergraduate law degree and worked as a litigation lawyer. Despite her success in the legal field, Brianna's true passion lies in teaching and learning. Returning to Dubbo to pursue a career in education, she hopes to make a positive impact at Macquarie.

Mrs Joanne Comerford joins us in 2024 as a Teacher's Aide with 25 years of experience.

Mrs Leanne Edwards joins us from South Africa and is working in the Science faculty. She grew up in Zimbabwe and then went to Rhodes University in South Africa, where she completed her Masters in Biochemistry, before taking up teaching. She has been teaching since 2010.

Mr Craig Fordham joins Macquarie as our Maintenance and Grounds person.

Mr Matthew Knight joins us in the PDHPE faculty having completed his practicum at Macquarie last year.

Ms Marcelle Reichling joins our English faculty. Originally from South Africa, she has taught in South Africa, South Korea and most recently Australia. She holds a BA, BA(Hons), MA and PGCE. After completing her Masters in Psychology in the area of brain injury in contact sport, she studied teaching and has been in the profession for four and a half years.

Miss Ellie Spencer has been studying Education at Charles Sturt University and is stepping into her role of a Junior School teacher at Macquarie. Miss Spencer has a passion for dance and can't wait to share her love of the arts with Macquarie students.

Miss Phillipa Reynolds joins the Macquarie team working with Year 5. She graduated with a Bachelor of Primary Education (Religious Education) and an International Baccalaureate Teaching Certificate in 2019.

We also welcome back from maternity leave Mrs Zoe Edwards, in Administration.

Mrs Alison Mitchell











Presentation Days

Our Presentation Days were held on Friday 22 September (Year 12) at Henderson Hall and Tuesday 12 December at the Dubbo Regional Convention Centre.

Congratulations to all the award winners and the special award winners listed below:

Junior School

James Croker

Caitlin Elder

Ella Taylor

Faith

Dux of Junior School

CWA Most Improved Award

Alexis Mitchell, Billy Baxter

Junior School Fine and

Kindergarten - Year 6

Performing Arts Award

Jennie Everist Award for

Outstanding Citizenship

Faith Community Character

Kindergarten - Year 6

Excellence Awards

Corbyn Smith

Community

Character

Excellence Skye Elder

Harriette Quigley

Alistair Boland

Senior School

Dux of Year 7

Adam Pendlebury

Dux of Year 8

Alicia Fordham

Dux of Year 9

Savannah Braithwaite

Dux of Year 10Eva Harris

Dux of Year 11

Isabelle Russell

Community Awards

The Macquarie Boarding Citizenship Award

Tom Kerin

Senior School Fine and Performing Arts Award

Lily Fitzsimmons

Macquarie Outstanding Service and Leadership Award

Millie Wright

The PJ Murdoch Award Benjamin Hignett

Macquarie Citizenship Award Emeline McCullough

ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award

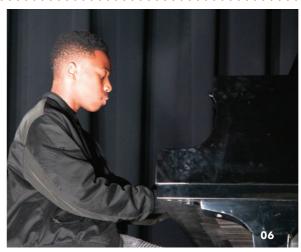
Toby Bannon, Tom Kerin

ADF Future Innovators Award

Nicholas Anderson, Eva Harris

PHOTOS:

01: Dugald Shepherd, Year 12 and Mr Craig Mansour (Headmaster)
02: Eva Harris, Year 10 03: Ella Taylor, Year 6 04: Dinesh Srinivas, Year 12 and Mr Craig Mansour (Headmaster) 05: Tom Kerin, Year 10 and Toby Bannon, Year 12 06: Alex Faponle, Year 8 07: Polly Pilon, Henrietta Canning, Olivia McMullen, Jemima Young and Madeline Parkes, Year 6 08: Lachlan Harley, Lewis Blizzard and Grace Murphy, Year 7





Macquarie's Got Talent

As anticipated, the Macquarie's Got Talent evening lived up to expectations and didn't disappoint!

Students from all corners of the school graced the stage to showcase their God-given talents to an enthusiastic audience that couldn't have been more thrilled. The performances encompassed a wide range of talents including vocalists, instrumentalists, comedians, dancers and magicians. Judges Miss Murray, Mr Lee, Rev Owen and Mrs Mitchell were dazzled by the talent on display, and ultimately arrived at the following winners for each category:

1st Alex Faponle, Year 8, performing *Pachelbel's Canon in D* on piano

2nd Dance Group - Attention Cheer Mix performed by Jimmy Pirie, Tino Mahupete, Scarlett Mealey and Lila Albury, Year 6

3rd Emma Cook, Year 6, performing an Irish Dance Solo

People's Choice Awards: Dance Group Dem Beats, performed by Jemima Young, Olivia McMullen, Polly Pilon, Henrietta Canning and Madeline Parkes, Year 6, and Dance Group Fight Song, performed by Violet Murphy, Pre-Kindergarten, Eleanor Steventon, Pre-Kindergarten, Riley Toole, Year 1, Brileigh Fitzgerald, Year 3, and Charlotte Steventon, Year 3.

Congratulations to our winning performers. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the students who participated in the audition process and the final show. Special appreciation is extended to Mrs Scoles and Mrs Job for their dedicated efforts in organising the event, as well as to all the staff members who contributed in various ways. Gratitude is also extended to the P&F for their diligent collection and preparation of food, and to our wonderful community for being such an outstanding audience for our talented performers.

Mrs Alison Mitchell



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year, the Macquarie Junior and Senior School Student Representative Councils (SRCs) joined forces to run an initiative familiar to Macquarie, Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. It is a hands-on way for our school to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies and fun gifts. Students worked hard to collect hundreds of donations to send overseas on behalf of Macquarie.

Miss Prue Murray

NAIDOC Day plays a significant role in fostering cultural understanding, promoting reconciliation, and recognising the contributions of Indigenous Australians to our nation's heritage and identity. By acknowledging and celebrating NAIDOC Day, we help create an inclusive and respectful environment that values our Indigenous culture and histories.

This year's NAIDOC theme, 'For our Elders', was the key focus for the day; highlighting the significant role Elders play in shaping the future of our communities.

Our students participated in a Flag Raising Ceremony and assembly, and rotated through a range of sessions including traditional art, bush tucker, Dreamtime stories, Indigenous games and many more.



PHOTOS: 01: Nayan Duncan and Xavier Powell, Year 3
02: Olivia McMullen, Henrietta Canning and Jemima Young, Year 6



PINK STUMPS CRICKET MATCH

Macquarie scored a picture-perfect day for the Teacher versus Students Cricket Match held on the school oval. This event served as the Year 12 final fundraising initiative for their chosen charity, the McGrath Foundation. The McGrath Foundation is dedicated to raising funds for McGrath Breast Care Nurses, who offer essential support and care to both women and men grappling with breast cancer.

The day of the cricket match was adorned with Pink Stumps and pink Zooper Doopers for everyone in attendance. After winning the toss, the students took their turn to bat first. Without a doubt, the students emerged as the clear victors on this memorable day, despite the teachers' unwavering efforts.

A heartfelt expression of gratitude is extended to all the students who lent their support to the event by incorporating a touch of pink into their attire and contributing a gold coin donation. The appreciation is equally extended to the families who participated in the raffle, where the prize was a \$100 gift voucher and a cricket ball encased in a box, signed by the renowned Glenn McGrath himself. As luck would have it, the winning raffle ticket was drawn in favour of Cricket Captain, Dugald Shepherd, Year 12. In a fitting gesture, Dugald proposed that the accompanying \$100 gift voucher be drawn as a second prize, and this prize was awarded to the Bagshaw family.

The event not only showcased the spirit of friendly competition but also highlighted the unity and support extended by the school community towards a noble cause.

Mrs Alison Mitchell

Building Learning Power

2023 has seen our continued pursuit to foster a dynamic and enriching learning environment through the ongoing implementation of Learning Power within our school community. Our dedicated staff and students have been working diligently on cultivating the 4Rs - resilience, relational, resourceful, and reflective - as the building block of our educational approach.

Resilient

Resilience is a vital skill that empowers students to face challenges with determination and adaptability. Our staff members have been actively incorporating resilience-building activities into the curriculum, guiding students to manage their distractions, refocus, and perceive setbacks as opportunities for growth through their persistence. Classroom discussions, problem-solving exercises, and resilience-focused projects throughout 2023 have encouraged students to navigate obstacles in a modelled, guided, and then independent way.

Relational

Creating a supportive and inclusive learning community is another key learning disposition that has been developed this year. Teachers and students have encouraged one another to build meaningful connections and foster an environment where we collaborate, empathise and listen. Collaborative team-building activities and group projects have promoted the development of strong interpersonal skills. As a result, students are not only learning from their teachers but also from each other to create a rich tapestry of shared experiences and understandings.

Resourceful

Resourcefulness is a key trait that equips students to find innovative solutions to problems. This year our teachers have integrated hands-on learning experiences that encourage students to think critically and creatively. By incorporating real-world scenarios and practical challenges, students develop a keen sense of resourcefulness. Students are then able to make connections between current and prior learning and question effectively.

Reflective

Reflection is a powerful tool for self-awareness and continuous improvement. We have spent time with students in structured reflection sessions where they can refocus, refine, and reflect on their learning to identify strengths and make adjustments. Teachers have guided students through reflective practices to help them connect their experiences to deeper understanding. This intentional focus on reflection enhances students' metacognitive skills and empowers them to become active participants in their learning process.



Another highlight for our Learning Power team was the continued development of our Professional Learning teams. These teams worked together to brainstorm and implement innovative strategies that integrated their allocated R into the curriculum. As part of this collaborative effort, teachers created vlogs to share insights, strategies and success stories. These vlogs served as a valuable resource for professional learning and sharing, fostering a culture of continuous learning among our educators.

To ensure that Learning Power becomes an integral part of students' daily routines, we have utilised the language of the framework in the curriculum.

Students were taught to recognise and practise the 4Rs in various learning tasks and activities. Additionally, we challenged ourselves with learning sprints – focused periods of intense learning – where students apply the 4Rs in a concentrated effort to deepen their understanding and enhance their skills.

As we continue on this exciting journey, we look forward to seeing the positive impact of Learning Power on our students' growth and development.

Mrs Marina Simcox













Students' sense of achievement, fulfilment and self-development

During Terms 3 and 4, Pre-Kindergarten students had the opportunity to engage in gymnastics, swimming and dance. Students attended Fitness Focus, the Dubbo RSL Aquatic and Health Club and lessons with Fierce Performing Arts.

Gymnastics encourages muscle strength, co-ordination, flexibility, balance and posture. As students attended the lessons, they further developed listening skills, self-esteem, confidence, social interaction and fitness.

Swimming developed all students' sense of achievement, fulfilment and self-development. Each week students were able to develop muscles, co-ordination and learn about water safety and develop positive emotions. Students further improved their confidence, focus, social skills and fitness. All students were able to participate and have fun and increase their swimming skills.

Dance lessons were popular as students experimented with a broad range of movements and improved balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and flexibility. These lessons supported concentration, large and fine motor skills and learning skills.

Overall, sport is encouraged in Pre-Kindergarten to provide physical and emotional benefits and foster a sense of commitment, a sense of belonging, teamwork and community.

Ms Jackie Smith

Overall, sport is encouraged in Pre-Kindergarten to provide physical and emotional benefits...

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PHOTOS:

01: Beatrice Garland, Pre-Kindergarten **02:** Joseph Erickson, Pre-Kindergarten

03: Raymond Amatto-Shipp, Pre-Kindergarten



MINIS AT MACQUARIE

We were excited to welcome our newest members of the Macquarie community back for our Terms 3 and 4 Minis at Macquarie program this year. Over the past few months, we witnessed an incredible transformation in the way these children and their families engage and learn together.

Minis at Macquarie is a weekly playgroup session, free of charge and available for the wider school and local community for children aged between three and five years and their families. Each Thursday during Terms 3 and 4, our new little friends, and their families joined us for fun, engaging activities exploring a range of creative, social and sensory play experiences.

One of the key successes of the Minis at Macquarie program is the ability to promote holistic development. Through themed activities such as storytelling, arts and crafts, music and movement, and sensory play, children have been able to develop essential skills across multiple domains. Whether it's enhancing language and communication through storytelling or fostering fine motor skills through arts and crafts, every activity is purposefully designed to support the overall growth and development of these students, and share insight into a typical day in our Pre-Kindergarten classroom. Each week our Pre-Kindergarten classroom was transformed into a different theme, with outside learning, individual and small group table activities and whole group shared reading sessions focused on this theme. Dinosaur week is always a huge hit!

Minis is the perfect opportunity for children to familiarise themselves with our Pre-Kindergarten facilities, staff and other children.

This program aims to provide enriching play-based experiences for our incoming preschool students, to develop confidence and social, emotional skills as well as pre-literacy and language skills.

As we celebrate the success of the Minis program, we are excited to continue expanding the program to meet the needs of our community, and look forward to joining these students on their learning journey at Macquarie.

Mrs Keera Job

PHOTOS

04: Eden Richardson and Wilfred Elliott, Pre-Kindergarten **05:** Oliver McMahon, Charlie Bragger and Wilfred Elliott, Pre-Kindergarten **06:** Andrew Mharadze Chifamba and Charlie Bragger, Pre-Kindergarten

2024 Junior School Captains

Introducing our Junior School Captains for 2024. Congratulations!

Captains

Aria Jacob and Alex Stiles

Vice Captains

Kate Pendlebury and Lachlan Tucker

SRC Leaders

Eva Powell and Charlie Hawkins

House Captains

Chisholm

Aeva Maher and Georgia Batten

Cuthbert

Finn Hyland and Delilah Nicholls

Dunlop

Maya McCauley and Jack Murray

Flvnn

Corbyn Smith and Lilla Job



Aria Jacob, Year 5



Alex Stiles, Year 5







GRANDPARENTS' DAY

One of the most treasured events on our annual calendar is Grandparents' Day! It is amazing to realise how important and fulfilling these days can be for everyone - sharing in classroom learning, enjoying a picnic on a beautiful day, seeing old friends and meeting new ones, and watching with immense pride as our students perform on stage.

The efforts of our students, teachers, staff and the Macquarie P&F in putting together this event were truly commendable, and make me very proud to be a part of our Macquarie Junior School. The day began with our Grandparents' Day Chapel, followed by our grandparents, families and special friends visiting our classrooms. Students were interviewing their visitors, working together, sharing work samples and artworks and chatting about school life.

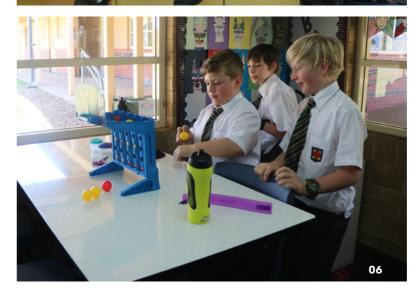
Our Grandparent's Day Assembly is always a highlight; this year students showcased their talents through various performances, ranging from musical recitals, dances and poetry readings dedicated to their beloved grandparents. A common thread throughout the day was the love they had for their children and grandchildren – our Macquarie Junior School students.

We had grandparents fly in and surprise students, travelling as far as from Sri Lanka, as well as grandparents who have been coming for years. Grandparents' Day brings together generations, bridging the gap between the young and the wise.

Grandparents' Day is an opportunity to show our love and appreciation for all the things our grandparents do for their grandchildren and families. It's also a beautiful opportunity to remember those we've lost or couldn't join us face to face. It is a special day for connecting with each other and to thank our families for being the caring, loving people they are – making our lives richer. Let's also remember that the spirit of this day can be carried forward every day, as we strive to maintain these precious connections and cherish the lessons they offer.







Junior School Electives

We were thrilled to launch our new, innovative Junior School Electives program in Semester 2 this year. This program is aimed at providing our Stage 2 and Stage 3 students with a more personalised and enriching learning experience.

At Macquarie, we recognise that every student is an individual with diverse talents and passions. While the core curriculum is essential for a well-rounded education, we believe that a student's interests should also be nurtured and explored. Our Junior School Electives program does just that by offering a wide range of interest-based subjects including Textiles, Coding, STEAM, Circus Skills, Construction, Engineering and Problem Solving, Cooking, and Drama and Theatre Arts.

Yet, it is not just the students who have shown obvious excitement for this program. Our incredible Junior School staff members have each played a pivotal role in bringing the Junior School Electives program to life by drawing upon their expertise and passion to create engaging and enriching experiences for our students.

We are excited and optimistic for the continued growth and development of our Junior School Electives. Building upon the foundation of success laid out this year, we are committed to expanding the scope of our elective offerings to cater to the ever-evolving interests and aspirations of our students.

Mrs Keera Job

STAGE 1 SLEEPOVER

Students had a fantastic time at the annual Stage 1 Pizza, Movie and Sleepover night.

Staff and students had a beautiful pizza picnic on the lawn followed by a movie night in the Trade Training Centre. Year 1 students were picked up following the movie, while Year 2 had a sleepover at school! For many students it was their first opportunity to spend the night away from home.

The annual Stage 1 Sleepover is a great way to prepare students for their Years 3 and 4 overnight excursions. It provides the chance to practise independence within the comfort and familiarity of the school setting.

Mrs Kelly Munge

PHOTOS

01: Sadie Lappa, Kindergarten 02: Tom Sheehan, Kindergarten 03: Nina McMahon, Kindergarten 04: Patrick Weekes and Guransh Singh, Year 3 05: Allie Lundholm, Lillianna Phillips and Bartika Ana Bhattarai, Year 4 06: Eli Pedersen, Year 4, Elijah Phillips, Year 4 and Charlie Hawkins, Year 5

Mrs Keera Job



100 DAYS OF KINDERGARTEN

At the beginning of Term 3, our Kindergarten students celebrated 100 Days of Kindergarten learning. We had been tracking this day using tens frames and crossing every day off since we started Kindergarten.

Students and teachers dressed up in a '100' theme including 100-year-olds, 100 stickers, 100 days brighter shirts etc.

Our day revolved all around the number 100. We wrote about the idea, 'If we were a 100-year-old', we skip counted to 100 using a hundreds chart, we completed a 100 puzzle, we made fairy bread with 100s and 1,000s, we made 100 day crowns and we did some 100 themed artworks.

It was a beautiful day for our Kindergarten students as we celebrated such a special milestone in their schooling.

Mrs Abbey Scoles









Outdoor Education

Macquarie's Outdoor Education program and annual camps provide a fantastic opportunity for our students to grow and be challenged out of their comfort zones within a safe, supportive and controlled environment. Camps provide a wonderful opportunity to build confidence and resilience, improve independence and problem-solving skills, make new connections and deepen existing friendships.

YEAR 3 ZOO SNOOZE

Our Year 3 students had a great time at Taronga Western Plains Zoo for the annual Zoo Snooze on 17 August!

Students met at the Savannah Plaza after school and farewelled their parents before walking to the Zoo Snooze tents.

There were many exciting activities including a night tour that focused on nocturnal species, a keeper talk at the cheetahs, a chat to the rhino keeper and asking questions, discovering some lions who were close to the fence and the Mongolian area where our students learned about the efforts by Taronga Zoo to save the Przewalski's Horse.

Our students had a great time on the Zoo Snooze!

YEAR 4 CAMP

Our Year 4 students enjoyed their annual camp at Burrendong Sport and Recreation Centre.

They had a wonderful time doing activities such as orienteering, bushcraft, canoeing, swimming, paint balloon combat and more. The giant slip 'n' slide was a big hit!



BOOK WEEK

Our Macquarie Junior School celebrated Book Week in Term 3. Eagerly anticipated by students and staff, Book Week brings together the whole school community to share in the joy of reading, storytelling and exploring our imaginations.

The highlight of our Book Week celebrations this year was undoubtedly the visit from guest author, Katrina Roe, who shared her latest book, *Lily's Balloon*. Katrina is a children's book author, podcaster and audio book narrator. Katrina's visit sparked lively discussions about characters, plots, and the creative process, igniting a newfound enthusiasm for reading and writing among our students.

Throughout the week, students engaged in a variety of book-themed events and activities.

Teachers led interactive read-aloud sessions which encouraged students to explore new genres and discover new favourites.

Our Senior School tutor classes visited to read with their Junior School friends, creating a lovely cohesive community experience.

Students learned about different styles of writing, character development and mood...

"

Our students also participated in the Littlescribe Writing Festival and engaged in live writing masterclass workshops with leading Australian authors. Students learned about different styles of writing, character development and mood, finding amazing ideas to influence our stories, turning facts into fiction and exploring culture and identity through our writing. These sessions were fantastic, and our students thoroughly enjoyed working through these workshops each day. Congratulations to Japneet Kaur, Year 5, for being awarded an Author's Prize for her short story.

Mrs Keera Job

YEAR 5 CAMP

Challenge by Choice

During Term 3, our Year 5 students travelled to the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Kincumber for their annual school camp. The theme of our camp was 'Challenge by Choice' meaning students were given the opportunity to participate to varying degrees and heights!

Over the three days students participated in activities such as canoeing, archery, fencing, rock climbing and a high ropes course. Each of these saw our students step out of their comfort zone and be brave for a time. No activity required the same bravery as the giant swing and power fan challenges. Power fan required our students to climb 13 metres into the air and step off a platform to gradually float down. The giant swing was similar in that our students were once again given the task of scaling great heights. Students were pulled by their class mates to a height of approximately 14 metres before being released and propelled forward.

Year 5 finished each night with an activity of either team challenges or games on the oval. Team challenges were a chance for our students to do something a little silly after an adrenalin-filled day. Students worked together to knock over cans, paint each other's nails in under 60 seconds, stand up without knocking a cup of water off their forehead and even make an outfit out of garbage bags.

Our students were incredibly well behaved for our instructors and amazing friends to one another.

Miss Alice Barber





PHOTOS:

01: Maha Islam and Nevayah Judd, Kindergarten 02: Marley Betts and Lily Orford, Year 3 03: Lucy Bagshaw, Madison Ray and Mia Wright, Year 3 04: Bartika Ana Bhattarai, Year 4 05: Ethan Rich, Elijah Newton and Kane Furney, Year 4 06: Kara Johnson, Year 7 and Jemima Young, Year 6 07: Nathan Bell, Dean Caulfield, Devesh Srinivas, Charlie Hawkins and Cooper Hansen, Year 5 08: Kate Pendlebury, Audrey Myles, Milla Andrew, Delilah Nicholls and Eva Strahorn, Year 5

Visual Arts

Our Visual Arts students had the opportunity to visit the Western Plains Cultural Centre this semester. Their visits to the gallery were a great way to engage in the area of responding to art. Seeing the art work on the wall is far more authentic than having a printout of the image.

Year 8 students completed their unit on 'Animals in Art' by seeing the work by Hayden Fowler in his exhibition 'Behaviour'. This exhibition challenged the students to think deeply about the use of animals as symbols in Fowler's work

Years 11 and 12 students saw the travelling exhibition from the Australian War Memorial titled 'Art and Conflict'. This was an excellent opportunity for our Stage 6 students to see the work they will study next year up close.

Year 7 students were lucky to see the 2022 finalist from the Archibald Prize. This was also a timely visit as they then completed a research task on the famous portrait prize as part of their ongoing assessment.

Mrs Sandra Davis





01: Colby Rufus, Andie McAnally, Rebecca Anderson, Max Tayle Rahul Jacob and James Mansour, Year 8













"At the Amethyst School of Magic, the rules are clear - learn the spells, do the assignments, and do not ever enter the Out of Bounds Areas. But rules were made to be broken, right?"

This year's Year 7 group was keen to continue what has now become a rite of passage for Year 7 Macquarie students and to make their own mark on the stage in the Year 7 Production, *The School of Magic.*

We had 73 Year 7 students involved in the production and they all had their chance to be on the stage at some point in the performance. In House groups, our students were divided into either a spells class, cooking class, the spelling training team or the dragon training team, and they all had to learn the song and dance for their designated scene. Students who were cast in lead and minor roles came together for regular lunchtime and after school rehearsals, but the different House groups were only able to rehearse once a week.

The enthusiasm, energy, commitment and camaraderie that our Year 7 students brought to the whole process ensured that their production of *The School of Magic* was a resounding success. Our audiences are still raving about how fantastic it was. Congratulations to all who were involved and were able to achieve this by "working together", having "focus, strength and discipline" and by being "brave".

"Remember that magic is believing in yourself - if you can do that, you can make anything happen."

Mrs Brooke Taylor

PHOTOS:

01: Jett Nicholls and Ruby Ivers, Year 7 02: Scarlett Chandler, Grace Murray, Lila Powell, Sophia Peart, Verity Smith and Lily Gibson, Year 7
03: Harry Chapman, Year 7 04: Abigail Luck, Ruby Ivers, Larissa Elder, Harry Chapman, Jett Nicholls and Lucy Diffey, Year 7

05: Phoebe Chrystall, Lily Gibson, Alexis Rufus, Macy Diamond and Claire Chapman, Year 7 06: Ruby Ivers, Jett Nicholls, Lucy Diffey, Abigail Luck and Harry Chapman, Year 7

Macquarie Agricultural Pathways Program

Macquarie partners with Australian Strategic Minerals to use Toongi Pastoral Company's farms as an agricultural education resource. Each Wednesday, ten students from Years 7 and 8 use the farm to combine fieldwork with bookwork as part of the Macquarie Agricultural Pathways Program (MAPP).

Practical animal production activities include tagging, drenching, vaccinating, weaning and weighing livestock. These tasks are paired with completion of homework on the fundamental principles of animal health and welfare.

Hands-on plant production tasks include measuring feed availability of pastures, plant identification and recognising the stages of development in a plant's lifecycle. Associated classwork explores soil biology and chemistry as well as strategies for weed control.











Year 12 Retreat

Staying near beaches and rivers in Toukley on the Central Coast, our Year 12 Retreat has become a key landmark event in a special final week for our Year 12 students.

The camp is a mixture of study, adventure activities and life reflections.

Two reflection activities we do on our Year 12 Retreat reinforce the special period of time students find themselves in. One activity involves students simply sitting in a circle and sharing their favourite memories from school. Many stories are told with lots of laughs and some tears mixed in. The other reflection activity of note is our 'friendship journals'. All students have journals on camp and on our final night students place out their journals for their peers to write some encouraging affirming thoughts. This simple activity provides space for students to show genuine appreciation to the people they have shared so much of their lives with.

In what is a unique period of life, students are challenged to think through their faith and direction for life beyond high school.

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

- Proverbs 22:6

Rev Tom Owen

01: Charlie Fearnley, Year 7 02: Clancy Judd, Year 7 03: Declan Wilcher, Ibrahim Ridha, Callum Richards, Darcy Shanks, Lainey Walker and Macy Diamond, Year 7 04: Thomas Shelly, Nicholas Anderson, Dinesh Srinivas, Siobhan Utete, Isabella Walker and Toby Bannon, Year 12 **05:** Nicholas Anderson, Year 12

This semester has seen many changes in Science at Macquarie. The beloved Mr van der Walt finished with us to take on a Head of Faculty role at Dubbo Christian School. Mrs Nkomo was an answer to prayer and was able to take on Mr Marty's teaching allocation for the commencement of Term 4.

Year 7 Science

students and their

parents had an

Observatory

Term 3 was the culmination of the HSC courses in Biology, Chemistry, Investigating Science and Physics for our eight Science students. Year 7 Science students and their parents

had an amazing opportunity to attend the Dubbo Observatory to use their telescopes and see some of the amazing features of the solar system and universe. Saturn, the moon, nebulae, galaxies and star clusters were viewed at these public sessions. Term 3 was also Student Research Project term for Years 8, 9 and 10. Year 7 conducted a scaffolded SRP investigation to determine if the Year 11 students' resistance bands could have been affected by a change in climate between Dubbo and Cairns, with interesting results!

Term 4 Science at Macquarie had a focus on ecology and the natural world. Year 7 investigated food web interactions and animal adaptations which culminated with the annual Zoo excursion. Year 8 students explored natural resources and their sustainable use. Year 9 completed a field trip to study the riverine ecosystem of the Macquarie-

Wambuul River to determine the health of the river and assess the human impact on this ecosystem. Year 10 students learned about the technological developments that have enabled us to discover more about the features and history of the universe and the changing ecosystems over geological history as seen through the fossil amazing opportunity record. This culminated in an excursion to the to attend the Dubbo Fossil and Mineral Museum in Bathurst and the Wellington Caves to see a range of fossils including T-Rex, velociraptors, nautilus, trilobites, sabre-tooth cat, diprotodon and more.

Mr Brett Haddon

Mr Owen Knight **SCIENCE**

PARTNERING WITH THE FUTURE

On Friday 1 September, Year 7 students travelled to the Dubbo RSL to participate in the Aspire - Partnering with the Future program. The program is supported by AISNSW and was attended by students from Macquarie, Dubbo Christian School and the Central West Leadership Academy.

The purpose of this event was to facilitate opportunities for students to learn about the myriad of career possibilities available to them in the Dubbo region and beyond, to explore skills, industries and pathways possible to expand their horizons, and to engage with members of the broader community. The event incorporated practical and interactive activities, demonstrations and professional conversations to engage, inspire and increase curiosity.

The students met with representatives from organisations including 4DMarketing, Western NSW Local Health District - Dubbo Health Service, Australian Rail Track Corporation, eHealth NSW, Orana Early Childhood Intervention, Marathon Health, Headspace, Toongi Pastoral Co. Alkane Resources Ltd, Maverick Biomaterials Pty Ltd, SJ Shooter Real Estate and the Sydney University School of Rural Health.

The students were also able to interact with a panel of speakers from local Dubbo businesses SJ Shooter Real Estate, Church Street Café and P.S. Websites and Design.

Mrs Bree Bailey







ENGLISH EXCURSION

On Friday 18 August, Year 11 went to the Dubbo Regional Theatre and saw The Death of a Salesman.

The play follows the life of Willy Loman, a salesman working in New York in the 1940s. During his life, Willy struggles to nurture a successful career and comes to realise he's a failure not only to himself but also to his family. The play ends with his death, as suggested by the title.

The play was an immense learning experience for Year 11. It was interesting to observe this company's particular spin on it, as well as observing the lighting and set decisions that further enhanced it. The acting was also top-notch. So much so that Hugo Weaving travelled from Sydney to Dubbo

A final interesting note is that film goddess Marilyn Monroe was married to the play's author Arthur Miller!

Mrs Lynne Fleming

BOARDING

Moving forward

As we reflect on Terms 3 and 4, we are filled with gratitude for the memorable moments we shared, we bid farewell to cherished leaders, and eagerly anticipated the exciting changes on the horizon.

We are delighted to share the news of the addition of two brand-new buildings on our campus dedicated to housing our staff members. These modern facilities not only provide a comfortable living space for our staff but have also paved the way for growth within our Boarding program.

Throughout the year, we celebrated many memorable moments, and one highlight was Boarders' Day. It was a day where our Boarders had a break from school routines, indulged in Mr Roe's perfect pancakes, went op-shopping for treasures, and enjoyed a soapy slip and slide in the afternoon.

Furthermore, as we approached the end of the year, it was also a time of transition in leadership. We bid farewell to Mr Roe, who had served as the Head of Boarding for four years with dedication and care. Mr Roe's leadership and unwavering commitment to the wellbeing of our Boarding students have left an indelible mark on our community, and we extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to him as he embarks on his new venture. His guidance and support will be greatly missed, and we are immensely grateful for his contributions to our Boarding program.

On the heels of this transition, we were excited to welcome Mr Kinscher and his family as the new Head of Boarding for 2024. Mr Kinscher brings with him a wealth of experience and a deep-seated commitment to fostering a nurturing and inclusive Boarding environment.

As we move forward into the new year, we cherish the memories and appreciate the legacy of our departing leaders, and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to build a thriving Boarding community where every student can flourish.

Mrs Kellie Roe

01: Tobey Cohen, Year 10, Tom Kerin, Year 10, Nixon Strachan-White, Year 8 and Thomas Webster, Year 11 02: Abigail Medcalf and Mia Cummings, Year 10







vouth shows in the second half of 2023.

The Beachport Liquid Minerals National All Breeds Junior Heifer Show

The Macquarie All Breeds team had a fantastic time at the 'All Breeds', held in Blayney in September. Each student was responsible for preparing and exhibiting an individual animal, with some using our Polldale Shorthorn heifers and some working with their own animals.

Special mentions:

- Polldale Peta, led by April Butler, Year 9, was awarded second place in the Heifer Jackpot.
- Jackson, Year 9, and Abigail Tucker's, Year 2, heifer Bella placed first and won Champion Commercial Heifer.
- Max Taylor's, Year 8, heifer PC Miss Capatalist won Junior Champion Heifer and Grand Champion Heifer of the show.
- In Paraders, Abigail won first in her Pee Wee class, Max Taylor won first in Sub-Intermediate classes,
- The Tocal Beef Assessment Scholarship was won by Jack Taylor, Year 10, and our Macquarie team was very excited and proud to be awarded the Best Champion School.

National Shorthorn Youth Expo

'Shorty Youth' was held at Dubbo on the October long weekend. We had a big team of enthusiastic Macquarie students working with our shorthorns from Polldale Shorthorn Stud.

Highlights:

- At the Coota Park Tech Talks, Tom Kerin and Jack Taylor, Year 10 delivered their presentation on 'mOOvement' and won first place in the senior age group.
- Our Dub-Vegas inspired outfits, complete with Vegas Show Cows, won first prize in the Calf Capers 'Dubbo' themed costume
- In Junior Judging, Ella Taylor, Year 6, won Champion Pee Wee, Angus Johnson, Year 10, won Reserve Champion Sub-Intermediate, and Ally Bogie, Year 12, won Champion Senior Judge.

- Year 10. and Bayliss Diamond. Year 8. won first in her Calf class. and Polldale Peta exhibited by Nicola Millar, Year 11, and Ella Taylor was awarded first in her Intermediate class, Champion Intermediate Heifer and Grand Champion Heifer of the show!
- Angus Johnson won first and Champion Sub-Intermediate
- Hugh Mitchell, Year 10, won the raffle heifer and the Consolidated Pastoral Scholarship and Jim Taylor, Year 1, and Gracie Harland, Year 10, both received The Max O'Keefe Encouragement Awards.

Congratulations to all of our team members for the outstanding work that they did with their animals and the way that they all worked so well together over the course of these youth shows.

Mrs Brooke Taylor

SOCCER

On Friday 8 September, Macquarie competed in a friendly soccer match against The King's School, Sydney. Our Macquarie students played extremely well and displayed excellent teamwork and demonstrated great sportsmanship. The final score didn't overshadow the fierce competition and the fun that all the students had. A special mention to Callum Richards, Year 7, for an outstanding goal (only goal) from half way.

Lila Albury, Lewis Blizzard, Dean Caulfield, Harry Hawkins, Zander Hibbard, Bailey Millington, Archie McCauley, Riley McCauley, Jack Murray, Jett Nicholls, Callum Richards, Ibrahim Ridha, Mason Shanks, Sally Stephens and Lainey Walker.

03: Max Taylor, Year 8, Gracie Harland, Year 10, Sam Chad, Year 9, Bayliss Diamond, Year 8, Sophie Lockyer, Year 10, Charlie Lockyer, Year 8, Ruby Szymkow, Year 10, Tom Kerin, Year 10, Hugh Mitchell, Year 10, Jack Taylor, Year 10, Charlie Fearnley, Year 7, Nicola Millar, Year 11, Jackson Tucker, Year 9, Ella Taylor, Year 6, Charlotte Campbell, Year 7, Angus Johnson, Year 10 Front Row: Jim Taylor, Year 1, Abigail Tucker, Year 2













01: Back Row: Jasmine Shepherd, Year 10, Oliver Orth, Year 9, Benjamin Hignett, Year 11, Thomas Chrystall, Year 10, Daniel Mansour, Year 10, Brendan Richards, Year 9, Angus Johnson, Year 10, Benjamin Grimson, Year 9 Front Row: Samuel Luck, Year 9, Lachlan Murphy, Year 8, Bayley Betts, Year 9, James Mansour, Year 8 02:

Bayley Betts, Year 9, Samuel Luck, Year 9, Thomas Chrystall, Year 10, Brendan Richards, Year 9, Oliver Orth, Year 9, Angus Johnson, Year 10 and Benjamin Hignett, Year 11 04: Rubie Quigley, Year 3 05: Oliver Orth, Year 9, Samuel Luck, Year 9 and Angus Johnson, Year 10



NETBALL

Sport has an incredible way of bringing people together, fostering skill development, presenting challenges and forming lasting connections. The past season has been a testament to these values for our Macquarie nethallers

Navigating the highs and lows of a game is an integral part of any sports season. Whether it was working through a challenging umpiring decision, cheering on fellow teams, or taking on leadership roles as coaches, our netballers faced a range of experiences that contributed to their personal and collective growth. These challenges became opportunities for learning, resilience and skill enhancement.

A moment of pride for Macquarie umpires in 2023 was when Michelle Williams and Olivia Simcox, Year 10, achieved their National C Grade Badge.

Macquarie fielded an impressive 13 teams in the Dubbo Netball Associate Competition, ranging from Under 8 Years to A Grade. Three teams made the finals, with the Majestics giving a valiant effort in the first week of finals and the Mystics and Hornets narrowly missing the grand final – each team's effort was amazing!

The Junior and Senior Club Person of the Year awards are a heartfelt acknowledgment of their unwavering commitment and passion for Macquarie Netball.

 $Congratulations\ to:$

Junior Club Person of the Year: Ms Ali Attenborough Senior Club Person of the Year: Eve Porch, Year 11

Mrs Marina Simcox

CRICKET

In the world of school cricket, Macquarie has had a promising beginning to the season. The team has shown remarkable potential, and several key developments are setting the stage for an impressive year ahead.

Macquarie introduced three debutants, Jasmine Shepherd, Year 10, Bayley Betts, Year 9, and Lachlan Murphy, Year 8, and a new captain, Oliver Orth, Year 9, to the First XI this season. Congratulations!

The success of Macquarie Cricket doesn't stop with the First XI, as the Wiburd Shield (Years 7 to 9) team also boasts a wealth of talent.

As we head into the heart of the season, the team is filled with optimism and determination. Victories in the Wiburd and Douglas Shield matches against Orange Anglican Grammar School have set a strong precedent for what they can achieve. With promising debutants, a new captain, and a wealth of talent in their ranks, the team is well-positioned to continue their strong start.

Mr Eli Kinscher

PHOTOS

03: Back Row: Ava Cummings, Year 7, Miranda Orr, Year 8, Jasmine Ashfield, Year 8, Lilly Myles, Year 8, Charlotte Brown, Year 8, Isla Tink, Year 8, Andie McAnally, Year 8, Phoebe Chrystall, Year 7, Ruby Ivers, Year 7 Front Row: Georgia Sweeney, Year 8, Lucy Diffey, Year 7, Molly Hyland, Year 7, Grace Murphy, Year 7, Mia Betts, Year 7, Lila Powell, Year 7, Sophia Peart, Year 7, Hallie Cummins, Year 8 06: Georgia Cudmore, Year 12, Billie Allan, Year 10 and Evie Peart, Year 7 07: Jasmine Shepherd and Hannah Whyman, Year 10

JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE SPORT

Athletics

HICES

On Tuesday 29 August, our Junior School Athletics team competed in the HICES Athletics Carnival at Sydney Olympic Park. Congratulations to all Macquarie students who demonstrated excellent skills and superb running ability in all of their events.

A special mention to Noah Stiles, Year 2, who finished first in the 8 Years Boys 100m and Mia Wright, Year 3, who placed first in the Junior Girls Discus, throwing a massive 21.23m.

Team

Rose Bagshaw, Marley Betts, Patrick Blackstock, Henrietta Canning, Alexis Cook, Maya Cook, Caitlin Elder, Charlie Furney, Evelyn Garland, Logan Hosking, Harriet Kelly, James Kelly, Yarran Lane, Molly Linehan, Olivia McMullen, Archer Mealey, Scarlett Mealey, Madeline Parkes, Polly Pilon, Xavier Powell, Harriette Quigley, Ivy Rich, Toby Robinson, Chloe Smith, Jacob Smith, Nicholas Smith, Alex Stiles, Noah Stiles, Eva Strahorn, Max Szymkow, Lachlan Tucker, Mia Wright and Jemima Young.

CIS

Congratulations to the students from the Junior School who competed in the CIS Athletics Championships at Sydney Olympic Park on 19 September. They were excited to compete at such a high level!

Tear

Harriet Kelly, Maya Cook, Noah Stiles, Xavier Powell, Mia Wright, Polly Pilon, Eva Strahorn and Jemima Young.

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE SPORT

Athletics

WAS

In Week 7 of Term 3, Macquarie hosted the annual WAS Athletics Carnival. Eighty students competed against students from Kinross Wolaroi School, St Stanislaus' College, Scots All Saints College and Orange Anglican Grammar School. Congratulations to our students who broke records!

Georgia Cudmore Open Girls High Jump, Long Jump, 200m, 400m

Evie PeartMillie MartinAlly Bogie12 Years Girls Long Jump13 Years Girls DiscusOpen Girls Javelin.

AICES

A week later, our 32 qualifying students travelled to Sydney Olympic Park to compete against students from schools within the AICES affiliation. Congratulations to the following students who achieved outstanding results:

Evie Peart3rd 400mBillie Allan2nd 200m

Georgia Cudmore 1st High Jump, 2nd Discus.

Touch Football

Congratulations to Lachlan Murphy, Year 8, who was selected at the AICES Touch tournament to compete in the NSWCIS Under 15 Years Championships. Lachlan's team was undefeated and took out the championship against some of the best players in the country!

Rugby League

Jasmine Shepherd and Hannah Whyman, Year 10, were selected as shadow players for the Girls Under 16 Years NSWCIS team. Rhiley McCauley, Year 9, was also selected to trial in the Under 15 Years team. Congratulations!

Rugby Sevens

During Term 3, Macquarie sent two teams to the NSW Rugby Sevens Gala Day at St Stanislaus' College in Bathurst. After a bumpy road trip there the girls displayed great pride on the field with much improvement made in plays and skills over the course of the day.

The Years 9 and 10 team won their first game and lost their following games by small margins. The Years 7 and 8 team lost all games but minimised their margins each game which showed great motivation and perseverance.

League Tag

On 17 November, the Macquarie Under 14 Years Girls League Tag team competed in the NRL Western NSW High School Gala Day held at Apex Oval. The first game saw the girls play St Johns College A going down narrowly three tries to one. The second game was an exhilarating end-to-end contest that resulted in a 2-all draw against St Johns College B. In the final game of the day, the girls went down to the eventual gala day premiers St Matthews Mudgee, four tries to one. The girls showed great improvement across the entire day and should be very proud of their efforts.



- t 02 6841 6222 **e** enrolment@mags.nsw.edu.au **w** www.mags.nsw.edu.au
- **a** 11 Currawong Road Dubbo NSW 2830 **p** PO Box 873 Dubbo NSW 2830



