Daryls Yarn

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2015! It was fabulous to see the smiling faces come through the gates on Wednesday, full of stories from the holidays and excited, yes EXCITED to be back here and that was just the staff J! Honestly though, our first day was a positive experience for everyone and I look forward to many more to come.

We are yet to find a canteen operator and are keen to speak with anyone who would like to take on this operation. Please contact me at the school for further information.

One particularly pleasing part of our first week back has been the number of students wearing the school uniform. We will be ordering the 2015 school shirt soon, every student will receive a shirt and we will take orders for those wishing to get a few more to bolster the wardrobe. If parents and carers could remember though that singlets, overly revealing shorts or tops, thongs or open footwear are not acceptable as student attire and students will be asked to head home and change if their clothing is deemed inappropriate. Wearing the school uniform helps take the decision about what to wear out of the equation and we are looking to reward those students who make the small effort of wearing the school uniform.

Class structures are a part of the organisation of the school that can cause concern among students and families, particularly when it is a little different from what has been seen in the past. Please be assured decisions we make regarding class structures are always with the students best interest as main goal. In a small school we need to be flexible in how we manage staffing in order to get the best outcome with the resources we have. We plan to hold a “Welcome Back” event to introduce our new staff and parents and carers will have an opportunity to hear our curriculum plans for 2015. Please don’t hesitate to contact myself or the class teacher to discuss any concerns in the meantime.

A reminder to parents and carers of students in year 5 to 10 about our “Bring Your Own Device” BYOD project which aims to support all students in accessing technology to support their work in the classroom. A $200 rebate is available for purchases of a device with certain specifications purchased since November 2014. An information sheet will head home to all students who qualify for the rebate.

We’re really excited about what we’ve got in store this year at school and hope you’ll enjoy reading about it in our newsletter. If there are items of news that you think deserve telling others about, please don’t hesitate sending them through to the school.

Cheers Daryl

Principal: Daryl Irvine;
Assistant Principal; Georgia Shepard;
Head Teacher, Secondary; Adam Bailey;
Head Teacher Access; Gavin Blows;
Senior Leader Community; Daniel Fusi;
Language Nest; Fiona Kelly
Welcome to Term 1 2015.

Expression Of Interest

Expressions of interest are called for the positions of School Learning Support Officers (Teachers’ Aides) for 2015. A copy of the role statement is available from the school, however general duties include, supporting teachers and students in classroom activities, assisting in the preparation of class materials and small group work in literacy/numeracy. Please forward resume detailing qualifications and experience and marked private and confidential to Daryl Irvine by Friday Feb 20th.

Clothing Identification:
To avoid this problem in the future, please ensure that your child’s clothing/lunch boxes etc are clearly marked with their name for easy identification. End of term last year the k/1/2 class had 2 large tubs of jumpers, who didn't belong to anyone….according to the students.

School Banking: is Thursdays. Information packs are available from the FO.

Medical History:
If there has recently been any changes to your child's medical information, this needs to be updated at school. Please advise the FO staff with any changes. Thank you.

Important Dates

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<th>Term 1</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td>THURSDAY 12TH</td>
<td>SWIMMING CARNIVAL</td>
<td>see page 3 for more information</td>
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<td>FRIDAY 13TH</td>
<td>ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL APOLOGY DAY/ ASSEMBLY</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 18TH – FRI 20TH</td>
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Term 2

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<td>THURSDAY 23RD</td>
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Leighton Smith

I come here from the Blue Mountains, a couple of hours west of Sydney. I am married and have three little children, my eldest turning five soon. We spend a lot of our time walking to the park, playing soccer and footy and swimming! We also try to get to the beach regularly. I love the water so I will be a frequent visitor to the pool here!

I have worked as a PDHPE Teacher and School Sport Coordinator for about 15 years. I have also been working with the School Sport Unit on the School Swimming & Water Safety Program for the last two years.

I'm looking forward to my role as PDHPE Teacher and Sport Coordinator here at Menindee Central School. I am also looking forward to exploring this intriguing area of Australia more and learning about life in this community. Thanks for having me!

Leighton Smith

PDHPE Teacher & Sport Coordinator
Menindee Central School

Peter Walker

Before we moved to Sydney when I was seven, we lived in a small town, Gundary, near Goulburn. This is Gungdunguura land. Having the open space to escape the family home and discover the bush introduced me to the natural world and I have maintained this interest ever since.

I remember my high school science teacher once said, “Science is more of a way of thinking than a body of knowledge.” On hearing this I realised that coming first in the exams was not what mattered the most, it was more about enjoying what I do.

At university I completed my undergraduate degree in Horticulture and Environmental Biology. I then managed a retail plant nursery. Following this I managed a landscaping business which bloomed into a medium sized enterprise. Having built up an overwhelming workload I once again escaped, this time not the home, but the country.

Travelling the world for four years, three of which I spent working in Laos, brought me home realising that I had not yet got to know much of Australia. When the opportunity to work in Menindee was presented to me, I was already on my way!

In my free time I like watching the cricket and tennis, cycling, playing scrabble and star gazing.

As an incoming teacher to MCS I am appreciative of the warm welcome the students, staff and community have given me. With a busy school year in front of us I am looking forward to the experiences and challenges ahead. I look forward to meeting you all soon!
Swimming Carnival

The swimming carnival is on next Thursday evening (Thursday 12th Feb) at the Menindee Swimming Pool. On that day students will finish and leave school at 11:10am. Students must then return to the swimming pool at 4:45pm ready for a 5:00 start. Permission notes will be handed out soon. A reminder that students must return their signed permission notes to their teachers.

We welcome and encourage parents and community members to come along and support the students. Don’t forget to bring a seat and some money to purchase food from the BBQ.

It should be a fantastic night and we look forward to seeing you there!

Carnival should finish at approximately 7:45pm

FROM CAFFEINE TO SUGAR:
DO YOU KNOW WHAT’S IN YOUR ENERGY DRINK?

For comparison, a 150ml can of Coca-Cola contains 8mg caffeine and 15.0g of sugar. According to NewHealthGuide.org, a teaspoon is roughly 4 grams of white granulated sugar.

RED BULL ENERGY DRINK (250ml)
CAFFEINE: 80mg SUGAR: 27.5g (11g per 100ML)

RED BULL SUGARFREE ENERGY DRINK (250ml)
CAFFEINE: 80MG Contains sweeteners aspartame and acesulfame K instead of sugar

MONSTER ENERGY DRINK (230ml/ 8 fl oz)
CAFFEINE: 80mg SUGAR: 27g

MONSTER MEGA ENERGY DRINK (680ml/ 680 fl oz)
CAFFEINE: 240mg SUGAR: 81g
Hi everyone,
It is great to be back for another year.
This year, I am offering a one-on-one music tuition for Vocal, Bass Guitar, Guitar, Piano key/boards and Drums.
There are limited spaces for these lessons and they will be conducted after school hours.
Interested persons have until the end of next week to express your interest to enrol.
These lessons are available to students & community members
William can be contacted through the school on 80914 409.
Nurturing the Spirit

This workshop has been developed in collaboration with CentaCare
For further information or registration, please contact:
Foketi or Jane
(08) 8091 5639

Where: CentaCare Office Wilcannia

When: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 17, 18 & 19th February 2015
10:30–3pm

Nurturing the Spirit is a culturally safe workshop for Aboriginal women to connect, share stories, reflect on their strengths and strategies for self care. We will explore grief and loss, lateral violence and resilience. The program is run by Aboriginal facilitators who have therapeutic & trauma informed training.

Yamurrah offers counseling, cultural and clinical supervision, training and workshops, research, and more. For further information, please visit the website at www.yamurrah.com or phone Rowena Lawrie on 0450 387731
#MCSWritingChallenge

Earn yourself Vivos by placing in your entry for the #MCSWritingChallenge into the submissions box in the front office. All prompts and the best submissions can be found on Instagram under the hashtag #MCSWritingChallenge.

This week’s challenge is a 6 word story.

Entries close on Wednesday 11th Feb

miss_yarwood Ernest Hemingway once claimed he could write a great story in 6 words or less. He wrote: “For sale: baby shoes, never worn.” Write your own 6 word story in Week 1’s #MCSWritingChallenge
2014 Highlights

Welcome Back!
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Classified Ads
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: Drawn 2-2-15 No’s:1-4-5-9-11-13 Winners Nil. Jackpot: $2,042.00 Numbers:1-13

FIRE DANGER PERIOD
1ST OCTOBER TO 31ST MARCH
A permit must be obtained from the Permit Officer before lighting or using a fire in the open during Fire Danger Period.

Permit Officers: G. Rolton
                K Lombardo

This week, fresh eggs are available from the front office @ $3.00 per doz.
Hi Kids…. This is just some fun for you.

Please return to the front office by Monday.
Don’t forget fill out the details below.

Name: -------------------------------------

Class/Yr: ----------------------------------