On Monday I attended the Menindee Children’s Centre graduation and presentation evening and came away reenergised after watching the performances and seeing the joy on families there to witness the celebration of a stage of life. I experienced the very same feeling watching the stunning young woman celebrating their year 12 graduation evening, that sense of accomplishment and celebration is one that every culture throughout time has valued above nearly all else. Call it initiation, coming of age or graduation, the drawing of a line in the sand to mark the next stage in life is a special thing. In today’s world our young people face a blindingly fast pace of life, the changes they will have experienced in their lifetime would be measured across centuries for their ancestors. It is my belief that education is the key to ensuring they are as well-equipped as they possibly can be to take on the world. Whether it is delivered through family and culture or through a formal setting such as the school system, the need to guide and nurture young people is an inescapable reality if humankind and to a greater extent our planet itself is to survive.

Over the weekend several staff were farewelled at a function held in glorious weather on the shores of Copi Hollow. Claire Robertson, Tim Harris, Brigitta Schwarz, Jane Dunbar, Anne-Marie Ross, Sarah Newsome and Sarah Robbins all depart this year after varying lengths of service at Menindee Central. Each one has added to the fabric of life at our little school and their legacy will be the positive impact they have had on our students. Many of our staff will be leaving friendships and memories that will no doubt be reminisced on in years to come as they recall the time spent here in this special little town. There is one other departure that I will leave till next weeks newsletter, the last for the year.

Thanks in advance to those businesses and individuals that have supported this Thursdays presentation evening, it promises to be a memorable one. The finishing touches to the student led end of year celebration are just about done and again I can’t wait to see the result of all their hard work. As the weather turns up the temperature we are reminding students of the need to be sun smart and would appreciate families joining us in promoting a “Sun Safe” message.

Daryl Irvine, Executive Principal
Term 4—Week 9

Date and Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Involves</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13 December</td>
<td>Presentation Night</td>
<td>School and community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 14 December</td>
<td>Carols</td>
<td>Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18 December</td>
<td>PLB rewards and Christmas party</td>
<td>All Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 December</td>
<td>Last Day for Students</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6th February 2013</td>
<td>First Day for Students 2013</td>
<td>All students</td>
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House T-Shirts available for $20.00 from the Front Office.

Student Banking each Thursday. Please have your money and deposit books to the front office before the start of the school day.

Important notice for Parents

Supervision for students is from 8:30am.
Please do not send your child/children to school before this time.

Start the term with a nice new school shirt.

We have yellow and white polo shirts, with the school emblem available from the front office.
Sizes 4 to 16 $20.00
Sizes small to 4XL $25.00

SCHOOL BUS — Update...
There will be no bus run through to the end of the year, BUT!
The service will continue with our NEW bus in 2013!

“Parents with Babies” Music Classes

This Friday
(and every second Friday thereafter)

Where: Music Room
Time: 10.30– 11.15

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
To subscribe to the distribution list email: menindee-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.menindee-c.schools.nsw.edu.au

Available for 50c at: Albermarle Hotel, Australia Post, Coombes Service Station, Darling River Supermarket, Maiden’s Hotel, Red Sands Takeaway
Parent Information:

DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION – NSW (DER-NSW)

Since 2009 the DER-NSW program has successfully delivered over 250,000 laptops to year 9 students, installed wireless access points in over 21,000 learning spaces, provided professional learning experiences to teachers and leaders across the state, developed more than 250 online resources and supported schools with 560 school based Technology Support Officers. 2013 will see the final rollout of 63,500 laptops. Under DER-NSW Menindee Central School received 80 laptops, had wireless access installed in many spaces and a Technology Support Officer employed part time from 2009-2013.

The DER-NSW one to one laptop program has led to enhanced access to computers and the internet for students, teachers and students’ families, plus the movement of teaching practice towards the skills of the 21st century, greater access for students to global information resources and tools and improved motivation and engagement of students. (Source: The 2010-2012 evaluation of DER-NSW by the University of Wollongong)

New arrangements from 2013

The Australian Government’s DER National Partnership Funding finishes at the end of 2013. Students who have already received laptops or alternate technology under this program (i.e. years 10, 11 and 12 2013) will continue to use them under the terms of the Laptop User Charter while remaining at a government school, with transfer of ownership on final completion of year 12. In 2013 there will be a roll out of laptops to schools, similar to previous years. This is to be based on Year 9 student numbers.

In 2013 laptops allocated to schools become school property. Thus any allocations to students are to be done as loans to students. Parents will be required to sign a Laptop Loan Charter. Since the 2013 laptops will not be considered part of the state wide pool, there will be no transfers of laptops between schools unless an arrangement is made between principals. This includes when a student moves to a new school.

It is the decision of our school however to continue the already in place model of laptop distribution and use by students in year 9 with the upcoming allocation of devices that should arrive in early 2013.

Our school will continue to plan how best to continue integration of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) into teaching and learning and to take advantage of emerging technologies and new ICT devices in ways that will best meet the learning needs of our students.

“A COMMUNITY SCHOOL WHERE STUDENTS DEVELOP IN A CARING, STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT”
Friday, 16 November 2012

Mr Brian Debus  
Principal  
Menindee Central School  
Menindee Street  
MENINDEE NSW 2879

Dear Mr Debus,

It was indeed a great pleasure to visit Menindee Central School again and have the privilege of seeing evidence of so much positive energy, creativity and a wonderful sense of cohesion reaching out into the wider community. Your contribution has been considerable and serves as an outstanding model for others.

I greatly enjoyed meeting with the young people and also with Aunty Isobel Bennett, Indigenous elder. It was a privilege to sit next to her, as the talented young Menindee players together with the sensitive choir performed her life story.

As you know, this is the third occasion on which I have had the pleasure of visiting the School since I was appointed Governor of New South Wales, and each time I feel a deep sense of pride and gratitude in the encouragement and opportunities which you have ensured are reaching out to our young Australians there.

Thank you for continuing your visionary work initiated years ago. I am sure that those positive experiences at school will add to the resilience of our Menindee young people in the years ahead.

Congratulations and warm regards.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely,

Marie R Bashir AC CVO  
Governor of New South Wales
CLOSING DOWN SALE
AT THE CANTEEN
EVERY THING MUST GO !!!
WHILE STOCK LASTS

PIZZA, SPAGHETTI, BURGERS, NUGGETS, TOASTED
SANDWICHES, EGG & BACON MUFFINS, ORIENTAL
& SPICY BITES, CHICKEN WRAPS AND MORE—
EVERY THING THAT CAN BE SOLD WILL BE SOLD!!!
DISCOUNTED PRICING ONLY TO THOSE WHO
PRE-ORDER HOT FOODS
CHIPS, DRINKS & FROZEN TREATS
GET IN QUICK, ONCE IT’S GONE IT’S GONE!!!
STARTS TUESDAY DECEMBER 11 UNTIL
FRIDAY DECEMBER 14
CASH ONLY
2013 Preschool Enrolment Information

In 2013 families with preschool children are offered the following.

Four year olds—The children who will start ‘big’ school in 2014

(Your child can start Kindergarten at the beginning of 2014 if they turn five on or before 31 July in that year.)

Full days Monday to Thursday…. No Preschool Fridays. EVERY Thursday will be spent at the Central School in the preschool transition class with preschool educators.

Three year olds—The children who will NOT start school in 2014

Are offered THREE full days each week, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, OR alternatively three half days or a mixture of full and half days.

Two year olds—The children who will turn 3 after July 2013

Are offered ONE FULL day each TUESDAY at preschool. Or alternately a half day on this Tuesday.

ENROLMENT AFTERNOON FOR ALL CHILDREN

If your child will be attending preschool in 2013 they must be enrolled by the end of this term. On Monday 17th December, between 1pm—4.30pm we are having an enrolment afternoon at preschool. So come along and join us for afternoon tea and get all your child’s enrolment info ready for a fresh start in 2013. PLEASE BRING ALONG

• Your child’s Birth Certificate
• Current Immunisation details (Eg. Blue Book)
• If you wish to set up Centrepay through Centrelink to pay fee’s, please also bring along your Centrelink Customer Reference Number.

Uniforms (optional)….. We have sizes 2, 4, 6 & 8 available in polo shirts and windcheaters.

Polo Shirts $18.00 & Jumpers $21.00. These are available to purchase anytime.

Preschool staff and committee would like to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday! We thank everybody for their support throughout 2012 and look forward to your continued support in 2013!
LITTLE KIDS AND BOOKS
@ MCC

Where:
Menindee Children’s Centre

When:
Term 4 fortnightly
Thursday 13th December

Time: 10:30am -12:00pm

What is little kids and books?
A fortnightly activity for families with little kids 0 - 3 years

What do you do?
Enjoy songs, action rhymes, eat a healthy morning tea and share a book together with your little kids.

For more information contact: Prissy & Dimity
(08) 08 80 914 209 Menindee Health Service
Menindee Central School News  page 8

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

All submissions for the school news are to be in by Monday 3pm. A written copy can be left at the school/Post Office addressed to ‘SCHOOL NEWS’. Your advert must have your name, address, phone number and signature—this same limit applies to teachers. Every endeavor will be made to print all submitted articles; however, due to a ‘space limit’ some articles may have to be held over or reduced to suit our requirements.

Advertising costs are: $4.40 (basic advert), $11.00 (quarter page), $22.00 (half page) and $44.00 (full page) per week.

Payment is required when placing advert.

PLEASE REMEMBER: IF SELLING A CAR OR MOTORBIKE YOU MUST INCLUDE THE REGISTRATION NUMBER OR ENGINE NUMBER. Adverts without this information will NOT be included, phone 8091 4409.

Lucky ball Numbers 2-3-5-7-10-12 Winners NIL, Jackpot: $1017.00Numbers 1-18.

PLEASE NOTE THE THE SCHOOL NEWS DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IS MONDAY 3:00 PM.

Ducks For Sale

$10 each
Contact Bob Looney
Ph: 0880 914 374

Bush Fire Danger Season

Season 1st October to 31st March
Permits must be obtained from permit office before lighting or using a fire in the open during the fire danger period
Gary Rolton

GORGEOUS KELPIE PUPPIES

Both Parents excellent workers READY TO GO
Phone Rochdale Station on 80916474/0409104395 If you are interested

A big Happy Birthday to Tori.

We wished we were home with you, on your special day.

Lots of love,
Hugs and Kisses from Mum and Leo

Kris from BODY BLISS wishes all her clients a safe and happy festive season.
Closed– Christmas, Boxing & New Year days. Open til Jan 10th then closed til 10th Feb 2013.
Ph 04 2902 9906 for appointments.

ANGLICAN CHURCH SERVICES
Are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 2.00pm.
All welcome
For further enquires please phone Alisa Jackson on 0428793890

Catholic Church Services
10:00am
1st Saturday of the month
Remainders on Sunday
All Welcome

Flying Padre

The dates I will be at the school and the communities are:
December: as required
People can contact me anytime if they need support or a chat.

Church Services
December - to be advised but there will be a Christmas Day service on the 25th
Jorge Rebolledo
0459318083
0880884404
jorgefrebolledo@gmail.com
PRODUCER INTERNSHIP - 
FILM & TELEVISION PRODUCTION 
(Salary Range $43,241 - $51,175 including superannuation)

BlackStar Films is an independent owned, independent film and television production company. Our productions include the documentary series First Australians, the telefeature Male and the drama series Redfern Now.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and hard working Indigenous person to take up a paid internship as a producer within the company for a period of up to three years. The position is based in Sydney, and candidates should be able to travel for work if required.

You must be committed to making high quality and compelling Indigenous film, television and online media projects. You will be involved in all of the company’s activities, acquiring skills in developing stories, production, financing, marketing and distribution.

The successful applicant must have good written and oral communication skills. Some experience in media production is preferable but not essential. Further training will be provided in addition to hands-on experience.

Please send written applications with full resume and contact details for references to:
info@blacksstarfilms.com.au or post to 10 Cecil St
Paddington NSW 2021

Applications close on 7 December, 2012.

All shortlisted applicants will be advised by 15 December, and should be available for interview on 21 December, 2012.

It is expected that the successful applicant will be available to commence work in January, 2013.

All enquiries should be directed to BlackStar Films on
(02) 9350 4000 or info@blacksstarfilms.com.au

This position is supported by the Indigenous Department of Screen Australia.

Indigenous Youth Mobility Program Canberra

Is recruiting new candidates NOW

Indigenous young people aged 16 – 24 from remote areas who wish to relocate to the Australian Capital Territory to engage in higher education, pursue an apprenticeship, cadetship or traineeship may be eligible to join our program. We provide subsidised, supervised and supported accommodation in the ACT along with mentoring, career planning and numerous other support mechanisms so that young indigenous people can achieve their goals.

Testing and Assessment will be held in the Australian Capital Territory on 15th – 17th January 2013

Cost: Free for Eligible Candidates – Travel, Accommodation and Meals provided

Please send your Applications to the IYMP Coordinator by 
Friday 21st December 2012

For more information or an application form call McCulkin House on
(02) 6286 5342 or 0407 467 306
IYMP@auswideprojects.com.au

Fundied by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)
Expressions of interest

Position: Executive Assistant
Location: Menindee Central School
Overview: The position will provide clerical and administrative support to the Executive Principal to ensure the effective implementation of the Connected Communities Strategy.

Please provide a word document supporting your claim for this position. This document should include
- Contact details
- Employment history (include date from / to, employer, position, duties)
- Details of two (2) Referees including position, location and contact information.
- Desirable applicants will have
  - Demonstrated high level management and organisation skills in an office environment
  - Proven ability to provide high quality secretarial and administrative support services
  - Demonstrated capacity to use databases, spreadsheets, word processing and desktop publishing applications
  - Ability to work as part of team and to meet deadlines
  - Excellent interpersonal, negotiation and oral and written communication skills

Please forward applications to Daryl Irvine by email daryl.irvine@det.nsw.edu.au or drop your application to the school by close of business Monday 17 December 2012.

"Menindee health Service would like to thank the Menindee Yabbies Rugby Club and Menindee Fat Yabs for their kind donation which will be used for health promotion programs.
Menindee Rugby Club Players, Committee Members and local supporters of Menindee yabbies Club participated in the NSW State Knockout Weight Loss Challenge losing total weight loss of 284 kilos, winning 1st place and $70,000.00.
From this, $3,000.00 was donated to Menindee Health Service which will be used to buy Pedometers, Walking Poles and portion control plates & bowls including portion perfection - a visual weight control plan books. Something the whole community can benefit from."

Marie Kelly

Health Service Nurse Manager | Menindee Health Service
PO Box 25 Menindee NSW 2879
Tel. (08) 8091 4209 | Fax. (08) 8091 4521 | Mob. 0429 674 307 |
mkelly@gwahs.health.nsw.gov.au
MURRAY-DARLING COMMUNITY PROJECTS TO DEVELOP YOUNG LEADERS

A local project that encourages Aboriginal young people to become more involved in the community will share in a new $5.1 million initiative, Youth Opportunities, the Member for Murray-Darling John Williams announced today.

The Griffith Skills Training Centre will receive a $99,724 grant to support its Driving for Training, Education & Community Engagement project aimed at 37 young Aboriginal people aged 18 to 25 years across western NSW, including the communities of Ivanhoe, Wilcannia and Menindee.

The project will assist young Aboriginal people to gain a drivers licence as well as improve their language, literacy and numeracy skills, increasing their employability and involvement in community activities.

Mr Williams said he and the Member for Murrumbidgee Adrian Piccoli and the Member for Barwon Kevin Humphries welcomed the funding.

“We all benefit when young people are more involved in community life and I’m sure this funding will be greatly appreciated by the communities of Ivanhoe, Wilcannia and Menindee,” Mr Williams said.

An initiative of the NSW Government, Youth Opportunities aims to improve access to youth-led and youth-driven activities in locally based sport and recreation, cultural and other activities.

The Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello, who is responsible for Youth Affairs, said more than 30 projects across the state that will help young people become leaders in their local communities had received funding under Youth Opportunities.

“Research shows that with proper support and opportunity, young people can address a range of risk factors in their lives and play a greater role in their communities,” Mr Dominello said.

“This includes young people living on society’s margins and at risk of disengaging from our community, who will respond to local mentoring and support.

“Enhancing their skills and confidence also increases young people’s opportunities to link with training and employment.

“A portion of the Youth Opportunities funding is also being set aside for targeted initiatives in key project areas or to address a particular youth issue.

“Given the right opportunities, the young leaders we nurture today will hopefully become the elder statesmen society can turn to in the future.”

-ENDS-

Contact: John Williams 0438 808 722
27 November 2012

$4.5M to Help Prevent Suicide in Indigenous Communities

Up to $4.5 million in funding for projects to tackle the high rate of indigenous suicide are now available for application until 21 December.

Minister for Mental Health Mark Butler said community-led projects targeting suicide prevention were an important part of addressing issue.

“Funding for projects specifically targeting suicide prevention in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is a vital part of the Government’s suicide prevention strategy.”

“We have redoubled our efforts in suicide prevention through our $166 million Taking Action to Tackle Suicide package and $126.8 million National Suicide Prevention Program. Together these programs invest $292.8 million in vital programs and services.”

“Five community-based Indigenous suicide projects received $1.5 million last year and now a further $4.5 million is being offered to help fund further community-led projects to tackle Indigenous suicide,” Mr Butler said.

This funding compliments the Federal Government’s work on suicide prevention for indigenous communities including the establishment of an advisory group to inform the development of Australia’s first national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy.

“We’ve also committed $10.1 million through the National Suicide Prevention Program for activity specifically targeting Indigenous peoples and their communities.”

“As part of the governments mental health reform package $206 million was provided to double the size of the Allied Psychological Services program which includes $36.5 million for Indigenous specific psychological services which are delivered in a culturally appropriate manner which will support around 18,000 Indigenous Australians.”

Mr Butler encouraged people interested in learning more about the strategy to visit www.indigenoussuicideprevention.org.au

Guidelines for applications to the Supporting communities to reduce the risk of suicide (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander component) can be downloaded via www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mental-scrrsab-guide.

For more information, contact the minister’s office on 02 6277 7280
Beyond Cafe
Menindee Enterprise Park

OPEN EVERY WEEKEND — ON SUNDAYS
2:00pm - 5:00pm

Cappuccino
Flat White
Hot Chocolate
Latte
Tea
Spiders
Milkshakes
Thickshakes
Cheesecakes
Pancakes
Mini Pavlova

Special Guest Artist

Sana & Harley

From 3:00 pm
A fun filled event for the whole family

Carols by Candlelight

Menindee Central School Oval, 7:00 pm, 14 December 2012

Soft drinks, milkshakes, tea and coffee will be available for purchase

This is an alcohol free event

Lollies

BBQ

Ice Blocks

Glow Sticks