



NEWSLETTER

MACLEAN HIGH SCHOOL

Dates to Remember

30 November -
Year 8 PBL Excursion, Grafton Pool.

3 December -
North Coast Cricket Trials,
South Grafton.

4 December -
Year 10 and Year 11 PBL
Excursion, Nymboida.

14 December -
P&C Meeting at 6.30pm in
the Maclean High School
Library.

10-16 December -
End of Year Activities.

17-18 December -
Staff Development Days.



NAIDOC 2020

NAIDOC Week was celebrated at Maclean High School differently this year. The existing celebratory week was not only moved to Term 4 due to COVID restrictions but also the way it was delivered. Students were given information and presentations digitally which included a greeting each morning and an official Welcome to Country by the Aboriginal Education Staff: Sam Kapeen, Krystal Randall, Deborah Breckenridge and Anjanette Warburton.

The Aboriginal Education team at Maclean High School developed a series of podcasts focusing on the theme Always Was and Always Will Be. The podcasts reflected this theme. The topics covered were the Matthew Flinders Voyage in 1977 and its link to Yamba and the history of Native Title in Yaegl country.

Two topics that were made into podcasts and then shown to students were Matthew Flinders' stopover and the history of the successful Native Title claim lodged by the Yaegl people in 1996 and 2017.

Students from Years 7-10 were organised into workshops that covered topics such as Aboriginal artefacts and tools, cultural portraits and origami box making to make a huge map of Australia depicting Aboriginal song lines. A Welcome Circle and Message Stick activity were run by Anjanette Warburton as a way of acknowledging and welcoming all our students to NAIDOC Week.

A big thank you to staff and students who participated in our NAIDOC activities.





Note to Parents:

Due to restrictions and guidelines in regard to COVID19, it has not been possible to have the formalised Parent/Teacher evenings.

If you have concerns or wish to discuss your student's progress, you can contact the school to organise a suitable time for a discussion around your child's progression at school. This may be a phone interview.

Year 7 Guitarists

The weather was hot, the shade was up and a good crowd had gathered to hear our students perform at the Yamba Markets on 22nd November.

Four of our students featured heavily in the program performing songs such as 'Sound of Silence' and 'Black Bird' through to 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' and a 'Metal Mash-up'.

Hayden Fisher, Sasha Worboys, Kurt Roberts and Bodhi Blackmore were fantastic representatives of Maclean High School and had a great morning performing for an appreciative crowd.

Mr Matt Fisher.

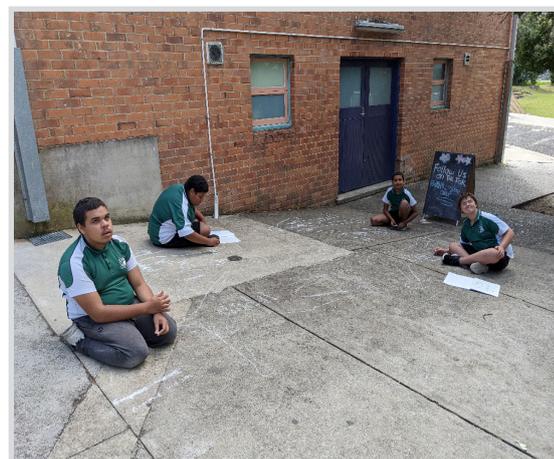


Learning Support Class 1

The students in Learning Support Class 1 have been working hard to learn their new spelling words. They completed many fun activities to help them like drawing around their bodies in chalk and writing their words inside.

Well done Nigalla, Jamal, Correy and Joeden.

Ms Webber.



Meeting Astrophysicist Karlie Noon

The meeting with Karlie Noon was a webinar in collaboration with the Powerhouse Museum. It was chosen to fit alongside the topic of “Science Rocks the Universe” that Year 7 students are currently studying in their Science lessons.



Karlie has a number of accolades to her name including the first Indigenous woman to obtain degrees in both physics and mathematics from the University of Newcastle in 2016. 2019 was an eventful year for Karlie as she completed a Masters in Astrophysics at the Australian National University, was an ACT Young Australian of the Year 2019 finalist and was appointed the first Astronomy Ambassador at Sydney Observatory.

Prior to the webinar, the class learnt a little about the journey Karlie has taken to achieve what she has and wrote some questions that they would like to ask her. These questions were emailed to the Powerhouse Museum prior to the day of the webinar. It was an exciting moment when the first question to be asked was one of ours and when Karlie gave a big shout out to Maclean High School.

This webinar provided an opportunity for the class to engage directly with a young, contemporary scientist, learn a little about astrophysics and Indigenous astronomy. More details about the webinar can be found on the museum’s website at:

<https://maas.museum/program/video-conference-meet-astronomer-karlie-noon/>

Ms Vagher

On Thursday, 5th November, 70 participated in an interview with the Astrophysicist Karlie Noon.

She is a proud Aboriginal woman, who grew up in a poorer household and had to drop out of school in Year 8. Karlie loved learning and got tutored by a family friend. She went back to school and excelled in Maths.

Karlie told us of several different Indigenous constellations like the three brothers and the emu in the sky, which can be seen in the dark patches of the Milky Way.

We asked her several questions and the first one she answered was from our class. The question was ‘Were you ever told that you couldn’t be a astrophysicist?’

It was an exciting and interesting experience to hear Karlie’s story and the ancient Aboriginal stories as well.

Karla Gordon and Annika Apps, Year 7 students.





Maclean High School Surfing Contest

On Wednesday, 11th November, Maclean High School held its annual surf contest. The day began at Turners Beach with near perfect offshore 3ft conditions. Later in the day the wind began to turn onshore with an easing swell.

The day provided opportunities for students to showcase their surfing skills in a mixed draw of 20 minute heats. The inclusion of elimination rounds this year ensured each student surfed a minimum of two heats. Students were guided through the judging process to assist in the judging booth.

Both the Opens and Girls divisions were very close competitions. On a count back in the Opens the winner was Harley Walters, runner up Joel Emery.

With a dominant performance throughout the day in the Girls division, the winner was Lilli Young and runner up Millie Spiers.

We look forward to another great event in 2021.

Mr Obst.



Boys Finalists



Girls Finalists



Harley Walters



Lilli Young





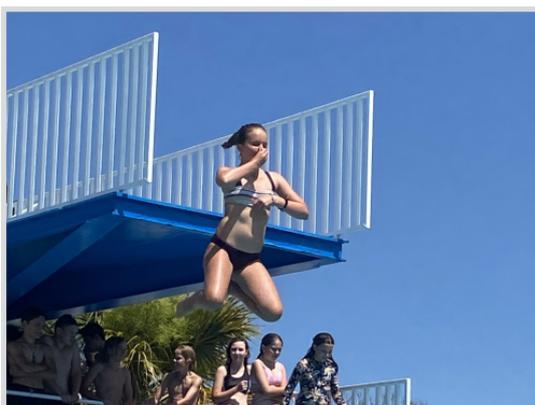
Halloween Performance

On Friday, 30th October, Maclean High School allowed a bunch of zombies, ghouls and vampires to enter the school for Halloween. Maclean High School were also able to put a lunchtime concert on in the quad while adhering to the COVID rules. The Year 11 girls rock band opened the show and warmed up the crowd for the Year 7 boys to follow. The concert was then rounded off with a few songs jammed out by our talented staff from across multiple subject areas in the school. The student crowd was fantastic with several hundred students watching and supporting our young and emerging (and some not so young) musicians.

Mr Fisher.



Year 7 PBL Excursion



Cattle Show Team Success

In their first Cattle Show the Maclean High School Cattle Show Team has taken out GRAND CHAMPION light weight steer and a 4th place light weight steer among 16 other schools, both private and public, and 100+ steers. Our 13 students competed in parading, junior judging and also led steers in the weight categories. The three day trip saw our students demonstrate amazing team work, including hard work from sun up through to some days midnight, preparing the steers and according to many of the other staff at the event presented themselves with great behaviour which was confident, humble and committed.

170 days of preparation for this event has seen these students work four times a week from 7am through to 9am getting these steers ready for the event. The Cattle Show Program has 35 committed students which have shown immense dedication and effort day in and day out throughout the program. They should be very proud of their efforts.

Mr Kirkland and the entire Show Team would like to thank the massive amount of local sponsors that have allowed us the opportunity to create this program from scratch and allowed it to be such a success. We would also like to thank the many volunteers who have given their time to the entire group to lend their skills, cattle truck, equipment and expertise. These include Ashley Lee, Scott Naylor, Kevin McGrath Moran, Glen Pepper from Mogul Brahmans, Eric from Sumo Cattle Company and Peter Berger. Last of all thanks to the parents for their extraordinary support of their students during the last 170 days.

Well done to the whole Cattle Show Program. Maclean High School and the community are very proud of your efforts and achievements. Looking forward to a huge 2021.

Mr Kirkland.





Literacy Tip for this week:

Strategies readers can use when they do not understand what they are reading. (Part 1).

While I am reading I will ask myself:

- Do I understand what I am reading?
- Can I explain it to someone else?

If I don't understand I will think about what the problem is and what strategy to use.

Problem 1: Are there a few key words I don't understand?

Good readers know whether they understand a word or not. If they can't figure out the meaning of a word in the book they get help.

Strategy 1:

- Look at the glossary, illustrations, dictionary.
- Ask someone.
- Look for an easier book that explains the ideas more clearly.

Problem 2: Is the book hard to read because I don't know much about the topic?

We understand what we read much better, when we already know something about the topic.

Strategy 2:

- Look at the headings and subheadings, the illustrations and diagrams in the book, then try to read it again.
- Read an easier book on the topic.
- Look at a picture book or cartoon book on the topic.
- Watch a video.
- Talk to someone who already knows about the topic.
- Then try to read the book again.

Mrs Linda Martin, Relieving Deputy Principal.

Helpline Numbers/Online Resources

Kids Helpline: 1800 551800 or www.kidshelp.com.au

Lifeline: 13 1114 or www.lifeline.org.au

Headspace: 1800 650890 or www.eheadspace.org.au

Beyond Blue: 1300 224636 or www.beyondblue.org.au

Reachout: <http://au.reachout.com>

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659467

WayAhead Directory: <http://directory.wayahead.org.au/>

Mental Health Telephone Access Line: 1800 011511 (operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is staffed by clinicians who can provide advice, make referrals and link callers to the Mental Health Service in their local health district).

School Counsellor: Mr Andrew Allen.